



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Ann Caldwell, organist; Charles Schaible, pianist
Vineville Brass, Kelly Graves, director

HANGING OF THE GREEN
DECEMBER 3, 2017
10:45 AM

Prelude	<i>Prelude on a Noël from Providence</i>	Philip
A Voice Crying in the Wilderness		
Welcome and a Word of Explanation		Richard Kremer
Music for Meditation	<i>Away in a Manger</i> Flute, Aygun Scott	arr. Smith
Invocation		Pat Walters
Lighting of the Candle of Hope		Dr. John Gibson
Pastor: Create in us, Our Lord, hopeful hearts that grant us the ability to trust in your promises.		
People: "For thou, O Lord, are our hope, our trust, O Lord, from our youth. (Psalm 71:5)		
Pastor: We light this candle to thank and praise you for the Advent gifts you offer.		
People: We thank you this morning for the gift of Hope!		
Scripture Reading	<i>Isaiah 11:1-6</i>	Richard Kremer
Call to Worship	<i>Creation Will Be At Peace</i>	Page
*Hymn of Summons 103	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	ADESTE FIDELES
A Little Child Shall Lead Them		
Song by Preschool Choir	<i>Why It's Christmas</i> <i>Christmas Sounds</i>	Kirkland Phillips
All Ages Shall Praise Him		
Scripture Reading	<i>Isaiah 9:2-7</i>	Angela Blizzard
Song by Treble Makers Choir	<i>Sing Praises to the Lord</i>	Schram
Music by the Vineville Brass	<i>How Great Our Joy</i>	arr. Hogan
Songs by Youth Choir	<i>Be a Candle of Hope</i>	Martin
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 40:1-8	Richard Kremer
Homily	"Advent, Adventure, Adventitious"	Richard Kremer
*Hymn 95	<i>Prepare the Royal Highway</i>	BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN
Offertory Prayer		Angela Blizzard

Offertory	<i>This Christmastide Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old; Peace and love and hope abide This Christmastide, this Christmastide.</i>	Fraser
Invitation to Stewardship		Richard Kremer
Pledge Card Response	<i>The Hands That First Held Mary's Child</i>	Women's Trio
Invitation to Discipleship		Richard Kremer
*Hymn of Response 126	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	REGENT SQUARE
Go Tell It On the Mountain		
*Celebrations and Concerns		Richard Kremer
*Metaphor of Light		Richard Kremer
*Pastoral Benediction		
*Congregational Benediction 143	<i>Go, Tell It On the Mountain</i>	GO TELL IT
	<i>Song text on front of bulletin</i>	
Postlude	<i>Sleepers, Wake (Advent Parable from St. Matthew)</i>	arr. Miller

JOY! JOY! JOY!

I hope you dined sufficiently this morning on the hearty breakfast that Melissa and her band of merry cooks provided. What a wonderful way to begin our Advent season! I thank all who gave of their time and talent to help prepare the breakfast, and I thank everyone who came to enjoy it.

We welcome you this morning to our Hanging of the Green service, meant to be an expression of festive joy as we bedeck our sanctuary in Christmas finery to enhance the spirit of anticipation that is meant to define the Advent season.

I express gratitude to everyone who donated a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone, and thanks to everyone who fills a role this morning in helping us adorn our sanctuary to the glory of God. I want to express special thanks to all of the choir leaders, accompanists, instrumentalists and singers who are sharing their talents with us today. The highlight of the service will be a joint “sermon in song” delivered by all of our choirs – and you will be invited to participate, too – so be ready!

I hope you brought your pledge card today. If not, you will find extra cards in the pew rack in front of you. There will come a time in the service today when you will be invited to come place your card on the table in an expression of your stewardship unto God and this congregation.

Speaking of sermons in song, next week we have a special treat in store for us. During our combined worship service at 10:45 am, our adult choir, accompanied by orchestra, will present *A Christmas Tapestry, Welcoming Christ in Scripture, Art and Song*. Our choir’s Christmas music always conveys meaning, wonder and delight. I encourage you to come and invite a friend.

Remember also that we have two special events before us on successive Wednesday nights in December. On the Wednesday of December 13, at 6:45 pm, the children’s and youth choirs of the church will be presenting their Christmas concert in the sanctuary. You will not want to miss this enjoyable evening of music.

On the following Wednesday, December 20, we will enjoy our “Offering of Gifts.” On that night we will not have the regular Wednesday night meal, but we invite you to bring an offering of food, perhaps a heavy hors-d’oeuvre or dessert, with the meal beginning at 5:30 pm. Then, starting at 6:30 pm, we will afford time for a sharing of gifts, perhaps a story, song, poem, instrumental selection – whatever the Spirit moves you to give, as long as it has a Christmas theme. Make sure that your offering is not too long, so as to allow as many people as possible to participate. Parents and grandparents, note that Melissa will be providing a Christmas craft table that will allow young and old to make their own Christmas decorations. This will be our last Wednesday night gathering of 2017.

Be advised that our 2017 Advent devotional booklets are ready for pick-up today. The booklet features stories, testimonials, artwork and Scriptures for every day of Advent, beginning today and continuing through Christmas Day. Many thanks go to Jody Thornton and Melissa Kremer for their hard work in shaping our entries into a publishable form! And thanks to all who offered a contribution to this meaningful Advent aid.

Remember that we will be back on our two-service schedule on the Sunday of December 17, then will combine services again for the holiday Sundays of Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. We WILL have Sunday School on both of the holiday Sundays. The Christmas Eve "Candles, Carols and Communion," service will be at 5 pm. Children of the church, remember: your help will be needed on the morning of Christmas Eve as we retell the Christmas story in poetic form and create a living nativity scene.

Finally, if you have picked up an Angel Tree request or a Salvation Army stocking, note that they need to be returned by Wednesday, December 13.

A word from your pastor,
Richard Kremer

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to honor the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Charles and Kerry Jay on December 2 given by the children and grandchildren of the Cross and Wilson families.

SYMPATHY

We extend Christian sympathy to the following families:

The family of Betty Dickson.

Sid and Katie Tate and their family in the death of Katie's sister, Ruby Dunn.

IN MEMORIUM

Betty Dickson

November 3, 1933 - November 28, 2017

YOUTH

Today: Youth choir at 4:00 pm, dinner at 5:00 pm, and devotion until 6:15 pm in room 106. This is our last choir rehearsal of the year as we prepare for our youth and children's music program on the 13th. Many thanks to Jane Self who has so wonderfully accompanied our youth choir this year!

Wednesday: Youth Bible Study at 6:30 pm – we will explore some Advent activities, taking time to prepare for this season of anticipation and celebration of Jesus Christ together.

Next Sunday: There will be no youth afternoon activities.

XYZ

The December 21st meeting will feature "Boy Wonder", Caleb Esmund, who recently graduated high school and who is a piano virtuoso.

ANGEL TREE AND STOCKINGS

This year Angel Tree and Stocking ministry will be serving 458 families which includes 1,131 children from the Middle Georgia area. If you would like to participate, the display is outside the church office. Thank you for contributing to a joy-filled Christmas for many who struggling financially. The deadline is Wednesday, December 13. No gift wrapping please. if you have questions, please contact Lynn Collier, 731-4392, or Rita Peed, 955-4506.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 3

Advent Breakfast
Hanging of the Green

December 10

Adult Choir Christmas Music
A Christmas Tapestry
10:45 am in the Sanctuary

December 13

Children's Choirs and Youth Choir
Christmas Program

THIS WEEK AT VINEVILLE

Sunday, December 3

8:15 am Advent Breakfast
9:15 am Media Library
9:35 am Bible Study
10:45 am Worship/Hanging of the Green
2:30 pm Handbells
4:00 pm Youth Choir
5:00 pm SNYF

Monday, December 4

No Activities

Tuesday, December 5

10:30 am Exercise/Stretching Class

Wednesday, December 6

9:00 am Media Library
5:30 pm Vineville Brass
5:30 pm Family Supper
6:00 pm Children's Choirs
6:15 pm Media Library
6:30 pm Family Worship
6:40 pm Mission Friends
6:40 pm Kingdom Kids
6:45 pm Youth Bible Study
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 7

10:30 am Exercise/Stretching Class

Friday, December 8

No Activities

Sunday, December 10

8:15 am No Early Service
9:15 am Media Library
9:35 am Bible Study
10:45 am Worship/*A Christmas Tapestry*
2:30 pm Handbells
4:00 pm Youth Choir
5:00 pm SNYF

DEACON OF THE WEEK

The Deacon of the Week is Todd Smith. Next week is Stacy Whitehead.

REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 26

ATTENDANCE

Bible Study	166
8:30 Worship	29
10:45 Worship	220

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Offering	\$9,418
Following Christ 2 (YTD)	\$30,365

YTD Budget Contributions	\$717,796
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SOUND, LIGHTS, AND VIDEO

December 3

No Early Service

House:

Broadcast:

Video:

Morning Worship 10:45 am

House: Todd Smith

Broadcast: Willie Jones

Video: Eric Blizzard

December 10

No Early Worship Service

House:

Broadcast:

Video:

Morning Worship 10:45 am

House: Eric Blizzard

Broadcast: Willie Jones

Video: Kevin Clark

OUR STAFF

Richard Kremer	Pastor
Angela Blizzard	Minister of Music
Angela Blizzard	Minister to Youth
Peggy Jones	Financial Administrator
Jody Thornton	Administrative Assistant
Ginny Ferguson	Receptionist
Sandra Head	Music Ministry Coordinator
Tonia Boyd	Weekday Morning School
Kathy McCray & Sherry Williams	Co-Teachers of Higher Life

OUR LAY LEADERSHIP

Church Council	Todd Smith	474-6333
Deacon Ministry	Mark Wood	957-7540
Grief Ministry	Nell Jones	960-6195
Homebound	Ann Purser	477-7549
Media Center	Carol Lincoln	743-9366
Men's Ministry	Todd Smith	474-6333
Missions	Jim Jones	757-8411
Preschool	Bobbie Scarbrough	254-4595
Senior Adults-XYZ	Jackie Odom	746-1716
Sunday School	Jeane Easom	719-1289
Women's Ministry	Susan Milam	714-0545