

# Celebration of Worship

Nov. 29, 2009 – 11:00 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We enter to worship;

we depart to serve

## WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude Amanda Teachnor, Organist

Welcome and Announcements Mr. Jay McAtee  
(Please sign and pass the friendship pads at this time.)

- ◆ Opening Hymn “Rise Up, O Men of God” (Vs. 1 & 2)  
**Rise up, O men of God! Have done with lesser things;  
Give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve  
the King of kings.  
Rise up, O men of God! His kingdom tarries long;  
Bring in the day of brotherhood and end the night of  
wrong.**

Silent Meditation & Deacons’ Fifth Sunday Offering

Opening Prayer Youth

Call to Worship

Get out of bed, sleepy head," we heard a voice say: an alarm clock, our mother or father, a husband or wife, an excited child. "Eat breakfast," "get dressed," "hurry up! - let's go!", the voices prodded us and pleaded with us, Lord. And so, we are here.

**But are we really? Wake us up, God. Really! Wake us up!**

Every Sunday, we begin worship by asking You to be here with us. But You are always here with us, we are the ones who need the prodding! Half awake, we sit making our to-do lists, or texting our friends, or with our minds somewhere else.

**Prod us, Lord! Tickle us awake with your Spirit! Make us alive in Christ! Help us to be aware that you are here with us, now! Help us to commit to worshipping you with our entire spirit.**

You have crowned us with your presence. May we, this hour, crown you and glorify you with lives that are lived for you. In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

- ◆ Hymn 267 “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Lighting of the Advent Candle Dona Gose & Cooper O’Brien

## WE CONFESS OUR SINS & RECEIVE GOD’S GRACE

- ◆ Call to Confession Matt. 24:36-44

No one knows about the end of time, the day or hour, not the angels in heaven, not even the Son, but only the Father. In the days of Noah, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away.

**Yes Lord, we know the end will come, but we don’t want to dwell on that, now. There are too many things to do in this world. We have so many things we are involved in, that we don’t always have time to do your will. We ignored the times when you gently nudged at our hearts to do so.**

Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. Therefore stay awake and keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

**Lord, which one will we be? The one who is taken or the one left behind?**

Understand this: If the owner of the house had known what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So, you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

**Lord, help us to be ready. Teach us what this means. Teach us to have faith in you. In this world that focuses so little on you, keep our eyes and our thoughts on you. Keep us awake!**

(...Silent confession will conclude with “Amen.”)

- ◆ Assurance of God’s Pardon

Nobody is perfect. Everyone sins, but we have an advocate with God. Jesus Christ is our advocate.

**Lost, Jesus finds us and brings us back to God, rejoicing over every sinner who repents. In Jesus, we are never beyond the reach of God’s love.**

And so today, in the name of Jesus, I proclaim to all of you who believe the Gospel: Because of Jesus, you are found and forgiven.

- ◆ Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE

Children’s Moment Ms. Marti  
(Children’s Church is available for 4 yrs. through kindergarten.)

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Morning Offering

Anthem “Let The Song Begin” Joseph M. Martin

Jesu, Jesu, all the world awaits You.  
Jesu, Jesu, come, Emmanuel.  
Jesu, Jesu, prophets long foretold You.  
Jesu, Jesu, King of Israel.

Light of glory, come and light our darkness,  
Star of morning, come and show the way.  
O come, Messiah, long the word has waited.  
Come dwell with us. Come, Emmanuel

Jesu, Jesu, Jesu. Jesu.

Let the song begin. Emmanuel is coming.  
Let the song begin. Our silence now is over.  
Let the song begin. Prepare your heart with music.  
Let the song begin. Sing praises to the King.

Let the song begin. Prepare your heart with music.  
Let the song begin. Prepare ye the way of the King.  
Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia. Sing alleluia. (Repeat)  
Praise to the King. Sing to the King. (Repeat)  
Let the song begin.

- ◆ Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

- ◆ Prayer of Dedication

## WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Gospel Reading (page 807) Matt 25: 31-46

Old Testament Reading (page 704) Ezk 37:1-11

Sermon “Awake!” Mr. Bill Zahringer

- ◆ Hymn 2 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

## WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

- ◆ Benediction
- ◆ Congregational Response Hymn  
*“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”* (1<sup>st</sup> verse)  
**Jesus calls us o’er the tumult  
of our life’s wild, restless sea;  
Day by day I hear Him saying,  
“Christian, come and follow me.”**

Postlude

- ◆ *(Indicates appropriate place for congregation to stand)*

### PRAYER LIST—NEW CONCERNS

Mary E. Dempsey & family on the death of her brother,  
Russell Brenneman  
Robert Bellmyer (Crystal Hilgendorf’s brother)—  
Hospitalized with leg infection  
Kaitlyn (Stephanie Drymon’s friend)—Leukemia  
Marie Meldrum (Gail Reed’s friend)—Prayers for peace  
Ruby Sloan (Leola Hall’s friend)—Heart attack  
Judy Martin—Dec. surgery for leaky heart valve  
Earl Wallace—Mild heart attack  
Kelly Van Buskirk (Pam Smithey’s contractor’s wife)—  
Breast cancer  
Brenda Sabello (Amy McAllister’s friend)—Brain tumor  
Doug Enevoldsen’s father—Stomach cancer  
Patti Phillips—Slow recovery from back surgery  
Dotty Drymon & family—Health evaluation  
*(Please refer to newsletter for Ongoing Concerns and  
Homebound Members.)*

### OUR MINISTRY AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday, Nov. 29**  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- Monday, Nov. 30**  
7:00 p.m. AA Open Meeting & Al-Anon Meeting
- Wednesday, Dec. 2 – Wednesday Night Live!**  
5:30 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 p.m. Pre-K & Children’s Choirs  
Jr. High Bible Study  
Women’s Bible Study  
Men’s Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice  
Sr. High Bible Study
- Thursday, Dec. 3**  
6:30 p.m. Finance & Stewardship Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting  
8:00 p.m. AA Closed Meeting
- Sunday, Dec. 6**  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

## THOSE WHO SERVE

Greeter: Jennifer Gardner  
Ushers: Craig Hilgendorf, Captain; Crystal Hilgendorf  
Jessica Hilgendorf; Evan Hilgendorf  
Len Gardner  
Liturgists: Ian Hammond and Jessica Hilgendorf  
Trustee Lock-Up: Phil Cook  
Sunday Morning Fellowship: 12-06 Mark & Charlotte Griffis

## NEWS AND SUCH

**Finance & Stewardship Meeting**—This Committee will meet on Thursday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.

**Deacons’ Angel Tree**—Once again our church is working with the Salvation Army in filling the needs of adults and children in the Sand Springs area. The Angel Tree in the Narthex has angels for adoption. All gifts should be returned by Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. They should be unwrapped and placed in plastic bags with the angel tied around the top of the bag for identification purposes. Bless you for your kindness and generosity.

**Poinsettias**—Your Board of Deacons is once again planning to ‘deck the halls’ with an array of poinsettias. If you would like to purchase plants for person(s) remembered by your gift, please use the order forms located in the pew pockets and place in a pew envelope, checking it as a Special Offering. The price is \$10.00 per plant and orders should be in by December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Prepare Our Hearts, O Lord!

*Advent is both a beginning and an end, an alpha and omega of the church’s year of grace. Too often considered merely a season of preparation for the annual commemoration of Christ’s birth, this rich and many-layered season is actually designed to prepare each Christian for the glorious possibilities of the parousia [second coming]. It is a season of longing expectation—“Come, Lord Jesus” (Rev. 22:20). —William G. Storey, Days of the Lord (New York: Herder and Herder, 1965), vol. 1, p. 21. Used by permission.*

Re-awaken your soul this Advent season to the call of Christ on your life. Please join us every Sunday for worship, look for a Bible Study (there are several) or pick up a devotional for some private time with God.

### Sermon on the Amount

Needed for Nov.:	\$19,762.08	Budgeted YTD:	\$214,342.59
Received in Nov.:	<u>19,562.48</u>	Received YTD:	<u>182,515.08</u>
Difference:	(\$ 199.60)	Difference:	(\$ 31,827.51)

*And may the Lord make  
you increase and abound  
in love for one another  
and for all,  
just as we abound in love for you.*

*1 Thessalonians 3.13*



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
Sand Springs, Oklahoma**