

Announcements – Jordan

Good morning, and thank you for joining us for the livestream of our worship service. We are in the final week of a four-week suspension of in-person worship services. Next week we will be back to in-person worship.

Tomorrow evening is the final board meeting of the year. The meeting will be held via Zoom, and a link for the meeting was emailed on Friday. It is also listed on the church Facebook page.

Although we will not have an Angel Tree set up in the FCC narthex this year, we encourage you to adopt an Angel from the Salvation Army. Children and families in our community still need your support. You may pick up Angel Tree names from Kroger or American Rental in Governor's Square.

The Salvation Army is in need of volunteers to help with Angel Tree gift packing and distribution beginning Thanksgiving week. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up by emailing me at chrissymhudson1@gmail.com or calling the church office. I will pass the list along to the Salvation Army who will contact volunteers to coordinate dates/times/responsibilities.

In lieu of food baskets and Angel Tree gifts, the church will distribute gift cards this year. If you know of anyone who is in need, contact Dave or the church office.

Kid's Korner – Jordan

Call to Worship – The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle – Jane Martin and Tanya Charlton

Christmas Carol – Hark, the Herald Angels Sing, verses 1, 2, 3

Joys and Concerns – Jordan

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Please remember the following families, who have lost loved ones –

Rod Cloyd and his family, on the loss of his father, who passed away on Wednesday.

Brian Warren and family for the loss of his aunt, Lois Warren.

Todd Tindall and family for the loss of his wife, Trish.

Judy Floyd and family on the loss of Glen Floyd, her brother-in-law.

Janet Childress and family on the loss of her brother-in-law, Chuck Whitmer.

Please remember also –

Lisa Stivers, daughter of Judy Floyd. Lisa is suffering from Bels-Palsy and would appreciate your prayers.

Eric McClain continues as a patient at Jewish Hospital, Louisville.

Greg Bunten will have knee surgery on tomorrow.

Wanda Stivers will have surgery on Wednesday.

Marsha James will have heart surgery for valve replacement on the 21st.

Continue to remember Emma Jones as she has been undergoing tests.

Congratulations to Louellen and Lonnie Stivers, who celebrated their 60th anniversary on Thursday.

We thank God that vaccines for Covid are now gaining approval and on their way!

If you would like a copy of the complete prayer list, copies can be downloaded from the church web site.

Morning Prayer – Sally McClain

O come, O come Emmanuel

To set your people free

From:

Sickness

Death

Injustice

Bondage

Prejudice

To bring forth:

Healing

Freedom

Peace

Equity

Hope

In all things that you can do...with the promise of the Christ Child born once again in us...to give light in the midst of darkness...as we offer this prayer this morning in the name of the One who was and is and is to come....world without end. Amen.

Special Music –

Message – Dave Charlton

Message Title – *A Light in the Darkness: Love*

Scripture Reading – John 1:1-14

¹ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

² *He was with God in the beginning.*

³ *Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.*

⁴ *In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.*

⁵ *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

⁶ *There was a man sent from God whose name was John.*

⁷ *He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.*

⁸ *He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.*

⁹ *The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.*

¹⁰ *He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.*

¹¹ *He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.*

¹² *Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.*

¹⁴ *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Invitation Hymn – Angels We Have Heard On High, Verses 1, 2, 3

Offering Meditation – Dave

Rudyard Kipling, offering the commencement address at McGill University in Montreal, said there was one striking thing that deserves to be remembered about people. Warning the students against an over-concern for money, power, or popularity, he said, *Some day you will meet (someone) who cares for none of these things. Then you will know how poor you are.*

Offering Prayer

God, this is the season for miracles and we pray for one today.

Where there is sorrow, we pray for your grace to light the darkness.

Where is despair, we pray for your hope to light the darkness.

Where there is hatred, we pray for your forgiveness to light the darkness.

Where there is war, we pray for your love to light the darkness.

Where there is confusion, we pray for your peace to light the darkness.

Where there is injustice, we pray for your courage to light the darkness.

Where there is fear, we pray for your joy to light the darkness.

It is the season for miracles and we pray for one today: Come, Lord Jesus; may your light come into our world.

Amen.

Doxology – played, but no singing

Communion Meditation

From the Reverend George McLeod, a Scottish pastor, who wrote this prayer in the mid 20th century –

"Lord God, some of us are a little like the Shepherds; just carrying on with our jobs, despite the turbulence in the world scene.

Give us a message, send us an angel that will start us seeking a new way of life.

"Lord God, others of us are like the Wise Men from the east; we can see the need of some power to come and to give us direction, but we don't know in which direction to go.

Give us the wisdom to see that it is not in physical power that our salvation lies, but in love and humility.

"Lord God, a few of us are like Herod; we don't want a new power to enter the world, in case it might threaten our own power.

Give us the humility to be ready for a quite new form of power, to fit the dangerous age in which we live.

"We ask You to make us expectant. We ask You to make us seekers, rather than know-it-alls.

"We ask You for grace so that we are ready to receive. We ask You for faith, really to believe that, in this dark day of our land, we can accept the gift of Christmas, and bring our wealth as a land to serve the Christ, to bring our incense to worship Him, and our myrrh, the symbol of burial, to be ready to die for Him.

"Thus we shall be able to receive the gift of love and light and life, when Christmas Day shall dawn." Amen.

Prayer for the bread and cup.

Prayer for the Bread and Cup –

The Lord's Prayer

This we pray in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Words of institution – *when Jesus met with his disciples for the Last Supper, he took the bread and broke it. As he broke it, he said, “this is my body which is broken for you. This do in remembrance of me.” And he took the cup also and said, “this cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

Benediction Song – O Come, O Come Emmanuel, Verse 4

Benediction

Sent to me by Amy Bramblette –

*In this season of waiting, breathe in life.
Life of the One Who created all things, and Whose image we bear.
In this season of waiting, breathe in love.
Love of the One Who gave a precious Son to live as one of us.
In this season of waiting, breathe in peace.
Peace of the One Who calms the sea, and quiets the tumult of our souls.
In this season of waiting, breathe in hope.
Hope of the One for Whom we wait, Who is indeed making all things whole.*

—Christine Sine

Below is the updated prayer list.

Arrington, Kim recovery from hip replacement surgery

Bailey, Helen homebound

Baker, Jeanie cancer

Baxter, Johnny stomach cancer, son of Jessie Baxter

Beagle, Susan Signature Healthcare, Taylorsville

Beckley, Greg, Alzheimer's

the family and friends of JoAnn Bishop Alzheimer's, Henrietta Hardin's sister

Bolden, Michael health concerns

Carpenter, Karen liver and lung cancer, friend of Suzi and Bob Roth

Clausen, Rich continuing cancer treatment, friend of Diann and Al Cook

Donahue, Barbara MS

Donahue, Buddy cancer

Farris, Ben cancer

the friends and family of Glen Floyd Judy Floyd's brother-in-law

Griffith, Linda health issues

Harris, Gloria health, Julie Mulcahy's mother

Hipple, Mary Dale recent surgery and recovery

Howell, Brooks infant with incurable disease

Hower, Tommy health

Hudson, Chris wound on leg

Hundley, LaMar and Valorie health

Jennings, Harriet very sore after recent fall

Lancaster, Grant heart issues, friend of Vicki and Glen Wright

Lassley, Laurie gall bladder cancer, second treatment Monday

Leismer, Jim stroke, brother-in-law of Nancy Kirk

the family and friends of Deanie Logan

Long, Annie cancer

Loprindi, Kristina stage 4 ovarian cancer

Lyons, Ida Crescent Place

Mackens, James back surgery, son-in-law of Rochelle Phillips

Mattson, Chad heart attack and stents

McGuire, Thelma health

Miles, Donna recovery from surgery

Minner, Pat chemo treatments for lung cancer, friend of Diann and Al Cook

Moffatt, Bruce health issues

Nation, Nellie Amber Oaks

Newton, Mary Jo treatment for breast cancer (Ken Slucher's sister)

Ratliff, George military

Roach, Larry Crescent Place, Linda Griffith's brother

Sanders, Cindy cancer

Sandy surgery and treatment for breast cancer, Henrietta Hardin's nephew's significant other

Shaver, Marty Crescent Place

Deborah Smith's Aunt Lonja diagnosed with COVID and pneumonia

Smith, Michelle upcoming knee replacement surgery

Smith, Nell Legacy at English Station

Smith, Teresa dialysis patient with issues regarding her shunt

Stivers, Lisa Bels-Palsy, Judy Floyd's daughter

Taylor, Nancye homebound

the family and friends of Trish Tindall

Tipton, Barbara Crescent Place

Tom and Nicole Covid diagnosis (brother and niece of Joanne Burke)

Wainscott, Diana breast cancer, Elizabeth Slucher's sister-in-law

the family and friends of Lois Warren Aunt of Brian Warren

Webb, Devon seriously injured in car accident

Whitmer, Chuck failing health Brother-in-law of Janet Childress

Williams, Jay juvenile diabetes

Williams, Linda cancer

Wright, Tommy recovering from a severe head injury

Wright, Vickie broken femur and other health issues

the Diersen Center staff and residents

SCPS students, staff and faculty