

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY**  
**December 15, 2013**

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

**PRELUDE** *Bridget Hough–Meynenc*

**GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP** *Dr. Brett Becker*

**PASTOR:** Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!

**PEOPLE:** **He rules the world with truth and grace!**  
**Let us receive our King!**

**PASTOR:** No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns  
infest the ground!

**PEOPLE:** **God comes to make his blessings known!**  
**We will share them all around!**

**\* PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

**ONE:** The peace of Christ be with you!

**OTHER:** **And also with you!**

**\* HYMN OF ADVENT** "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"  
*Hymnal, #11*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *unison* *Jordan Sommers*

Merciful God, during this Advent season we confess that we have actually avoided you, busy with our shopping, preoccupied with our holiday plans. At this holiest season of the year, we have lived for ourselves, distractedly turning from our neighbors and those we see on the streets. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. O God, in your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, so that during this Advent time we may again choose your will and obey your commandments anew, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**SILENT AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE** *responsive*

**ONE:** In the beginning was the Word.

**MANY:** **And the Word was with God.**

**ONE:** And the Word was God.

**MANY:** **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

**ONE:** Full of grace and truth.

**MANY:** **And we have beheld his glory.**

**ONE:** That Word is Jesus Christ!

**MANY:** **He saves us!**

**ONE:** He heals us!

**MANY:** **He makes us whole!**

**ONE:** Friends, believe the Good News!

**ALL:** **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Hallelujah!**  
**Amen.**

**LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE**

*Kirk, Twyla, and Chase Grier*

**ADVENT HYMN** "Love Was When" *on screens*

**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.*

**\* OFFERING RESPONSE** "O Bless the Gifts" *on screens*

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY**

**PRESENTATION OF OUR "WHITE GIFTS" WITH CAROLS**

*As we sing carols, the congregation is invited to process to the manger. Those with "white gifts" of food may leave them there. Please remain seated until the row in front of you has started down the aisle.*

- \* CHRISTMAS HYMN “Song of Zechariah” Hymnal, #602
- \* 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 *Bridget Hough-Meynenc*

### Participants in This Morning's Service:

Greeters: Nancy & David Russo with Justin,  
Sean and Allison

### Participants in the Children's Nativity:

*Director:* Julie Sommers

*Liturgist:* Jordan Sommers

*Readers:* Chase Grier, Maggie Knauss, Kelly Thoits, Zac Hertig, Jared Hertig

*Special Music:* Tara Woodard, Lila Woodard, Hannah Sommers, Shannon Thoits, Dave Sommers

### *Nativity Characters:*

John Auchincloss, Conner Acuna, Amanda Avila, Jillian Avila, Anna Kirk, Kayla Malengo, Megan Malengo, Shelby Malengo, Mary Padden-Rubin, James Padden-Rubin, Emma Voigt, Abby Webber, Ben Webber, Lila Woodard, Tara Woodard

## 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.*

**PYF TODAY** - 5p.m. Progressive Dinner. Next week, December 22, potluck dinner and caroling.

**TODAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR THE ANGEL TREE GIFTS. THE DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY LIGHTHOUSE IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22.**

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE MONDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>.**

**POINSETTIAS** Please use the order blank in the bulletin. All orders need to be turned in today.

**ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIRE** will be held today in Morgan Hall. Purchase gifts in honor or memory of someone from Church World Services, the Foodbank, Transition House, and Unite-to-Light solar lights, for Seeway Tanzania orphanage.

**CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER & CAROLING ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 22.** The congregation is invited to join the PYF youth for a festive evening of fellowship and caroling. Potluck dinner in Morgan Hall at 5:30PM (bring your own table service), followed at 6:15PM by caroling in the church neighborhood and by carpooling to home bound friends. Warm up with hot chocolate at 8:00PM. Sign up (no charge) during coffee hour or contact David Adams at [davidadamsl.da@gmail.com](mailto:davidadamsl.da@gmail.com)

**NO CENTERING PRAYER UNTIL JANUARY.**

**ADULT ED. CLASS SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 11 a.m.** in Morgan Hall. Diana Lee will be speaking on: "From Litigation to Mediation: How Poor Communication Spawns Disputes; How Good Communication Spawns Resolution."

## 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](mailto:standrewsprayers@gmail.com) by 7:00p.m. 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>
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### *Joys*

<u>From</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Joy</u>
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### Ongoing Prayer Requests

*Those who have been ill or injured:*

David Benson, Ernie & Betty Brooks, Dorothy Naegle, Carole Wallace

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

*Those who grieve:*

Family and friends of Muriel Krebs. A memorial service is being planned for January 11<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's

*Those in convalescent care:*

Goleta Cottage: Liz McNeil

Mission Terrace: Patricia Collins

Samarkand Health Care Center: George Hitchens

Vista Del Monte Health Center: Margaret Blake and  
Barbara Hagen

*Presbytery Prayer Concern:*

Congregation and staff at First Presbyterian Church of Lompoc, Pastor Randy Working