

# Welcome to



**15 December 2019      Third Sunday of Advent**

*May God who gathers us around Himself in the Word and Sacrament to bless us with His forgiveness this morning be your source of comfort, strength and renewal as you worship today. In the Name of Christ, we are all called to come and hear that the Lord is Good!*

Prelude – *Preparing our Souls through silence, reading and reflection*

Announcements and Prayer Concerns– *Sharing our life together*

Congregational Prayer

Invocation and Confession – *Entering into the Presence of the Lord*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
(Matthew 28:19)    **C: Amen**

P: Make us to know your ways, O Lord, and teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for whom we wait. (Psalm 25:4-5)    **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

**C: According to 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 take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen** (Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12)

P: Let it be known to you, that through Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (1 John 1:6-7) He commanded us to preach and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:42-43)    **C: Amen**

Lighting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent Candle - “Joy”

## Announcements and Schedule

### Studies this Week:

Tuesday – 7:00pm –Hebrews- Fellowship Hall

Wednesday – 6:30pm – Men's Group – White House

Thursday – 10:15am – Hebrews– Fellowship Hall

7:15pm – Choir Practice – Choir Loft

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. To aid in your Advent journey, the church has purchased Advent Calendars for each family. Please get yours after the service at the table in the Narthex.

We are participating in the Angel Tree program for Bedford County children. You can either take your own angel(s), or if you would like to contribute money and have someone else shop for the kids, please put your gifts in the cross during the Offering time. The Gifts are due back the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Next Sunday. Thank you.

We will be expanding our ministry of the Table by taking a reserved part of the Bread and Wine to home-bound and nursing home members who are not able to join our Sunday Service but are still members of the Body of Christ. We hope to do this one Sunday afternoon a month. There will be a short training session after Service one day in January. If you are interested, or simply want to find out more, please talk with Jen Reynolds, our Lay Eucharistic Minister.

Upcoming dates:    Christmas Party with Santa – Dec 20 @ 7pm

**\*\*\*\* Please bring finger food to share\*\*\*\***

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 11:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Tom Bryant, Pastor

434.610.9703

Mona Thomas, Choir Director and Accompanist

434.851.5279

Jennifer Reynolds, Lay Eucharistic Minister

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Call to Worship – Psalm 146

\*Hymn – #246 “Joy to the World!”

First Lesson – Isaiah 35.1-10

Call to Prayer – # 219 – vs. 1 “What Child is This?”

Pastoral Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison)

Second Lesson – James 5.7-11

Offertory “Soon a Tiny Child Will Come” The Choir

\*Doxology – #95

\*Gospel – Matthew 11.2-15

Our response is, “Praise be to thee, O Christ”

Sermon - “Is the Answer as Simple as the Question?”

Preparation for Communion “Gesù Bambino” Betsy Burns

Communion

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Unending Hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the Highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the Highest.**

The Mystery of Faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is Risen; Christ will come again.**

Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ

\*Hymn – # 219 – vs. 2&3 “What Child is This?”

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response “May the Birth of the Child”

\*Dismissal and Recessional

## Prayer List

Tom Langford, Bill Warman, Carolyn Ashwell, Barbara Kurtz, Juniper Noyes, June Sommers, Bill Wingfield, Greg Marsh, Don Gifford (Jim Burns' brother in law), John Wright, Liz Griffin, Larry & Lorraine Shepley, Avonna Grace,- Betty Mann, Ronald Van Horn, Carol Bryant and our missionaries, the Arrington's.

Benny Bloodworth, friend of the Mahanes, cancer

Joan Worley, friend of the Mahanes, cancer

Dawn Tropp, surgery 23 December

Family of Caroline Hudson, friend of Dave Gardner

Family of Juanita Hunt, Carolyn's last living aunt

Katie Epley,

Buck Almond, Jeff Christian's father-in-law, hip surgery

Cody McCulloch, severe fall, friends of the Williams

Andrew Bowman, son of Carey's friend, in ICU

Maria Coates, Sue Rossiter's sister

Kenneth Dickerson, husband of a friend of Jen's, has lung cancer

Bruce Lineberger, relative of the Gardner's, motorcycle accident

Gail Everett's sister, Lynn Ruppe, cancer treatment

Cindy Raymond, friend of Carolyn's

Harry Burns

Estelle Holt, cancer

Continue to pray for the Justice family as the wife and daughter are adjusting to his loss. Scott was the cousin of Dawn Tropp.

Cheryl Harris (a friend of Patty's) daughter Amber is having twins. One of the twins kidney is not developing.

Pat Karnes, friend of Carol Bryant's, cancer

Brooklin, granddaughter of a friend of the Gardner's, domestic difficulties

Bryan, friend of Bea's. Stage 4 prostate cancer

Sam Griffin, Web's sister in law, with cancer

Frankie Townsend, Web's sister-in-law, Beth's mom

Bob Toney, father of a good friend of Carey, needing a heart transplant

Arlene Hunter, Web's best friends' mom, stage 4 cancer

R.C. North, friends of Carey Griffin

Robert Wright's father

Rosanna Tropp, Rick and Dawn's daughter in law,

Cassidy Richardson, 14 year old daughter of a friend of Carey's, with cancer.

Kim Harmin, friend of Dawn's, muscular issues

*Betty and Harold Shepherd*, friends of Martha Mahanes

*Requested by Dot Flanik* children Kim Blaum & Erik Blaum, PTSD

*Requested by Glenn and Ruth Harvey*

Sharron Powell, stage 4 cancer

Lisa Reynolds

Farley Bomar

*Requested by Agnes Lowry-Campbell*

Barbara Brown

Nancy Coursey

Barbara Hackett *sx*

*Requested by Tom Gough*

Bill and Ann Smith