

Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 20

Worship services at 9:00 & 11:15 a.m., Sunday School at 10:10 a.m.

Christmas Eve, December 24

4:00 p.m. Candlelighting & Children's Choir

6:00 p.m. Candlelighting, Communion & Chancel Choir
(PCA Ministerial Relief Fund Offering Taken)

Sunday, December 27

One worship service at 10:30 a.m. No Sunday School

(Nursery for infants-3 years old.

Four years and older will attend worship.)

It is here, in the thing that happened at the first Christmas, that the profoundest and most unfathomable depths of the Christian revelation lie. "The Word became flesh" (John 1:14); God became man; the divine Son became a Jew; the Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, unable to do more than lie and stare and wriggle and make noises, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. And there was no illusion or deception in this: the babyhood of the Son of God was a reality. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the Incarnation.

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

682 Mulberry Street · Macon, GA 31201 · 478.746.3223 · www.fpcmacon.org



LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Chip Miller, Senior Pastor
Justin Leslein, Assistant Pastor
Michael McGhee, Music Director/Organist
Rebecca Lanning, Choir Director
Tom Rule, Pianist
Chancel Choir

CHANCEL CHOIR

Sue Ballard
Kim Carter
Norman Carter
Van Edmonds
Rebecca Forsyth
Jay Hawkins
Kathy Hensley
Stephen Hensley
James Hulett
Karmen Lenz
Mel Leroy
Katie Maddox
Mary Moody
Beverly Olson
Susan Phillips
Saynor Ponder
Chloe Radford
Ben Rives
Matt Rose
Pam Rule
Jim Settles
Phebe Settles
Brandi Smith
Elliott Wall

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Jason Economides, Violin
Patty Baser, Violin
Kathryn White, Viola
Barbara Altman, Cello
Reed Tucker, Bass
Lorilyn Thompson, Flute
Maia Nichols, Oboe
Paul McCommon, Trumpet
Alexander McQuain, Trumpet
Marcus Reddick, Timpani
David Milligan, Percussion
Jesse Couch, Acoustic Guitar
James Hulett, Tenor
Carrie Everitt, Soloist

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

- Hebrews 1:1-4

ANTHEM

Mary Did You Know

Lowry and Greene
arr. Craig Courtney

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
will some day walk on water?*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
will save our sons and daughters?*

*Did you know that your baby boy
has come to make you new?*

*This child that you've delivered,
will soon deliver you.*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
will give sight to a blind man?*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
will calm a storm with his hand?*

*Did you know that your baby boy
has walked where angels trod?*

*when you kiss your little baby,
then you have kissed the face of God.*

*The blind will see,
the deaf will hear,
the dead will live again.
The lame will leap,
the dumb will speak,
the praises of the lamb.*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
is Lord of all creation?*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
would one day rule the nations?*

*Did you know that your baby boy
is heaven's perfect Lamb?*

*This sleeping child you're holding
is the great I am*

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

Chip Miller

†SONG OF RESPONSE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the King of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light eternal
Humbly he enters the Virgin's womb:
Very God, begotten, not created; *(Refrain)*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; *(Refrain)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *(Refrain)*

†BENEDICTION

†Standing

*Worshippers may be seated

Texts Printed by Permission CCLI #202766

Corporate Worship

Sunday, December 13, 2015

9:00 & 11:15 AM

WELCOME

SOLO

Who Would Have Dreamed

*On a starlit hillside, shepherds watched their sheep.
Slowly, David's city drifted off to sleep.
But to this little town of no great renown
The Lord had a promise to keep.*

*Prophets had foretold it, a mighty King would come.
Long-awaited Ruler, God's anointed one.
But the Sovereign of all looked helpless and small
As God gave the world His own Son.*

*And who would have dreamed or ever foreseen
That we could hold God in our hands?
The Giver of Life is born in the night
Revealing God's glorious plan
To save the world.*

*Wondrous gift of heaven: the Father sends the Son.
Planned from time eternal, moved by holy love.
He will carry our curse, and death He'll reverse
So we can be daughters and sons.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

- Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

†HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels From the Realms of Glory

(All)

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

(Congregational Men)

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant Light. *(Refrain)*

(Congregational Women)

Sinners, wrung with true repentance,
Doomed for guilt to endless pains,
Justice now revokes the sentence,
Mercy calls you; break your chains. *(Refrain)*

(All)

Though an Infant now we view Him,
He shall fill His Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to Him;
Every knee shall then bow down. *(Refrain)*

(All)

All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To th' eternal Three in One. *(Refrain)*

Seating Interlude

ANTHEM

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Dan Forrest

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.*

*Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored: Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the favored one.*

*Veild in flesh, the Godhead see; Hail, th' incarnate Deity:
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

Hail! the heav'n born Prince of peace! Hail! the Son of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die:

Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

SCRIPTURE READING

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

- Luke 2:7-14

HEIDELBERG CATECHISM 36

How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?

He is our mediator and, in God's sight, he covers with his innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.

†HYMN 213

What Child Is This

What child is this, who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spears, shall pierce him through;
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

PASTORAL PRAYER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

The Shepherd's Lamb

Dan Forrest

*A stable bare, a starlit sky, and under Heaven's watchful eye
a miracle in manger lay, the Lamb of God upon a bed of hay.*

*The first news of this glorious birth was told to those of little worth,
who left their flocks, as angels said, to find the Lamb of God in manger bed.*

*The shepherds paused at stable door; looked on the Lamb and in Him saw
their own Good Shepherd, born a Lamb, themselves the flock within the Shepherd's hand.*

*With shepherds gaze in wonder on the mystery of Heaven's plan:
The Shepherd, born to live with us, is born to die for us, the shepherds' Lamb.*

(We encourage any children second grade and above to continue in corporate worship if the parent wishes.

All others will leave through the left side for Bible Story in Cornerstone.)

He Who Is Mighty

Elliot/DeGraide



Oh, the mer-cy our God has shown to those who sit in death's shad-ow.
Oh, the free-dom our Sav-ior won; The yoke of sin has been bro-ken.



The sun on high pierced the night; born was the Cor-ner-stone.
Once a slave, now by grace no more con-dem-na-tion



Un-to us a Son is giv-en, un-to us a Child is born. **He Who is mighty**



has done a great thing; Ta-ken on flesh, con-quer-ed death's sting.



shat-tered the dark-ness and lift-ed our shame. Ho-ly is His name.



Ho-ly is His name. Now my soul mag-ni-fies the Lord; I re-



joice in the God Who saves; I will trust His un-fail-ing love, I will



sing His prais-es all my days. My all my days. *repeat chorus*