

**December 27, 2015**

**Service of Worship**

**10:30 A.M.**

**First Sunday in Christmas & Hunger/Staple Foods Offering**

*Welcome to worship in the name of the holy baby of Bethlehem.*

**PRELUDE**

**STRIKING THE HOUR**

**GREETING**

**CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

Announcements

Prayer Concerns

**OPENING MUSIC** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” *Chancel Choir*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Come, people of God. Let us give thanks for these holy days of Christmas.

**P:** Here we have come to worship the God of new beginnings and new opportunities.

**L:** Come, people of God. Let us celebrate and rejoice for the wondrous gifts given to us.

**P:** Here in our worship, we look to the future as we are filled with the gifts of Christmas: love, hope, peace joy!

**L:** Now we again witness to our Savior’s birth.

**\*HYMN**

“Joy to the World”

CH 270

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, Holy Creator, Joy of the world! Hope of tomorrow! Light of heaven! You are the Creator of everything; through your Word the world and everything in it exists. You are the maker of carols to be sung, of gifts given and received, of children born, of blessed rest everlasting, of everything which is beautiful, which is lovely, which is good. Be with us, Holy Lord of heaven and earth, live among us, let us feel your presence, as we celebrate the birth of your Son, your gift, your love, who came to live, grow, and teach among us. May our hearts always be young in your love; through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**L:** Jesus Christ is the light of life, coming to us in the Christ Child.

**P:** The good news of this season is forgiveness of sin and new life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** “Holy Child of Bethlehem”  
“Holy Child of Bethlehem, come down to us we pray; Forgive our sin,  
and enter in; be born is us today. Amen”

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** 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.*

**OT LESSON:** 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-13a p. 248

**OFFERING**

Offertory

\*Doxology PH 592

\*Prayer of Dedication

\***HYMN** “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” CH 279

**SHARING IN PRAYER**

Personal Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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.*

**ANTHEM** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” Chancel Choir

**NT LESSON:** Colossians 3:12-17 Pew Bible pp. 1027,1028

**SERMON** “Grace Filled Living” Rev. Smith

\***HYMN** “O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful” CH 282

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\***CHORAL RESPONSE** “Emmanuel” CH 243

w/congregation

\*Congregation please stand, if able

**CH** – *The Celebration Hymnal*; **PH** – *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

## THIS WEEK AT SECOND CHURCH

### Sunday, December 27

- 9:00 AM Sunday Bible Study – Lucille Sanger Classroom  
10:00 AM Chancel Choir rehearsal – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship

**Lay Reader:** Kay Mader

**Greeters & Ushers:** Frank Brown (*Head Usher*), Carolyn Brown, Maxine Robertson, & James Mader

**Flower Coordinator:** Kathy Holsinger

### Tuesday, December 29

- 11:00 AM Bible Study – Fellowship Hall

**Chancel Choir & JuBELLation practices will resume February 4<sup>th</sup>.**

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### Next Sunday, January 3

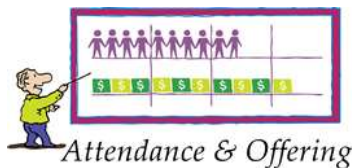
- 9:00 AM Sunday Bible Study – Lucille Sanger Classroom  
10:00 AM Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship **All spots need filling!**

**Lay Reader:**

**Greeters & Ushers:** (*Head Usher*),

**Flower Coordinator:**

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<b>Attendance last Sunday:</b>	70
<b>Offering last Sunday:</b>	\$1,685.00
<b>Joy Gift Offering:</b>	\$ 195.00
<b>Total Deposit:</b>	\$2,480.00

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

The January sign-up sheet for Lay Readers & Ushers is on the back table. Thanks so much for your help.



You are invited Judah's 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Party which will be on January 2<sup>nd</sup> in Fellowship Hall at 3:00 p.m.

## Small packages, big things!

Remember that candy commercial declaring, “Big things come in small packages”? The prophet’s message to tiny Bethlehem is similar: “Though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel” (Micah 5:2, NIV).



We’ve all felt too small for a certain role: too little to play with the big kids ... too skinny to make the football team ... short on the skills needed for a choice assignment. Perhaps we fear our gift of money is too little to make a difference, or the small amount of time we can volunteer isn’t even worth it.

But God brings big things out of “small packages.” From a newborn baby — merely six to eight pounds of helplessness — God brought salvation for the whole world. Rest assured, he’ll do big things through you, too.

- *The Newsletter Newsletter*



# God With Us

Faith isn't about knowing all of the right stuff or obeying a list of rules. It's something more, something more costly because it involves being present and making a sacrifice.

Perhaps that's why Jesus is sometimes called Immanuel — “God with us.” I think that's what God had in mind, for Jesus to be present, to just be with us. It's also what he has in mind for us when it comes to other people.

- Bob Goff, *Love Does*

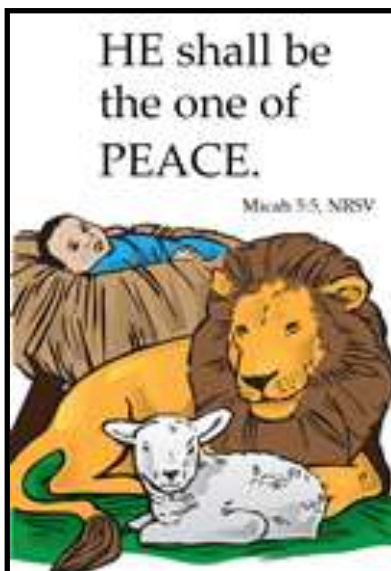
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## The Wonder of Christmas

At Christmas, shivers in the spine have nothing to do with climate. Songs are sung not with the lips but with the heart. And light comes not from utilities but from the heavens.

-Author unknown

- *The Newsletter Newsletter*



## PRAYER CONCERNS



- Health Concerns: Leatrice Gibson; Harry Johns, Jr. & his son, Brian; Gary Archer (Allen's cousin); Rocky & Brenda Simonetti; Michael Brown; Mary McNamara; & Mac Moyer.
- Church concerns:
  - Our members in care facilities: Doris Miller (Stuarts Draft Retirement Home); Virginia Brand (Shenandoah); Jane Roby (Ritenour); Betty Ramsey (Avante).
- Peace around the world where conflict abounds.
- Celebrating a birthday: Sherrill Robinson (29); Michelle Snyder Nuckols (31); Judah Fisher Smith (31).
- Celebrating an anniversary: None
- Persons connected to Second Church in the military:
  - Jon Clark – Army – (grandson of Anita and Bill Haessly)
  - Nick Dubyk – Army Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania (grandson of Betty & [the late] Willis Clemmer)
  - Patrick W. Brown – Air Force – (grandson of [the late] Marie Wiseman)
  - Christopher Todd – USAF – (grandson of [the late]) Ruth Weller and Ralph Weller)



Please call the Church Office (885-8159) if you or someone in your family goes into the hospital. This is the only sure way that we will know of your situation, so visits and other support can be given.

As an aid to people who have trouble reading the regular sized type on the Sunday worship bulletin, a large print version is available. Simply request one from any usher.