

A D V E N T



*N*ations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
—Isaiah 60:3

SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Southminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield, MO, is called by God to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to minister in love to the needs of members of the congregation and residents of the community, and to promote peace and justice in the world.

| | |
|--|---|
| Ministers: All Members of the Congregation | Pianist: Lou Howard |
| Pastor: Rev. Bill R. Havens | Organist: Dr. Lynda Crowder |
| Associates in Education: Andrew & Gaye Sands | Administrative Assistant: Brenda Jo Hilburn |
| Director of Music: Dr. Rose Mary Owens | Nursery Attendant: Paige Deragowski |

"Someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith." James 2:18

First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2009

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Indicates Congregation Standing

Assistant Worship Leader today is Sondra Gentry

Southminster...

A community of faith; living and sharing God's love.

PRELUDE

Plainsong, Arr. Bock

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

You are invited to let the music and quiet meditation prepare you for a worshipful encounter with God.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the names of each family member present today on the Ritual of Friendship located in the pews on the center aisle. Please share any concerns you have by completing a concern card, located in the pew racks, and passing it to the center aisle. Ushers will pick them up during the Children's Sermon so that Pastor may alert the congregation of those in need of our prayers.

The community gathers before God in Worship

INTROIT

Robert Lau

“Is Your Heart Prepared for a King?”

Lighting of the Candles by Acolyte Michael Lyons

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As quietly as winter steals upon us, the season of joy approaches.

People: We wait for our Redeemer, for God's promise to be fulfilled.

Leader: The day is coming quickly. The God of mercy draws near.

People: We wait with joy, attentive to the signs of his coming.

Leader: God promises to come to us to bring us home, to restore us to the life of relationship with God for which we were created.

People: Advent is a time of wonder and mystery. We bring our worship for the reign of God is near.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Choir: *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* vs. 1

Liturgist: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means “coming” and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. One of the ways we prepare for his coming is by using an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the gifts Christ brings to the world.

Reader: The Advent wreath includes many symbols to help us think about Christ and his gifts. The wreath itself is in the shape of a circle. A circle has no beginning and no end. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no end to God and that God's love and caring are forever.

People: The light from the candles, which grows stronger each Sunday in Advent, reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Reader: Today we light the candle of hope. The people of Israel hoped in God's promises and were not disappointed. Again and again God delivered Israel from its enemies. We too experience salvation. That is why we believe in God's promise to send Jesus to us to judge the world and establish his kingdom forever upon the earth. *(First candle is lighted.)*

Liturgist: Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Let us pray.

People: Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ. He is Emmanuel, the hope of all peoples; he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us; he is the Savior of every nation. Bless us and our advent wreath. May the light that shines forth from them illuminate our way as we journey toward Christmas; may the light that shines forth from them illuminate our lives as we wait in hope for the birth of the Christ-child. We ask this through Christ who is the Light of the World. Amen.

RESPONSE

Sandra Dean

"A Candle is Burning" (To the tune of *"Away in A Manger"*)
A Candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessing from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 124

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Advent and of every season, we confess we do not wait for you with open hearts and minds. It is easier to stay with what we know, or with a life that has fewer challenges. We cling to the familiar and the safe, and hope that our comfort is a sign of your approval. We know we like to create the world in our own image rather than in your image. We make judgments about the way it ought to be, and try to avoid or condemn difference, rather than holding our lives open to new truth. Forgive us for choosing to live with less hope, settling for what is there rather than what might be, and closing our eyes to your prophetic vision for change. Confront us with your vision for the world even as you bring us your grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

RESPONSE

J. Berthier

"O Lord Hear My Prayer"

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

Robert Schumann

"Bless Thou the Gifts"

PSALM LESSON

Pg. 608-609 (819-820 LP)

Psalm 25:1-10
Read Responsively

ANTHEM

Franz Gruber, Arr. Hayes

"Silent Night"
Solo by Heather Nelson

The community hears God's Word

TIME WITH CHILDREN

(Afterward, children through age 4 may be dismissed to the nursery; Older Children may be dismissed to children's church with Andrew or Gaye Sands)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Pg. 860 (1171 LP)

New Testament

Luke 21:25-36

Pg. 115 (1561-1562 LP)

SERMON

Bill Havens

"What's the World Coming To?"

The community responds to God's Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Pg. 241

"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (In Unison)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 623

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION *(With silent prayer)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

13th Century Plainsong, Arr. Zabel

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

*DOXOLOGY

No. 625

"Praise God"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)

God of grace, through prophets long ago you promised a day when all earth shall see your justice and righteousness. In spite of present appearances, we trust that redemption is drawing near. With our offering we express gratitude for your love

and goodness, and we commit to raising our heads to watch for what will be the fulfillment of your promise. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

This is the Lord's Table! We invite all those who profess Christ as Lord and Savior to celebrate the Lord's Supper with us.

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

Distribution of Bread (Please hold the bread until everyone is served)

Distribution of Wine (Please partake when the elements come to you)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

No. 127 vs. 1-2, 5

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

"Alleluia"

J. Berthier

The community departs to serve in the Peace of God

*RESPONSE

"Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
His name is called Emmanuel.

Bob McGee

POSTLUDE

"Aria"

Franz J. Haydn, Arr. Boughton

Presbytery Prayer

Support of the Week

First Presbyterian Church,
Mount Vernon, Missouri
has approximately 73 members.
They are being served by
The Reverend Becky Schwandt.

Please call the church office no later than Thursday with your joys or concerns if you want them in the bulletin. During worship, you may write them on a prayer card or give them verbally when Pastor asks.

JOYS

Birthdays: November 29: Brandon Mashburn; 30: Ron Howard; December 2: Warren Nicholson; 4: Jane Bogue.

CONCERNS

Ione Dougherty at Specialty Hospital

ONGOING CONCERNS

Members

Helen Calhoun

@ **Elfindale Manor**

Ann Pearson

@ **Greene Haven**

June Speight

@ **Magnolia Square**

Carolyn Deeds

@ **Montclair**

Pat Porter

@ **O'Fallon, MO**

Alma Baird

Vera Goodall

@ **Waterford**

Ted von Willer

@ **Quail Creek**

Betty Reid

@ **James River Care Center**

Isabel Lairmore

@ **The Gardens**

Mary Shelton

@ **Chicago**

Mescal Kennedy

@ **Maranatha Manor**

Ruth Peterson

@ **Culpepper West**

Lea Barcomb

Dorothy Johnson

Betty Mulford

Sharol Neely

Joann Ryan

Martie Tyree

@ **Home**

Friends & Family

Jan Bennett

daughter of Jean Stokke

Bryan Billenstein

son of Jeanne

Tami Montgomery

daughter of Rich & Toni

Doug Palmer

son of Steve and Patsy

Jack Shuler

grandson of Gondy

Paul Fulkerson

son of Martie Tyree



Mini Scroll



We warmly welcome visitors and invite you to consider membership in our community of faith, if you do not have a church home. For more information

Events this week – November 29 through December 6

TODAY



- 8:10 AM Coffee and Fellowship**
- 8:30 AM First Service (Contemporary)** Communion
- 8:30 AM** Lamp Lighter Church
- 9:30 AM Sunday School**
- 10:45 AM Second Service (Traditional)** Communion
Blood Pressure following second service.
- 1:30 PM** Ukrainian Church

Monday

- 7:00 PM** Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday

- 9:30 AM PW Board Meeting**
- 6:00 PM** Overeaters Anonymous
- 6:30 PM** Sweet Adeline's
- 7:00 PM Property Committee Meeting**
- 7:00 PM** Ukrainian Church
- 7:30 PM** 12 Step Group (Closed)

Wednesday

- 8:30 AM** TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meeting
- 10:30 AM Congregational Care Committee Meeting**
- 5:00 PM** Alcoholics Anonymous
- 5:45 PM Wonderful Wednesdays—Programs for Children & Youth, Evening Prayer, Pastors Bible Study**
- 6:30 PM Potluck Dinner**
- 7:05 PM Advent Moment**
- 7:20 PM Choir Practice**
- 7:30 PM Praise Team Practice**

Thursday

- 6:30 PM Officer Development**
- 7:00 PM** Ukrainian Church

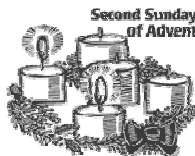
Friday

- 7:00 PM** Alcoholics Anonymous

Saturday

- 8:30 AM** 12 Step Group (Closed)
- 8:30 AM Presbytery Meeting**
- 12:00 NOON** Overeaters Anonymous

Next Sunday



- 8:10 AM Coffee and Fellowship**
- 8:30 AM First Service (Contemporary)**
- 8:30 AM** Lamp Lighter Church
- 9:30 AM Sunday School**
- 10:45 AM Second Service (Traditional)**
Coffee Sales following second service.
- 1:30 PM** Ukrainian Church