

The Second Sunday of Advent December 5, 2010
The season of anticipation until Christmas Day

PRELUDE "17th Century French Provençal Carol" D'Ivad

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Edd Spencer

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "One Candle Is Lit"

THE LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Brice & Peggy Thornbury

Leader: Our first Advent Candle is the candle of Hope.
People: It reminds us that there is an end, a beautiful ending toward which God is pulling us.

Leader: Our second Advent Candle is the candle of Peace.
People: It reminds us that Christ is the Prince of Peace and we are to follow His example.

Leader: Today we light the candle of Hope and the candle of Peace.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** "Joy to the World" Chalice Hymnal No. 143

***INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Trespas) and GLORIA PATRI**
(Words to the Lord's Prayer, Gloria Patri and Doxology are in the pews)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING Rev. Edd Spencer
Children who are rising four years old through fourth grade will be dismissed to Children's Worship & Wonder. (An experiential worship experience for children which meets in our library).

PRESENTATION OF TITHES and OFFERINGS

Call to Stewardship Rev. Edd Spencer

Special Music Offering "Cantique De Noel" Adam

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication** Rev. Edd Spencer

ANTHEM "Carol for Advent" Besig

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Edd Spencer

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Chalice Hymnal No. 144

Invitation to Communion Jill Pasky

Prayer of Communion Steve Pasky

(This is the Lord's Table. All believers in Christ are invited. As the emblems are passed, partake of the bread and hold the cup, offering your own prayer/meditation until after the congregational response.)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

(Taken from the New Testament: First Corinthians 11:23-26)

ELDER: The Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is My Body which is given for you."

COMMUNION MUSIC "No Room" Peterson

ELDER: In the same way also the cup, after supper saying, "This cup is the new covenant of My Blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me."

CONGREGATION: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:11 Rev. Mary Pat Spencer

SERMON "The Gift of - Frankincense" Rev. Mary Pat Spencer

***HYMN OF INVITATION** "We Three Kings" Chalice Hymnal No. 172
Vs. 1 & 3

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Mary Pat Spencer

CHORAL RESPONSE "Come, O Long-expected Jesus" Chalice Hymnal No. 125

Come, O long expected Jesus, born to set Your people free.
From our fears and sins release us; Christ, in whom our rest shall be.
You, our strength and consolation, come salvation to impart;
dear desire of many a nation, joy of many a longing heart.

***POSTLUDE** "19th Century English Carol" Nerak

LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, December 5

9:00 am Sunday School
9:45 – 10:15 am Fellowship Moments
10:15 am Worship Service
10:30 am Children's Worship and Wonder
11:30 am All-Church Christmas Dinner
4:00 pm Pastor's Class
4:30 pm Christmas Play Rehearsal
5:00 pm Youth Groups
6:15 pm Snack Supper

MONDAY, December 6

7:00 am Men's Bible Study on the Christmas Story
10:00 am Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Men's Gathering

TUESDAY, December 7

10:00 am The Adventure Nook "Christmas Friends" walk with Edd
10:00 am Women's Bible Study at Georgia Flora's for
Christmas Brunch
7:00 pm Elder Calls

WEDNESDAY, December 8

12:00 pm Young At Heart Christmas Party at the Spencer's
1:30 pm – 6:00 pm Pick-up Boston Butt's/Hams
7:00 pm Cantata Practice

THURSDAY, December 9

11:00 am Staff Christmas Party at the Spencer's
7:00 pm Men's & Women's Bible Study Christmas Party
at Lloyds Restaurant

SATURDAY, December 11

9:00 am – 1:00 pm Cantata Practice
6:30 pm Seekers Christmas Party at the Lamb's

IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

MEN'S MEETING - The Christian Men's Fellowship will be blessed tomorrow evening at to hear an outstanding young Pastor, father, athlete, and life coach share from his heart. Romeo Penn played basketball at Montevallo and then professionally on an international basis. Currently Romeo leads Bible studies in this area and is the Director of Revolutionary Training Systems LLC that provides personal fitness training. Romeo recently completed a book "Keys To Unlocking Your True Identity" and has started another book. Please plan to attend and bring young guys that have sport interests. Steve Pasky will provide a wonderful meal. Sign up to day in the narthex. Thanks Charles Daniels.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA - Our Cantata this year is a beautiful mixture of music and drama. The cantata "O Holy Night" will be the message at our 10:15 worship service next Sunday. We will hear the story of the Christ child's birth through the perspectives of a number of different biblical characters; Isaiah, Jeremiah, the angel Gabriel, Mary and Joseph, a lowly shepherd, and a very wise man. The choir will be singing both old favorites and new songs of this most wonderful season. We are excited about our message this year and hope that you will be able to join us as we praise God with the gifts that He has given us. Our joy in our Savior will surely shine through as we worship Him in music, song, and drama. Come be a part of this inspiring worship service on December 12th. I pray that this Christmas season will be full of joy, hope, and love for all. In Christ, Jan

SPREAD THE LIGHT - The CYF youth will once again accept your donations of \$5.00 or more in honor or memory of a loved one. These donations will help the youth to **Spread the Light** of Christ on their Mission Trip - which this year will be to the Holy Land. The youth have created a special Christmas card - a gift to you - to share with others if you wish, in lieu of a Christmas gift. Often times it is difficult to find that perfect gift for our family and friends. However, when you give a gift to the **Spread the Light** project, you will help the youth spread the Light of Christ in the land where He walked *and* you will be able to send your friends a Christmas card letting them know you have honored them with a special gift. Also, your name and those you have honored will be placed in our Christmas Eve Bulletins. As always, thank you for your love and support of our youth.

CHRISTMAS FOR THE STAFF - Christmas time is the time for gifts of appreciation and love. During the season of Advent, we will have a decorated Christmas box in the narthex for you to place your gift for the staff of First Christian. Please note on your check that it is a gift for the church staff. You may also mail your gift to the church in care of Steve Pasky. Please remember our staff and all the many extras that they have done for us this year. We are fortunate to have them and appreciate their ministry to us. *Thank you, Steve Pasky, Chair of the Personnel Committee*

WORSHIP LEADERS

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Edd Spencer & Rev. Mary Pat Spencer
MUSIC MINISTER: Rev. Jan Watts
ORGANIST/PIANIST: David Brasher
ELDERS ON CALL: Jill & Steve Pasky
SERVING DIACONATE: Gary Taylor, Dan Alderson, Conlee Alderson, Linda Byrd, Jose' Carreras, Nick Cotruvo, Paulette Farquhar, Russ Favorite, Bob Lamb, Janice Lamb, Connie Tabb, Art Varvoutis, Regena Varvoutis, Ginny White

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP & WONDER:

LESSON: Mary and Joseph Show the Way (Advent II)

STORYTELLERS: Julie Henderson

GREETERS : Susan Hales & Emily Fowler

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETER: Jim Thigpen

WORSHIP GREETER: Andrew Ford

WORSHIP TABLE GREETER: Ruth Ann Steele

NATIVITY SET - As part of our Christmas celebration, the CYF youth will begin selling raffle tickets for the opportunity to win a large hand carved Nativity Set from Bethlehem, which may be viewed in the Narthex. The tickets will be \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will be on December 12, immediately after church. All proceeds will go towards their mission trip next summer to the Holy Land.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS MUSICAL - Kids' Praise would like to invite you to join them on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2010, at the 7pm service for a cute children's Christmas musical entitled "Aaron, The Allergic Shepherd". We are excited to be able to present this as the Christmas Eve meditation this year. It tells the story of a little shepherd boy allergic to sheep and the lesson he learned on that special night so long ago when Emmanuel came to dwell among us. The kids are having a fun time getting ready for this Christmas Eve service; so come out and support them as we all worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on the eve of His birth. In Christ, Jan

YOUNG AT HEART CHRISTMAS PARTY - The Young at Heart are having a Christmas Party at the Spencer's this Wednesday, December 8 at 12:00 pm. We will meet at the church at 11:30 am and we can ride together to the Spencer's. Bring your favorite pot-luck dish. Hubert Nall will provide some special music with the Sacred Harp singers. Please sign up on the chart in the narthex today.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - The Christmas Poinsettia list is in the narthex. The cost of the poinsettias this year is \$17.00. Please sign up and select a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one.