



First Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)

Starkville, Mississippi

December 20, 2020

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Order of Worship*

Prelude      *Joy to the World*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Love Candle

Cate Van Helsema

Advent means coming or arrival. This word has a double significance, as in Advent we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and look with longing for this coming again.

The primary symbolism of the Advent candles has to do with light growing in darkness—leading up to the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

– Book of Common Worship (2018)

Greeting (From Luke 1:49-50)

One: For He who is mighty has done great things for us,

**All: And holy is His name!**

One: And His mercy is for those who fear him

**All: From generation to generation.**

Hymn #133    *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Very God, begotten, not created!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Who are we God, that You should come to us? Yet You have visited Your people and redeemed us in Your Son. As we prepare to celebrate His birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of Your word and move us by Your Spirit to bless Your wonderful works. We ask this through Him whose coming is certain, who day draws near, Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

Scripture                      Luke 2:8-16

Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sermon  
McDougald

“Shepherds and the Rest of Us”

Rev. Ron

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Postlude                      *Go, Tell it on the Mountain*

## PRAYER LIST:

If you would like to add a request or removal to our list, please contact Nancy Bryson (324-6320 or [nancybryson68@gmail.com](mailto:nancybryson68@gmail.com)) or Rev. Ron McDougald (601-942-8040 or [chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com))

Here are the most recent additions: **Family of Margaret Allen; Jason Landry** (Missing son of Rev. Kent and Lisa Landry, former minister in Leland); **Rev. Jerry Long** (Batesville, heart) **New FPCUSA Property Work; Local COVID Cases Increase.** Please keep these and all those on the list below in your prayers.

David Earnest

Susan Scales Huffman

Johnny McReynolds

Bettye Seepe

Josephine Zitta

Ellen Goodman

Rev. Chris Kiepe

Richard Mullenax

Elizabeth Vance

Wil Howie

Jetta Kuykendall

Elizabeth Richardson

Clyde Williams

Please be in constant prayer for those suffering with COVID 19, and those who care for them, those with addictions, homelessness, loneliness, hunger, mental illness, the unemployed, prisoners and the poor.

**SUSPENSION OF ‘FACE TO FACE’ SERVICES.** Out of an abundance of caution, and with love and care for our community and congregation, we continue to suspend all face to face services (worship, social, choir, etc.) for the immediate future. The Session reviews this decision at each stated meeting. **Our next meeting is Thursday, January 7, 2021.** Please contact any Elder or Ron if you have questions or comments

### Session

Rev. Ron McDougald, *Moderator*, [chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com)

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