

4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 22, 2013

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Acolyte

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Scott and Barri Martin

Call to Worship

Psalm 148

Leader: *Praise the LORD! all His angels; praise Him, all His host!*

People: *Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!*

Leader: *Let them praise the name of the LORD*

People: *Praise Him, you highest heavens, and waters above the heavens!*

Leader: *Praise the LORD from the earth*

People: *Mountains and the hills, Kings of the earth and all peoples*

Leader: *Let them praise the name of the LORD,*

People: *for His name alone is exalted;*

All: *His glory is above earth and heaven. Let us worship the LORD!*

*** Opening Hymn**

“Hark! the Herald Angels”

185

Confession of Sin (In Unison)

O Gracious and Holy God, we come to You to confess and be renewed. The shepherds and wise men came to the manger to worship and offer gifts, help us to offer our God given gifts to share Your love and Gospel. We confess our hearts are hardened by the cruel and loveless world and we sin unashamedly in opposition to You will. We deserve harsh judgment yet You offer us salvation. Open our hearts, O Lord, so we may understand the message and meaning of Christmas hidden amongst bright lights and glitter. Give us your Holy Spirit that we may be given all the gifts of grace needed to fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: *The greatest gift to the world has been given in Jesus Christ.*

People: *Glory to God, through the Christ-child we are redeemed!*

Leader: *The angels shouted good tidings of great joy*

People: *In the name of Jesus, the Lamb of God, we are forgiven!*

*** Responsive Hymn**

“The First Noel”

229

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

Hymn # 34

Prayer of Dedication

Old Testament Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-16

Anthem

“Lullaby of the Dove”

Providence Choir

Musical Interlude for Children’s Church & Kid’s Crusade

(Children’s Church led by Israel and Karen Morrow; Kid’s Crusade with Kristy Stephenson)

Morning Prayers and The Lord’s Prayer

New Testament Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

“Love That Passes All Understanding”

Rev. Jim Davis

***Dedication Hymn**

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

233

***Acolyte**

***Benediction**

*** Postlude**

**Signifies Congregation to Stand*

December Scripture Passage

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. **Luke 2:8-16**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS JOY GIFT OFFERING will be collected today. This offering is designated to support retired Presbyterian ministers and their families, as well as the promotion of racial/ethnic programs within our denomination.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICES will be held Tuesday, December 24th, at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Please plan to be a part of this special service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER items are to be sent to David Nelms at davenelms@embarqmail.com by Thursday, December 26.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from December 30 through January 4. Rev. Davis will be on call, the alternate contacts are Wayne Lamm and Gary Phillips.

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Stephanie Bagley

Ushers: Kay Dry and Carolyn Stevenson

Nursery: Richard and Andrea Jones

Acolyte: Kenny Poole

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, Dec 29:

Ushers: Mary Langdon and Beth Pickens

Nursery: Laura Langdon and Carolyn Stuart

Acolyte: Paige Smith

Today at Providence:

9:45 a.m.: Sunday School for Children, Youth and Adults

10:25 a.m.: Fellowship Time

11:00 a.m.: Worship

Weekly Events:

Tuesday, Dec 24: Christmas Eve Communion Services at 5pm & 10pm

Wednesday, Dec 25: Merry Christmas!

Thursday, Dec 26: No Choir Rehearsal

Upcoming Events:

December 29. Presbyterian Women gather to take down Christmas decorations

January 5. Installation of Elders during Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Pioneer Club and Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

January 6. Long-Range Planning Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m.

January 13. Stated Session Meeting at 7 p.m.

Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

JOYS:

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Cancer Survivors Leslie Lobaugh, Ann Lopp, Barbara Owens, Crystal Stotter, and Kay Williams,

Stephanie Stanton, surgery to remove tumor went well

CONCERNS:

Our Sympathy to Ann Stephenson and Nancy Nelms at the passing of their cousin, Bob Stephenson

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Brack Johnson at *Classic Care Assisted Living in Smithfield*, **Marilyn Johnson** at *Barbour Court Nursing in Smithfield*, **Lacy Johnson & Pauline Jones** at *Liberty Commons in Benson*, **Grant Joyner**, **Bobbie Langdon**, **Bernard Parsons**, and **Frances Schmidt**, at home

All Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Carol Badalucco, friend of Sue Bryant, **Sherry Baker**, friend of Laura Langdon, **Nancy Biernacki**, friend of Bob Zattiero, **Patsy Bowman**, member of church family, **Edith Bowser**, friend of Bob Zattiero, **Kathy Durocher**, friend of Mark Nelms, **Ann Hargiss**, member of community, **Kobe Horney**, two-year old member of community, **P.B. Jernigan**, relative of Sheila Dupree, **David Kopanski**, John Kopanski's brother, **Keith Langdon**, member of church family, **Amy Louthan**, friend of Barri Martin, **Carol Mayben**, Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law, **Harry Myers**, friend of Ann Benson, **Jackie Parker**, friend of Amy Dupree, **Jerry Penny**, friend of Dick Embrey, **Barbara Shaw**, Kathy Ryals' aunt, **Randy Stephenson**, Jon Nooney's cousin, **Tammy Vann**, friend of Sandy Kopanski, **Kenneth Weathers**, Wendy Stephenson's brother-in-law, **DeEtta Wood**, member of church family, and **Hannah Youngblood**, friend of Kristy Stephenson.

Other Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Levon & Nancy Allen, Sheila Dupree's parents, **Elaine Andrews**, Andrea Jones' mother, **Mary Bass**, Rev. Davis' mother, **Charlie & Mary Burke**, Steve Wolak's parents, **Rich Cross**, Phil Cross' father, **Brenda Davis**, friend of Lisa Nelms, **Bill and Bobbie Ellis**, Georgeanna Phillips' parents, **Tammy Ennis**, member of community, **Ed Fontana**, Mary Langdon's father, **Rose Hollingsworth**, Ann Stephenson's sister-in-law, **Fred Ipock**, Cathy Creech's father, **Norbert Kopanski**, John Kopanski's father, **Vic LaSaxon**, Chris Nooney's brother-in-law, **Wanza Mayben**, Sandy Kopanski's mother, **Sue Nicholson**, Chris Nooney's sister, **Kathy Rose**, friend of Kim Schmidt, **Kathy Ryals**, member of church family, **Danny Salmon**, Wendy Stephenson's brother-in-law, **Gary Schmidt**, Kim Schmidt's brother, **Pete and Brenda Skinner**, friends of Sue Bryant, **Stephanie Stanton**, friend of Wendy Stephenson, **Nan Walker**, Andrea Jones' grandmother, and **John Wright**, Chris Nooney's father

Ministers of Providence Presbyterian Church
 The People of Providence Presbyterian Church

Pastor
 Rev. Jim Davis

Session

Class of 2013

Stephanie Bagley <i>Worship</i>	John Kopanski <i>Mission & Outreach</i>	Atlee Roberts <i>Property</i>
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Class of 2014

Nathan Dry <i>Long-Range Planning</i>	Wayne Lamm <i>Congregational Care</i>	Gary Phillips <i>Fellowship</i>
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Class of 2015

Robert Joyner <i>Christian Education</i>	Kristy Stephenson <i>Finance</i>	Jeffrey Wood <i>Personnel, Clerk</i>
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Staff

<i>Secretary</i> DeEtta Wood	<i>Accounting Treasurer</i> Ann Stephenson	<i>Collections Treasurer</i> Ann Benson
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<i>Music Director/ Organist</i> Brittany Jones	<i>Pianist</i> DeEtta Wood
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<i>Webmaster</i> David Nelms	<i>Usher Coordinator</i> Russell Wood
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Honoring our history.....building our future

Weekly Statistics

General Fund Receipts for November	\$12,933.37
General Fund Expenses for November	\$9,854.75
General Fund Receipts for Dec 15	\$2,805.05
Total General Fund Receipts for December	\$9,130.63
Capital Campaign Receipts for Dec	\$6,030.64
Capital Campaign Giving.....	\$389,238.13
Attendance for Sunday School Dec 15	73
Attendance for Worship Dec 15.....	111

Given by Ann K. Stephenson

In Honor of Providence Choir and Musicians

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Valmond King, Paul Stephenson

Given by Samuel, Hannah & Daniel Stephenson

In Honor Of Ann Stephenson, Lacy & Marilyn Johnson

In Memory of Alice N. & J.C. McLeod, Jean & Paul Stephenson

Given by Carolyn Stevenson

In Memory of Lois & Chris Johnson

Given by Ashton and Adam Stuart

In Honor of Our Grandparents: Jimmy & Carolyn Stuart, Judy Skroch, Walt and Carol Skroch

In Memory of Our Great-Grandparents: William & Aliene Stuart, Rassie & Ila Parrish, Albert & Amelia Skroch, Fred & Betty Dalt

Given by Rick and Margie Taylor

In Honor of Lee Taylor, France Elkins

In Memory of Mary Lou Palmer

Given by Kent and Gwen Walton

In Honor of Rosyval & Barbara Walton, Courtney and Abbey Walton

In Memory of Palmon & Alice Stephenson, Gene & Vera Stephenson, Roy & Lib Vann

Given by Beth and Steve Wolak

In Honor of Our Children and Grandchildren, Our Brave Military and Veterans

In Memory of Passed Military Veterans

Given by Jeffrey, DeEtta, Justin, Mary Elaine, & Ava Wood

In Honor of Russell & Elaine Wood, Craig & Gayle Jones

Given by Johnny and Elaine Wood

In Honor of Dorothy Nesselrodt, Nell Franke, The Wood Fsmily

In Memory of J.D. Nesselrodt, Clyde and Alice Honeycutt

POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT

December 23, 2012

Given by Carlos, Stephanie, Kimsey, & Harris Bagley

In Honor of Steve and Kelly Nordan, Ann Stephenson, Jean Carroll

In Memory of Paul Stephenson, Annie King, and Glenn Carroll

Given by Randy and Ann Benson

In Honor of George Coates and Austin Benson

In Memory of Helen Roberts Coates, Shelton Benson, Kathleen Benson, and Douglas Benson

Given by Pete and Mary Ann Booth

In Honor of Jeffrey and DeEtta Wood

In Memory of Fred Harris, Jr.

Given by Sheperd, Brenda, Kim & Michelle Byrd

In Memory of Florence & Sheperd Byrd, Sr., Ava & Chester Ennis

Given by The Family of Owen and Lourae Cooke

In Memory of Owen and Lourae Cooke

Given by Cathy, Candace & Travis Creech

In Memory of Josephine Lee Creech, Blanche G. Ipock, and Thelma C.

Ipock

Given by Nathan and Kay Dry

In Memory of Jessie & Doris Dry, Cloninger & Vera Young

Given by Andy and Sheila Dupree

In Memory of Allen Mack Dupree, Brian Patrick Allen, Sr.

Given by Don and Brenda Dupree

In Honor of Connor Reed, Amy Dupree, and David & Donna Murphy

In Memory of Leon & Vearl Stephenson, Alfred & Agnes Dupree

Given by Wayne, Heather, Chance & Mady Ennis

In Honor of Berlene Ennis

In Memory of James & Mary Etta Hartley, Earl Ennis, Manley & Lorena McGee, and Ernest & Ruby Ennis,

Given by Marilyn M. Johnson

In Honor of Rupert Lacy Johnson

Given by Wade and Carolyn Johnson

In Honor of Virginia Moore

In Memory of Luman Moore, Bob & Mary Johnson, and John & Mandy Moore

Given by Wayne and Joyce Lamm

In Honor of Bryce Pittman, Cale Pittman

Given by Beck and Laura McLamb

In Honor of Gerald & Ellen Sutton

In Memory of Hampton & Charlotte McLamb, LouAnn McLamb Pleasant

Given by Israel, Karen, Graycen, & Charleigh Morrow

In Memory of Billy Sigmon

Given by David and Lisa Nelms

In Honor of Tom & Nancy Nelms, Ann, Stephenson, Wayne & Peggy Campbell, Ryan & Allison Nelms and Eric, Christina & Dylan Jones

In Memory of Valmond & Annie King, Hattie Buffaloe, Ellis & Evna Nelms, Hubert & Ethel Beach, and Fairene Key

Given by Ryan and Allison Nelms

In Honor of Randy & Pam Parrish, David & Lisa Nelms

Given by Tom and Nancy Nelms

In Memory of Valmond & Annie King

Given by Dorothy H, Nesselrodt

In Memory of Rev. "Buddy" Nesselrodt, Phillip Allen Harris,

Given by Jon, Chris, Tim, Rob & Sue Nooney

In Memory of Rayvon Nooney

Given by Gary & Georgeanna Phillips and Family

In Honor of Dr. William & Barbara Ellis

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Phillips, Janice Phillips,

Given by John and Beth Pickens

In Honor of Stewart & Jane Pickens

In Memory of RN & Virginia Pickens, Brian Lewis

Given by Bob and Nadine Reed

In Honor of Ray Manuel

In Memory of Gladys Manuel, Ed A. Harvey, Janet Reed, Mr. & Mrs. Loyd Reed, Mr. & Mrs. John Dempsey, Mr. & Mrs. W.L. Reed, Billy Reed, and Tommy Echols