



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE

Organ / Piano Young Ju Oh

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (HOPE)

Munn Family

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Lay Reader: People of faith, prepare for the coming reign of Christ!

People: As we gather to pray and sing and listen, a spirit of anticipation and hope fills us.

Lay Reader: The days are surely coming, says Our God, when justice and righteousness will prevail.

Together: May our worship illuminate our hearts and minds, freeing us to respond joyfully to God's call in the days to come.

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Jai Kwak

***OPENING HYMN # 2**

Come, Thou Almighty King
1 Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise:
Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

2 Come, thou incarnate Word,
merciful, mighty Lord,
our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.

**3 Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.**

**4 To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Lay Reader: King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ longs for us to know life in all its fullness, offering us renewal and refreshment, hope and forgiveness. Let us trust in the promise of the gospel as we make our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving Creator, you call us to rejoice
in your promise of the birth that is to come,
but we are afraid.
You invite us into a world
where justice and righteousness prevail,
but we turn away in fear.
We long for an easy path into your promised world,
but you warn us that there is no easy way.
Birth new life within us,
that we may abide in your perfect love —
the love that casts out fear.
(Pray in Silence) Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON "Lord, Have Mercy"

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Lay Reader: God's mercy and steadfast love endure, strengthening our hearts and overcoming our fears.

God will remove every obstacle that keeps us from being the body of Christ. Amen.

People: Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

"Glory be to the Father"

Hymnal #581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Piano/Organ Young Ju Oh

“There is a Higher Throne”

**1 There is a higher throne
than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev’ry tongue
will one day come.**

**Before the Son we’ll stand,
made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace;
salvation comes.**

**Refrain: Hear heaven’s voices sing;
their thund’rous anthem rings.
Through em’rald courts and sapphire skies
their praises rise.**

**All glory, wisdom, pow’r,
strength, thanks, and honor are
to God our King who reigns on high
forevermore.**

**2 And there we’ll find our home,
our life before the throne.
We’ll honor him in perfect song
where we belong.
He’ll wipe each tear-stained eye
as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd-King;
we’ll reign with him.**

Refrain

CHILDRENS SERMON

Rose VonTungeln

SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 8:1-20

Laura Cosner

1 “All the commandments that I am commanding you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to give to your forefathers.

2 “You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

3 “He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD.

4 “Your clothing did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years.

5 “Thus you are to know in your heart that the LORD your God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son.

6 “Therefore, you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him.

7 “For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing forth in valleys and hills;

8 a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey;

9 a land where you will eat food without scarcity, in which you will not lack anything; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper.

10 “When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you.

11 “Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today;

12 otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them,

13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies,

14 then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

15 “He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water; He brought water for you out of the rock of flint.

16 “In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end.

17 “Otherwise, you may say in your heart, ‘My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.’

18 “But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

19 “It shall come about if you ever forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you will surely perish.

20 “Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so you shall perish; because you would not listen to the voice of the LORD your God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

“Grace in the Wilderness”

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe that God has come to us;
that God brought us into being,
that this God gave us breath and purpose,
that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,
that we have fallen short of this commandment
but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.

We believe that God is coming to us;
that God is not happy to leave us alone,
that this God will come to us as a particular human being,
that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours,
that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,
that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us;
that God will have the final word and that Word will be good,
that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work,
that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth,
that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more,
and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect "Alleluia!"

HYMN # 93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.

2 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

3 Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow" Hymnal #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You each are encouraged to give voice to your concerns or to name those for whom you love and pray.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

CLOSING HYMN # 542

God be with you till we meet again
1 God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.

3 God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again.

4 God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you;
smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

****POSTLUDE**

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Go forth into the world rejoicing. Love and serve the Lord.

****Those who are able, please stand.***

***** Please be seated and remain for the postlude if you can.***

PRAYER CONCERNS

*Bernice Lackey
Emil & Carol Brown
Karen Perdue
Adam Vick
Sydney Hayes*

*Hester Insley
Jemie Moseley
Lurline Elam
Dominik Munn
Anne Elizabeth (Betty) Coles*

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>	
<i>Dr. Laura Festa</i>	<i>wife of former pastor, Dr. Dan Festa</i>	<i>Carol Taylor</i>	<i>friend of Denise Mosley</i>
<i>Scott McGeorge</i>	<i>friend of Lawrence Fikes</i>	<i>Franklin Ward</i>	<i>uncle of Dana Neal</i>
<i>Rebecca and Earl Phillips</i>	<i>friends of Karen and David Perdue</i>	<i>Ryker Cheek</i>	<i>nephew of Bubba VonTungeln</i>
<i>Max Zeng</i>	<i>Mike and Lan Kelly's son</i>	<i>Cassie Everett</i>	<i>Friend of Dana Neal</i>
<i>Luis Sanchez</i>	<i>father of Lizabeth Sanchez</i>	<i>Clara Hammonds</i>	<i>Step-Grandmother of Bubba VonTungeln</i>
<i>Jorga Walker</i>	<i>wife of Donald Walker</i>	<i>Lydia Wright</i>	<i>Rev. Timothy Reeves & Jane Reeves' Granddaughter</i>
<i>Elaine Porter</i>	<i>Step-Mother of Dana Neal</i>	<i>Jane Glover</i>	<i>Friend of The Cosners</i>
<i>Kara & Kyle Taylor</i>	<i>friend of Dana Neal</i>		
<i>Kathy Griffin</i>	<i>Sister of Pamela Riegler</i>	<i>Brenda Greenham</i>	<i>Aunt of Zac Cosner</i>
		<i>Anita Rodriguez</i>	<i>Daughter of Mary Light</i>

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

First, Paragould

Church Custodians

OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

Help us keep our prayer list up to date. If you have family or friends who need to be added or removed from the prayer concerns list, please let the Office know.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church, where we come together to celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith and serve the needs of others. This congregation opens wide its doors and hearts and welcomes all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Pastor

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

Secretary

Justine Anton

Pianist/Organist

YoungJu Oh

Sound Board Operator

Zac Cosner

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Session

Class of 2020

Laura Cosner

Denise Mosley

Suzy VonTungeln

Jemmie Moseley

Class of 2021

Zac Cosner (Clerk)

George Mosley

Danny Reeves

Standing Committee Moderators:

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance

Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education

Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach

George Mosley & Danny Reeves

-Building & Grounds

Laura Cosner & Jemmie Moseley

-Worship & Music

Announcements

Order forms for Christmas Poinsettias are available from the church office and are due Today.

December 5th at 5:30 p.m. will be the annual Moravian love feast.

December 19th will be the annual Christmas Cantata!

December 21st at 7 p.m. we will be having a Blue Christmas Service.

Christmas Eve we will be having our Candlelight Service.

We are currently collecting cans of cranberry sauce for Neighbor to Neighbor for the Christmas holiday. We need all donations by Sunday November 30th. Our goal is 100 cans.

Order forms for Christmas Poinsettias are available from the church office and are due Today.

Thursday Night Bible Study is back! We start at 6:30 and we hope to see you there!

There is now a Sunday School class at 10 every Sunday for children and one for all ages. Please join us for this time of learning!

Archives of our Online Services can be found on Facebook and YouTube! Links to each are on our website, CentralPrespb.com