



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Sunday, November 27, 2022
First Sunday of Advent

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 (*from Psalm 122*)

Logan : "I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

People : Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Logan : Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together.

People : To it the tribes go up, and the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

Logan : Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

People : Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

***OPENING HYMN # 14 For the Beauty of the Earth (Verses 1, 2 & 4)**

1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.

Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain]

4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]

***OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Jai Kwak

CALL TO CONFESSION (From Hebrews 4:14-16)

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in the time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, remind us that you have formed us with your own hands, made us in your own image, and placed us in this world to be stewards of your good creation. Made for generous relationships, we have retreated into ourselves. Created for the purpose of making your goodness known, we allow lesser tasks to occupy our time. Forgive our failure to live in the way you made us to live. Renew within us the knowledge of your love so that we may live joyfully and gratefully, sharing what we have. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offered himself for us, and opens to us the way of eternal life (Silent Prayer) Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON: "Lord, Have Mercy"

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Jai Kwak

With the coming of Christ, God has given us the gift of forgiveness, even seventy times seven. God reaches out to offer us new life, a new day, a chance to begin again — loved and beautiful, even as on the first day of creation. Believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Hymnal #581

"Glory Be to the Father"

**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.**

Give Thanks

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong', let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us;
and now let the weak say 'I am strong', let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks...**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDRENS SERMON

Rose VonTungeln

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Laura Cosner

Genesis 12:1–5 (NASB95)

1 Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; 2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you, all the families of the earth will be blessed." 4 So Abram went forth as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. 5 Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his nephew, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the persons which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan; thus they came to the land of Canaan.

Psalm 115:9–13 (NASB95)

9 O Israel, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield. 10 O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield. 11 You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield. 12 The Lord has been mindful of us; He will bless *us*; He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron. 13 He will bless those who fear the Lord, The small together with the great.

Hebrews 11:8–10 (NASB95)

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign *land*, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; 10 for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

By Faith

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN # 314 Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (Verses 1, 2, & 5)

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain)

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.

5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.

*** Affirmation of Faith** (From the Confession of 1967)

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations.

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinners. The power of God's love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Hymnal #606

**"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"
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 THANKSGIVING AND 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 LORD'S PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Closing Hymn, # 643 Now Thank We All Our God

**1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills of this world in the next.**

**3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

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

*Dominik Munn
Jemmie Moseley
Emil & Carol Brown*

*Sydney Hayes
Hester Insley
Karen Perdue*

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>	
<i>Allie Cooper & Carol Taylor</i>	<i>Friends of Denise Mosley</i>	<i>Rebecca & Earl Phillips</i>	<i>Friends of Karen Perdue</i>
<i>Max Zeng</i>	<i>Mike and Lan Kelly's son</i>	<i>Dr. Laura Festa</i>	<i>Wife of Dr. Dan Festa</i>
<i>Luis Sanchez</i>	<i>Father of Lizabeth Sanchez</i>	<i>Haley Chandler</i>	<i>Friend of the Church</i>
<i>Bernice Collins</i>	<i>Friend of the Church</i>	<i>Pat Mosley</i>	<i>Mother of George Mosley</i>

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

First, Paragould

Church Custodians

***PLEASE PRAY FOR 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.

Announcements

A big thanks to all of those who assisted in preparing the Church for the Advent Season yesterday.

We're currently taking orders for Christmas Poinsettias through Dec. 11th. Order forms are found in the bulletin or in the narthex. The cost is \$17.00 apiece.

We're having our annual Neighbor to Neighbor Christmas Cranberry Sauce Drive. They are asking us for a donation of 60 cans by Dec. 1st. At last count we were approx. 10 cans short.

Our longtime tradition at Central of the Moravian Love Feast will be held tonight at 5:30. Please plan to join us for this special evening of fellowship & blessing of the breads.

The Women of the Church will have their Christmas Party next Sunday at 3pm. The party will be held at the Cosner's. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Laura Cosner or Kay Cromwell.

The Choir Christmas Party will be held on Saturday Dec. 10th at 5pm. The party will be held at the Cosner's. Choir members and spouses are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Laura Cosner.

The Annual Christmas Cantata will be held on the morning of Dec. 18th at 11 am. It will be followed by our monthly fellowship luncheon and our scheduled session meeting. Please spread the word of this wonderful service.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held Dec. 24th at 5:30pm.

We will be holding a Christmas Day service at 11am on Dec. 25th.

Pastor Rev. Jai D. Kwak	Pianist/Organist Young Ju Oh
Treasurer Rose VonTungeln	Sound Board Operator Zac Cosner

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Website: <http://www.centralprespb.com>

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Session

<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Zachary Cosner (Clerk)	Laura Cosner
Pat Drewett	Jane Judkins
George Mosley	Denise Mosley
Danny Reeves	Suzy VonTungeln

Standing Committee Moderators:

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance
 Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education
 Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach
 Danny Reeves - Building & Grounds
 Laura Cosner - Worship & Music

Christmas Poinsettias



Poinsettias

The church office is accepting orders for Christmas Poinsettias. The cost is \$17.00 each. If you would like to place an order, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office. The deadline to place an order is December 11th.

Donor(s) _____

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

No. of Poinsettias _____

