



Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve
<http://www.lectionarypage.net/index.html>
24 December 2017 at 10:45

+ + + GATHERING + + +

Prelude

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
welcome home, children of God. The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

1. The Christmas Joy Offering will be received today. This offering provides assistance to church workers and their families and supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools.
2. There will be a special Christmas Eve service, led by Emily Morrell and Olivia Marengo, this evening at 6 pm, followed by light refreshments. Please bring a favorite goodie to share.
3. If you would like to add a rock to the pile in the basket (either silently or sharing a few words) to celebrate God making his presence and faithfulness known in a special way, you are invited to do so during the announcement time.

Choral Introit

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Speaker 1: Once God's plan was a mystery, hidden from our sight. Now God has disclosed what was kept secret for so very long; he has brought it out in the light. In the brighter light on this fourth Sunday in Advent, may we see more clearly the glory of God in Christ and sing of the steadfast love of the Lord forever.

Speaker 2: "With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens."
[Psalm 89:1b-2)]

Light all four Advent candles. Light the Christ candle too.

Speaker 3: Light four candles, see them glow
Brightly, so that all may know
How four candles show the way
Making our darkness bright as God's day.

Speaker 4: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Call to Worship (*Psalm 96:11-13*)

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Opening Prayer

Wonderful God, your faithfulness has been great, leading us to this day of anticipation and celebration. May the glorious light of your steadfast love shine brightly in us and through us, that all may give you praise and glory. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

†Hymn 128: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

†Call to Confession (*from Titus 2:11-14*)

The grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Confident in the graciousness of the Father, revealed fully in the Son, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

†Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted the good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

†Declaration of Forgiveness (from *Titus 3:4, 6*)

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy, poured out generously through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

†The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

As God is generous in mercy, let us also be generous in mercy toward one another. Let us share the peace of Christ.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE WORD + + +

†Prayer for Illumination (*Hymn #452*)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart; I want to see you; I want to see you; (repeat) to see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory. Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy." Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 9:2-7

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST + + +

Offering (*Psalms 97:1*)

The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. With joy and gratitude, let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

†Doxology (*Tune #606*)

**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. Amen.**

†Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of mystery and might, we praise and worship you, for you came in the quiet of night to enter our world as a child of humble birth.

We thank you for your Son, Jesus, born of Mary.

In his face we behold your glory.

By your Spirit, make our hearts burn with thanksgiving, that we may give as we have received. Let our whole lives be gifts of praise to you, God of love and peace. Amen.

+ + + CHRISTMAS CANTATA + + +

Come, Let Us Worship the King

Prepare the Way

His Name Will Be Called

Who Would Imagine a King?

Love Story

Bethlehem Morning

The Messiah Has Come Medley

Joy to the World!

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hallelujah Chorus

Finale

Who Will Call Him King?

with Come, Let Us Worship the King

+ + + SENDING + + +

Charge and Blessing

†**Congregational Response:**

**May the road rise to meet you; may the wind blow at your back;
may the sun shine warmly on your face;
may the rain fall softly on your fields;
and until we meet again, until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.**

Postlude

† Please rise in body or in spirit.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Contact information for Rev. Dr. Christine T. Bohn, Interim Pastor:
pastorchris@trpctn.org

The congregation of Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome to all who are joining in worship this morning for the first time or the first time in a long time. Our prayer is that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:17-19).

+ + + INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST (12/24/17) + + +

Prayer Requests

Sandra Carter - cancer
Vicki Trentham - cancer
Johanna - wisdom and provision
Lori Askew - treatment didn't take;
evaluating options
Negetha - healing
Ethan Self - truth/justice in appeal process
Susan Roberts
Glenwood Elementary School & Outreach
Ken Martin - cancer
Jerry Cohen - cancer
TeNisha - on dialysis; needs kidney
Ruth's mom (dementia) and sister
(caregiving)
Diane Morrell - health
Jamie - throat cancer

Phyllis Webb - health (pancreatic cancer)
David Hale - health (lung cancer)
Nick Vallie - health; still progressing
Jennifer - aggressive breast cancer
Mike Carlton - health
Tony - cancer
Stella H. - health
Joyce W. - health
Patsy Gordon - chemo treatments
Hilda Jones - health
Edwina - health
Holly H. - dementia; healing
Betty W. - stroke
Tracey Daniels - cancer
Travel mercies - to all who are traveling this
time of year

Praise Reports

Phil - thanks be to God for protecting son and daughter-in-law from injury in separate accidents
Amy - improving health

***Prayer requests stay on printed list for about two weeks, unless specifically requested to continue.

Zelma has communion Dec.

31

**++ Food Bank: December is
canned vegetables.** Box in
narthex. ++

++ Samaritan's Purse: Pray for the
recipients of Christmas shoeboxes. ++

++ Glenwood Outreach + +

- Glenwood Principal, Mrs. Whitson:
*"Thank you so much for reaching out to
our school. We would love to grow this
relationship with your church and our
community."*
- More events coming next semester!
- Thanks to all those who are bringing
treats weekly for the staff.

++ Events ++

- **Cantata & Christmas Joy Offering** -
Sunday, December 24, 2017.
- **Special Christmas Eve Service** - Sunday,
December 24, 6:00pm, followed by light
refreshments.
- **Presbyterian Women** - Tuesday,
January 9, 7pm, at Leeanne's house.
- **Intercessory Prayer Group**, Thursday
afternoons at 1:00, in the fellowship
hall. Please share requests during
worship today or leave a written note in
the offering plate. **Will not meet
December 28.**
- **Sunday School**, 9:30am, in the
fellowship hall; studying the Book of
Acts. **Will not meet December 31.**

