

Celebration of Worship

December 13, 2009 – 11:00 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We enter to worship;

we depart to serve

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude Amanda Teachnor, Organist

Announcements
(Please sign and pass the friendship pads at this time.)

- ◆ Opening Hymn 8
“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” (Vs. 1)
**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here!**

Welcome & Silent Meditation

Invocation Mr. Doug Ruffner

Call to Worship *from Romans 13:11 and Jeremiah 33:14-15*
Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed;
the night is far gone, the day is near.
The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise:
**I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness.**
In hope and in faith, let us worship God!

- ◆ Hymn 22 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Carnahan, Smithey,
and Young families

WE CONFESS OUR SINS & RECEIVE GOD’S GRACE

- ◆ Prayer of Confession
**Holy God, we long for you to make things right in our world, and we struggle as we wait for that day.
We live with the burdens of broken relationships, a staggering economy, a disinterested and distracted**

culture, and struggles in our lives that evade solutions. Some of us are running out of energy and often lonely. Others of us have crazy schedules and are a bit frazzled. We all have a yearning within for your will to finally be done on earth as it is in heaven. We confess, O God, that we become impatient, frustrated, and overwhelmed by the persistence of evil and suffering in our world. Sometimes, too often, we turn our backs on the world you send us to love and serve, and instead simply serve ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to trust that your ways are best. Help us to trust that you will fulfill all things in your time. And help us to roll up our sleeves and live as your servants while we wait. In Jesus’ name we pray.
(...Silent confession will conclude with “Amen.”)

- ◆ Assurance of God’s Pardon
Hear the Good News! The Lord will give his people justice and have compassion on his servants.
The Lord will give his people peace and joy.
Friends, believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
- ◆ Hymn 23 “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Vs. 1 & Chorus)
**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains.
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE

Gift of Music

“Away in a Manger”
“Jingle Bells”

Sunshine Choir

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
“Joy to the World”
(Alexis Milford-Rosales, Soloist)

Children’s Choir

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

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Morning Offering
Anthem “Dona Nobis Pacem” arr. B. Wallace

- ◆ Hymn 309 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (Vs. 1)
**Of the Father’s love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore! Amen.**

- ◆ Prayer of Dedication

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Gospel Reading (page 834) Luke 3:7-11

Old Testament Reading (page 465) Psalm 74

Sermon “How Long, O Lord?”

- ◆ Hymn 25 “Away in a Manger”

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

- ◆ Benediction
- ◆ Congregational Response Hymn 29
“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (Chorus only)
**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

Postlude

- ◆ (Indicates appropriate place for congregation to stand)

OUR MISSION

At First Presbyterian Church of Sand Springs,
we are filled with life as a congregation
because God creates us, loves us and calls us
to be his children and to be family to one another.
Our purpose is to serve, play, learn and worship together,
seeking to have our brethren, lost and found,
accept the grace God offers
and join us at the table of the Lord.

PRAYER LIST—NEW CONCERNS

Rocky Sparks (Glenda Bare's brother-in-law)—Cancer
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
Kelly Van Buskirk (Pam Smithy'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, Dec. 13
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
12:00 Noon "White Elephant" Fellowship Dinner

Monday, Dec. 14
6:30 p.m. Session Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 15
7:00 p.m. AA Open Meeting & Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 16
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, Dec. 17
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting
8:00 p.m. AA Closed Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 20
9:00 a.m. Children's Birthday Party for Jesus
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
5:30 p.m. Soup, Advent Service & Caroling

THOSE WHO SERVE

Greeter: Peggy Wallace
Ushers: Earl Wallace, Captain; Craig Hilgendorf
Tom Byerly, Dick Boone, Autry Salyers
Liturgist: Doug Ruffner
Trustee Lock-Up: Steve Duncan
Sunday School Superintendent: Bobbie Cook
Sunday Morning Fellowship: 12-20 **Need volunteers**

NEWS AND SUCH

Deacons' Angel Tree & Poinsettia Orders—The deadline is today for returning your Angel Tree gifts as well as placing orders for poinsettias. The Deacons would like to thank you for supporting these endeavors.

"White Elephant" Fellowship Dinner—Today's the day! All will gather in the Fellowship Hall for the blessing & "The Night Before Christmas" with Charlie Moss. Then the adults will eat upstairs and the children downstairs, who will then watch a movie. The youth will gather with Bill.

Session Meeting—The Session will meet tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m.

Adult Choir Practice—Although there will be no WednesdayNightLive! activities this week, the adult choir will practice on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Children's Birthday Party for Jesus—All children through 5th grade are invited to this annual event at **9:00 a.m.** next Sunday. Bring a canned food and used toy in good condition for each child attending. Breakfast will be served.

Soup, Advent Service & Caroling—Bring a pot of soup to share with others next Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Then at 6:15, the Advent Service of Lessons and Carols begins. This service begins in dim light and will conclude in bright lights and bright hearts. Make plans to attend. Caroling will begin around 7:15.

OUR STAFF

Dan Milford—Pastor
Will Barnes—Secretary
Marti Law-Lowery—Director of Children's Ministries
Bill Zahringer—Director of Youth Ministries
Doug Ruffner—Director of Music
Amanda Teachnor—Organist and Accompanist
Krista Polanski—Treasurer
Kyla Rice—Children's Church Teacher
Jesse McAtee—Interim Nursery Attendant

*Shout aloud
and sing for joy
O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is
the Holy One of Israel.*

Isaiah 12:6



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Sermon on the Amount

Needed for Dec.:	\$19,762.08	Budgeted YTD:	\$223,463.55
Received in Dec.:	<u>10,737.60</u>	Received YTD:	<u>194,605.75</u>
Difference:	\$ 9,024.48	Difference:	(\$ 28,857.80)