



Joyful,  
all ye  
nations  
rise

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Westenkuehler

Prayer of Preparation (*you may wish to prepare for worship by praying silently*)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Restore me to the joy of your salvation, and sustain me with a willing spirit.

**Psalm 51:10-11**

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Chrissy Yelverton

Call to Worship – From Psalm 126 (*responsive*)

The Lord has done great things for us,

**We are filled with joy!**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord.

**Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy.**

He who goes out weeping will return with songs of joy.

**The Lord, our God has done great things for us!**

Praise God through whom all blessings flow!

\* Hymn of Praise 96 – *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your steadfast love. In your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and restore in us your peace and your joy. Forgive these sins we have named and those we name now in silence . . . .**

- \* Assurance of Pardon (responsive)  
Christ died for our sins.

**He made a full atonement for us.**

We are forgiven and have the promise of eternal life.

**May we feel this forgiveness in our hearts!**

We are his children, and our hearts have been cleansed!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

- \* The **Congregation's** Response: *Of the Father's Love Begotten* (vs. 1) Hymn 108

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD IN SCRIPTURE AND IN SONG**

The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle  
family

The Graham

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson – Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

pew Bible pg. 603

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – *People Look East*

arr. Malcolm

Archer

People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table.

People look East, and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:

Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People look East, and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,

Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.

People look East, and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast, Him who cometh from the East.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.

People look East, and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.

Second Lesson – John 1:6-8, 19-28

pew Bible pg. 862

The Word of the LORD.

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – *That All Might Come To Believe*

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- \* Affirmation of Faith: (*unison*) (Hymnal pg. 35)

**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 life everlasting. Amen**

- \* Hymn of Thanksgiving 106 – *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offertory – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

arr. Cindy Berry

Jackson Creel, pianist

- \* The Doxology – Hymn 606  
\* Prayer of Dedication

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

- \* Hymn of Consecration 113 – *Angels We Have Heard on High*  
\* Charge and Benediction  
\* Postlude – *People, Look East*

Langlois



- \* *Please stand at the \* as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**. Also, please take your bulletin and papers home or place them in the recycling basket in the narthex.*



## **PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH**

*Marilyn Bowen, Sam Dossett's sister – colon cancer*

*Margaret Buckley – recovering at home*

*Brandi Carter, friend of Nancy Johnson – postponed cancer scans*

*Ruthie Davis – upcoming surgery Jan. 20, 2018*

*Andrew Dennis, Beverly and Charles Dennis' son – melanoma*

*Sam Dossett – continued prayers*

*Fluffy Fair – moved to Provision Living*

*Thomas Guest, son of Scott & Marti Guest (friend of Carrie Creel) – freshman at MSU  
severely injured in ATV on Nov. 30*

*Mary Halliwell, friend of Mary and Dean Cromartie – pancreatic cancer*

*Crystal Miller, friend of Nancy Johnson – hospitalized with pneumonia*

*Jack Ramsey, friend of Harry and Carol Hickman – having surgery*

*Sharon Sabin, friend of Mary and Dean Cromartie – advanced cancer and Parkinson's*

*Margaret Suttle – recovering at home*

*Louise Van-Beek, friend of Harry and Carol Hickman – recovering from stroke*

## **PRAYERS OF COMFORT**

*For family and friends of Mary Rohner, mother of Kathleen Reid*

*Kathleen is a niece of Carolyn McLarnan*



# Greeting and Announcements



**Welcome to Westminster!** We're very glad to see you in worship. We hope you will sense Christ's presence. If you are looking for a place to grow and serve, we'd love to tell you more about us.

Please turn off cell phones during the worship hour.

After worship the **Youth** will eat lunch then go angel tree shopping.

**PW Prayer Ministry** will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Generation room.

**No Brown Bag Bible Study** until Jan. 9.

**Wednesday night suppers will resume Jan. 10.**

**Choir meets Wednesday at 7 p.m.**

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, Dec. 21, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.

## PLEDGE CARDS

Pledge cards are available on the narthex cabinet for anyone needing to turn in their pledge for 2018. The Administrative Committee is finalizing the budget and needs to know your pledge. Place card in offering plate, in office or mail.

Thanks to everyone who has already turned in their pledges.

**New Beginnings** will meet for its monthly luncheon on Monday, Dec. 18, at noon in Montague Hall. Everyone is invited to attend, so **RSVPs are essential**. Please contact Tommy Suttle (601-408-2589 or [tommy@wpchattiesburg.com](mailto:tommy@wpchattiesburg.com)) if you plan to attend. **We will be packing Christmas boxes for Breadbasket. Volunteers are needed** to deliver Christmas boxes, Wed. Dec. 20, at 1 p.m.

Margaret Lochhead is seeking volunteers to fill **Breadbasket applications** for Dec. 27-28. Easy step-by-step instructions available. A signup sheet is on a narthex table.



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Breadbreakers is a supper club that provides a great way to get to know people from church. Groups will start up in January, **so don't miss out**. **Names will be randomly grouped for this fun fellowship**. SIGN UP TODAY! Sheets are located in the narthex.

**NEWSLETTER INFO** for January is due Dec. 24.

Please email [wes@WPCHattiesburg.com](mailto:wes@WPCHattiesburg.com)



# HAPPENINGS AT WESTMINSTER

## Angel Tree Due Today



Sunday School classes are asked to designate a portion of their weekly offerings for the upcoming **Angel Tree holiday project**. The funds will buy Christmas gifts and clothing for children in need. All donations will be collected through **today**. Put "Angel Tree" on checks. For more details see Mary Clare Royals or Ginny Graham. Following worship today, the youth will eat lunch then go shopping.

**A CAROLING WE WILL GO today.** Meet at the church at 5 p.m.  
Hot dogs and chili afterwards.



### **PreK-Youth's Christmas Party**

Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 5:30 p.m.  
Montague Hall



Just as the human body needs eyes, hands, ears, lungs, etc., so does the Body of Christ. We have many small group opportunities for growth, fellowship and service here at Westminster. We encourage members to use their gifts to participate in the mission of this congregation and to invite others to join us in serving Jesus Christ.

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### **The Seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

A Symbolic Statement of the Church  
The Cross – Christianity  
The Transept – Bible and Pulpit  
The Dove – The Holy Spirit  
The Intersection – Baptismal Font or  
Communion Cup  
Flames – Implied triangle, the Trinity

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### **THE SESSION**

#### **Class of 2018**

Gene Owens  
Michael Raggio  
Robin Roberts

#### **Class of 2019**

Althea Jerome  
J. T. Johnson  
Cindy Nobles

#### **Class of 2020**

Margaret Brooks  
Dean Cromartie  
Kathryn Cummings

### **THE TRUSTEES**

Franklin Bryant    Gene Fair    Wally Gregg

### **THE DEACONS**

#### **Class of 2018**

Shane Brooks  
Kathy Cain  
Howard Keever  
Beth Richmond

#### **Class of 2019**

David Daves  
Janeil Harris  
Butch Nobles  
Susan Turner

#### **Class of 2020**

Katie Ginn  
Judy Haydel  
Sinclair Lundy  
Robert Lochhead  
**Youth Representative**  
Sarah Beth Suttle

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship  
Sinclair Lundy, Financial Secretary  
Connie Roberts, Chancel Choir Director  
**Jenny Maul, Children's Music Director**

Martha Davis, Church Administrator  
Wes Brooks, Communications  
Randall Harris, Organist  
Ray Robinson, Sexton