

St. Paul & Center Grove United Methodist Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

23 December 2012

Rev. Alan Thompson

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

Prelude & Greeting

Passing of the Peace

Advent Candle Liturgy

The Mighty One has done great things! Holy is God's Name! The Light of the World is coming.

With Mary, our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. [*Here relight the first three candles*]

God's mercy endures from generation to generation for those who are in awe of God.

The proud, the rich, the mighty no longer have power over us.

The lowly are lifted up, and the hungry are satisfied.

We see the light of God shining over the land.

We light a fourth candle in anticipation of the wondrous birth. [*Here light the fourth candle.*]

We will open our hearts that Love may have a place to dwell.

Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise: #211 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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: # 254 We Three Kings (SPUMC Choir)

Gifts to Baby Jesus for CCM

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

Special Music: #217 Away in a Manger (Christmas Carolers)

Scripture: Luke 1: 26-38

Sermon: "How Can it Be?"

*Hymn of Invitation: # 230 O Little Town of Bethlehem

*Benediction

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

* Congregation standing

Life of the Church

- Attendance 12/16/12: SPUMC – 34 ; CGUMC – 3
- Pine Bluff UMC Food Pantry: Bring food pantry items to SPUMC by the first Saturday of each month in support of this ministry
- “New Direction” contemporary service coming to Center Grove UMC 1/13/13
- Christmas Caroling SPUMC @ 4pm on 12/16/12
- Christmas Eve Service & Communion 12/24/12 @ 8 pm – SPUMC for both congregations
- Reminder 12/30/12 is 5th Sunday...no service
- Congratulations to new grandmother Penny Jordan

<u>Advent Season</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Liturgical Color</u>
<i>1st Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Prophecy and Hope</i>	<i>12/2/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>2nd Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Preparation and the Way</i>	<i>12/9/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>3rd Sunday of Advent:</i>	<i>Joy</i>	<i>12/16/12</i>	<i>purple or blue</i>
<i>4th 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 Family, Helen Shinn, Angel Thompson, Polly Meehan, Laura Leigh, Rosalyn Greene, Susan Williams, Elizabeth Widenhouse, Martha Hartsell, Bob Krimminger, Kathy Cranford, Wanda Krimminger, Mark Cline, Jerry Walter

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 Family, 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, Robert Barnhardt and Family, Emily Hileman, Sharon Williams, Keshia Wallace, Norrie Baird, Victims & family of Connecticut school shooting, John Bowers, Ben Bean Family (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

Recommended readings for the week

Micah 5: 2-5a

Luke 1: 47-55

Hebrews 10: 5-10

Luke 1: 39-45

Pastor Contact Information: Alan Thompson, 704/791-2907, amt6973@gmail.com or athompson@wnccumc.net