

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY
December 11, 2011**

** Indicates a time to stand, if you are able*

PRELUDE

GREETING

*** PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

*** SONG OF GATHERING** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Hymnal, #9

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** *responsive* Philippians 2: 1-11

*** HYMN OF PRAISE** "Joy to the World" Hymnal, #40

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *unison*

Wise and powerful God, you have given us your light and truth to guide us through confusion, yet we have relied instead on our human understanding and have lost our way. You offer to share our burdens and give us your strength, yet we trust in our own effort and find ourselves exhausted. Call us back into your presence, O God; overcome our separation from one another and from you. By your Word and worth, bestow upon us gifts that equip us to meet life's demands, so that we might be your people in the world and live in the confidence and joy of Jesus Christ, our living and coming King. Amen.

SILENT AND PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *responsive*

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

The Padden-Rubin Family

**NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES FROM THE GOSPELS OF LUKE
AND MATTHEW, PRESENTED THROUGH THE CHILDREN'S
NATIVITY PLAY**

PRESENTATION OF OUR "WHITE GIFTS" WITH CAROLS

ADVENT MEDITATION "Christ's Humility: God to Servant"

Dr. Brett Becker

*** HYMN OF CONSECRATION** "Take My Life"
(verses 1-3, 6) Hymnal, #391

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING and OFFERTORY

This is an intentional time of expressing our gratitude to God. Whether you have an offering this Sunday or not, take the plate, feel its touch in your hands, give thanks to God and bless all that is given this day.

*** DOXOLOGY** Hymnal, #591

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING**

*** HYMN OF ANTICIPATION** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
Hymnal, #2

*** BENEDICTION**

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE** "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"
It is our tradition at St. Andrew's to hold our neighbors' hands while we sing.

*** POSTLUDE**

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

Greeters: Ann and Michael Padden-Rubin with James and Mary

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle:

The Padden-Rubin Family

Participants in the Children's Nativity:

Readers:

Hannah Sommers, Kelly Thoits, Brandon Gonzalez,
Maggie Knauss

Ringers:

Allison Russo, Maggie Knauss, Amy Lefley,
Grace Gibbs, Kelly Thoits, Shannon Thoits

Wise men singing: Dave Bohn, Paul Zink, Lee Thompson

Kids in the pageant:

Madeline and Ceci Putman, Tara and Lila Woodard, John
Gonzalez, Jared and Zac Hertig, Amanda and Jillian Avila,
Connor Acuna, Anna Kirk, Megan and Shelby Malengo, James
and Mary Padden-Rubin & Jesse Zamora

PRAYER PARTNERS is a new opportunity for adults in our church family to be a prayer partner and to make a difference in the life and faith of a teenage youth. Prayer partners pray for each other, greet and encourage each other, grow in friendship and attend occasional prayer partner church events. The Youth Ministries Team is hoping that every 7th through 12th grader will have a prayer partner. Flyers with sign up forms are available in the narthex and church office, or contact Sandy Thoits. **PRAYER PARTNER MEET "N" GREET**, January 8, 8:30AM before worship, in Morgan Hall, a first gathering of adult and youth prayer partners. Refreshments provided.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS Please stop by our Welcome Table this morning for a free coffee mug and information about St. Andrew's mission and programs. *Please fill out the blue Welcome card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate as it comes by today.*

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MART starts today in Morgan Hall and will continue next Sunday, December 18. You can contribute to Transition House, the Foodbank "Backpack" program, Church World Services and the Angel Tree.

PYF – Tonight, 6-8PM Gingerbread Houses, at the Church with Dr. B. Dinner provided. Next Sunday, December 18, Progressive Dinner, meet at the church at 5p.m.

NEW THIS YEAR Next Sunday, December 18th, a special presentation by the St. Andrew's Choir of "The Joy, Peace, and Love of Christmas," during the 9:30a.m. worship service.

POINSETTIAS Order your plant in memory of, or in honor of a friend or loved one by using the order blank enclosed in the bulletin. Order Deadline is December 13.

24th ANNUAL OUTDOOR LIVING NATIVITY, December 21st and 22nd, 7:30 -8:00 p.m. On the Church Lawn, with music, carols and a donkey. Reception following in Morgan Hall. Rehearsal for OLN Saturday, December 17, 8:00a.m., dress rehearsal Tuesday, December 20, 5:00p.m.

ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS SOUP SUPPER. Wednesday, December 21, 6:00p.m. in Morgan Hall. \$6 per person \$18 max per family (children 7 and under free).

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE, Saturday, Dec. 24, 7p.m. "The Child That Led Them."

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TUESDAY, JANUARY 3RD.

OFFERINGS OF PRAYER

Joys and Concerns from last Sunday's Worship Service

Please note – On Sundays, joys and concerns may be written down on the forms provided in the sanctuary lobby. They will be displayed on the screens during the prayer time. Prayers may also be submitted by email to standrewsprayers@gmail.com by 7:00 pm each Saturday. Please indicate in your email whether we can share your joys and concerns with the congregation by email and on the church website.

Concerns

<u>From</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Concern</u>
Cheri Larsen-Hoeckley	Lisa DeBoer	Having back surgery

Joys

<u>From</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Joy</u>
Bob Allbright	Carolyn	Happy Birthday
Lou Ray	St. Andrew's	Thank you for all Your prayers

Ongoing Prayer Requests

Those who have been ill or injured: Rick Lee

Please let us know of changes we should make in the Prayer List.

Those in convalescent care:

Abundant Care II: Leora Phillips; Cliff View Terrace: Aaron Case;
Goleta Cottage: Liz McNeil; Mission Terrace: Aaron Case and
Eleanor Vos; Samarkand Health Center: Jane Hewitt; Vista Del
Monte Health Center: Margaret Blake

Presbytery Prayer Concern:

Congregation and staff at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church of Thousand
Oaks, Pastor Stuart Bond and Associate Pastor Dana Shaw