

# St. Paul & Center Grove United Methodist Church

First Sunday of Advent

2 December 2012

Rev. Alan Thompson

"Small church...big hearts for serving the Lord and our neighbor in love...transforming the world."

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## Prelude & Greeting

Passing of the Peace

Advent Candle Liturgy

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promises I have made.

**To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.**

The one who is coming will show us the path of steadfast love and faithfulness.

**Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation. We light this candle in the sure hope that God's promises endure.** [Here light the first Advent candle]

**We will live in the light of hope as we await the coming of the Lord.**

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn of Praise: #218 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Affirmation of Faith: #881 The Apostles 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy Catholic\*\*church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen*

\*Gloria Patri: #70

Silent Meditation & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptations, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen*

Special Music: # 246 Joy to the World (SPUMC Choir)

Children's Message:

Tithes and Offerings

\*Doxology: #95

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Scripture: Luke 21: 25-36

Sermon: "Wake Up"

\*Hymn of Invitation: # 239 Silent Night

\*Benediction

\*Postlude: #672 God Be With You Til We Meet Again

\* Congregation standing

## Life of the Church

- Attendance 11/25/12: SPUMC – 30 ; CGUMC – 4
- Pine Bluff UMC Food Pantry: Bring food pantry items to SPUMC by the first Saturday of each month in support of this ministry
- SPUMC Council Meeting 12/2 cancelled...will resume in January
- Hanging of the Greens Service and activities at SPUMC 12/1/12 @ 1 pm
- Hanging of the Greens at CGUMC 12/2/12 @ 1200 pm
- "Be on the Look Out! A new look coming to Center Grove in January!"
- Christmas Caroling SPUMC @ 4pm on 12/16/12
- See Thelma Tomberlin for Christmas poinsettias at SPUMC
- Christmas Eve Service & Communion 12/24/12 @ 8 pm – SPUMC for both congregations
- Help Hurricane Sandy storm survivors with your gifts to: (check payable to church)  
"Hurricanes 2012, Advance #3021787".

<u>Advent Season</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Liturgical Color</u>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Prophecy and Hope</i>	<i>12/2/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Preparation and the Way</i>	<i>12/9/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Joy</i>	<i>12/16/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Peace and Love</i>	<i>12/23/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>Christmas Eve/Christmas:</i>	<i>Christ the Light</i>	<i>12/24/12</i>	<i>white or gold</i>

### Prayer List

**Local Church:** Tommy Shinn, Helen Shinn, Angel Thompson, Billy Hipsley, Polly Meehan, Laura Leigh, Rosalyn Greene, Susan Williams, Elizabeth Widenhouse, Martha Hartsell, Elizabeth Belch, Bob McClain, Bob Krimminger, Earl Dry, Kathy Cranford

**Community:** \*Sharon Tomberlin, \*Kate Fincher, \*Alisha Gibson, Junior Johnson, Mary Smith, Ruth Carter, Debbie Smith, Betty Smith, Betty Sanders, Joan Ellard, \*Karen Milke, Phyllis Godfrey, \*Eric Rasmussen, \*John Rasmussen, \*David Williams, Emily Bostian, Randy Anderson, Raymond Childers, \*Wesley Hartsell, \*Larry Stancil, Sarah McCafferty, Alexander Chaney, Joanne Nunn, Fergie Krimminger, John Greenlee, Dylan Howell, Ed Stewicki, Allen Linker, Mac Hopkins, \*Matthew Wallace, Jonathan Sapp, John Bowers, Stacy Davis, Noah Powers, Vivian Schrader, Mary Helms, Debbie Tompkins, Josh Helms, Jenny Satts, Jerri Greene, Ruth Baxter Laney, Darrell Johnston, Dovie Faggart, James Kirkley, Pamela Young, Matt Greene, Irene Barrier Family, Voyte Wilhelm, Dot Walter, Clarence Walter, Mark Walter, Robert Barnhardt and Family, Emily Hileman (in an effort to keep our prayer focused on particular needs, please provide updates on conditions when available as well as those that need to be added to our prayer program along with those to be removed) \*\*\*

### Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

Keats Dellinger	12/25	Betty Hyatt	12/17
Donald & Amy Robinson	12/15	Bob & Wanda Krimminger	12/6

Omission from November listing: **Conner Srackangast 11-24, Parker Srackangast 11-18**

### **Questions to consider:**

Luke uses words like *faint*, *fear*, and *foreboding* to describe how some will respond to the Second Coming of Christ. Which words would you use to describe the way that members of your congregation think about the Second Coming of Christ? Why? The Lord is our righteousness. The reading from Jeremiah uses a form of the word *righteous* three times in the NRSV. What connections do you see between Advent, the season of expectation, and the righteousness of God? Suggested readings: Jeremiah 33: 14-16, Psalm 25: 1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13, Luke 21: 25-36

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