

December 6, 2009 / 2nd Sunday of Advent

J. William Harris, Pastor

John G. Hipp, Pastor Emeritus

Welcome in Christ's name, on this second Sunday of Advent. As the people of God, we rejoice in your presence. May God's loving Spirit give you restoration and hope. Blessings!

We Turn Our Thoughts Toward God

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *"His Name Is Wonderful"* Choir

WELCOME & COMMUNITY SHARING *(Please register your attendance.)*

THE ADVENT CELEBRATION: Peace

*Hymn of Praise: 218 *"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"*

Proclaiming the Word

*Responsive Reading: 208 – Luke 1:68 - 79, Canticle of Zechariah

*Affirmation of Faith: 881 – The Apostles' Creed

*The Gloria Patri: 70 – *"Glory Be to the Father"*

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS:

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY: 95 – *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

DEDICATION OF NEW HYMNALS

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

*Hymn of Preparation: 229

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison):

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURES: 817 – Luke 3:1 - 6

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *"One Holy Night in Bethlehem"* Choir

SERMON: ***"No Wonder Jesus Blessed Peacemakers"*** Dr. Bill Harris

Responding to the Word

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION: 15

*Hymn of Commitment: 230 *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *"A Nativity Prayer"* Choir

*RECESSIONAL

***Please stand (if your health permits), as a means of giving honor to God.**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP ...

TODAY:

9:30am Altar Prayer

10:00am Sunday School

9:30am Blood Pressure Screening

11:00am Morning Worship

THIS WEEK: *****

Mon., Dec. 7, 6:30pm – Cub Scouts 7:00pm – Art Class

Wed., Dec. 9, 7:00pm – Bible Study 7:45pm – Choir Practice

Thurs., Dec. 10, 6:30pm – Men's Club Christmas Dinner

Sat., Dec. 12, 12:00pm – Hall Family Christmas Dinner

NEXT WEEK: *****

Mon., Dec. 14, 6:30pm – Cub Scouts 7:00pm – Art Class

Tues., Dec. 15, 7:00pm – Wisewood Neighborhood Meeting

Wed., Dec. 16, 7:00pm – Bible Study 7:45pm – Choir Practice

SERVING OUR LORD:

Today

Next Week

Nursery:

Volunteer

Volunteer

Acolyte:

Andrew Joseph

Andrew Joseph

Preparation for Worship: *In your mercy, Lord, grant us tranquility and Christmas joy as we approach your throne of grace. Help us have quiet and joyful spirits as we worship you. Amen.*

Welcome to all who visit with us today. Your presence enhances our worship of Almighty God. Please sign a visitor's card, found in the pew racks, and give it to an usher during the offering, or sign the pew register pad found at the end of each pew. You are always welcome at Mathews.

Dedication of New Hymnals – We are dedicating new Large-Print Hymnals during this morning's worship service. These hymnals are being presented for the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Margaret Maddox by her children, Betty & Ralph Thomas and Dr. David & Marie Wren.

Men's Club Christmas Dinner – The Men's Club will meet this Thursday, Dec. 10, at 6:30pm for their regular meeting and Christmas dinner. Their wives and sweethearts are invited to attend this meal.



Christmas Gifts Suggestions:

To your enemy ... forgiveness.

To an opponent ... tolerance.

To a friend ... your heart.

To a customer ... service.

To all ... charity.

To every child ... a good example.

To yourself ... respect.

(Oren Arnold)