

**Morning Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
December 12, 2010
Third Sunday of Advent**

*Please adjust all electronic communication devices so as not to disrupt the service.
If you need to leave the Sanctuary, please use the exits at the back.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.

**Choral Call to Worship
Unto Us - Bryant & Bryant**

The people who walk in the darkness are going to behold a great light.
And those in the land of the shadow will all say goodbye to the night.

And joy will fill the kingdom; His kingdom will increase;
the chains of fallen Eden will be shattered by His might.

Refrain

Unto us a child is born, and He will sit on David's throne,
and the government will be on the shoulders of this King,
and He'll reign for evermore.
Unto us a child is born.

Every boot that has marched to the battle will finally be set aflame.
And fear of the enemy's torment will rise up in smoke just the same.

For He comes to bring you peace; His kingdom will increase;
He's coming to release every man from sin and shame.

Refrain

And His name will be Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.

Refrain

**** Glorifying God in Song**
Angels, From The Realms Of Glory
Hymn #218

**** The Invocation**

**** The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The First Scripture Lesson

¹ The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. ³ Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; ⁴ say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.” ⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. ⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. ⁷ The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. ⁸ And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it. ⁹ No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, ¹⁰ and the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Isaiah 35:1-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God**

The Confession of Our Sins & Assurance of Pardon

“Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.”

Book of Common Worship,
Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993

The Musical Offering

The Second Scripture Lesson

⁷ Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹ Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! ¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

James 5:7-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

The Anthem

In the Bleak Midwinter - Rossetti

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan,
Each stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow.
In the bleak mid-winter long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold him nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;
In the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,
A breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give him, give him my heart.

The Third Scripture Lesson

¹ After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee. ² When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, “Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?” ⁴ Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.” ⁷ As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written: “‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹ I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. ¹⁴ And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears, let him hear.

Matthew 11:1-15

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God**

**** Offertory Hymn**
Once in Royal David's City
Hymn #225

**** Offertory Statement & Prayer of Dedication**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. ⁹ Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.

Psalm 96:7-9

The Offertory *Two French Carols*

***PLEASE FILL OUT THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN
TO INDICATE YOUR ATTENDANCE.***

*** The Doxology**

(Hymn # 731)

Children K4 – K5 may be dismissed to Children's Church.

The Message
Rev. John K. Keen
Senior Pastor

** **Glorifying God in Song**
Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come
Hymn #195

** **Benediction**

Postlude

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing – arr. Carol Tornquist

** All who are able, please stand
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Welcome to Our Visitors

We welcome you in the name of Christ! You can find more information about us on our website at www.seminolepca.org. For questions or to share a prayer concern, call the office at 774-3881, ext. 700 or email us at: church@seminolepca.org.

Emergency Contact Number For Fridays

If you have any urgent or emergency needs on Fridays, please feel free to contact Ruling Elder Chip Johnson at (813) 857-3915.

Deacons' Mercy Line (813) 774-3881 , Ext. 744

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please call this church phone extension; a deacon generally checks the line daily.

SPC Family Matters

Open House Today! – Danny, Jamie and Kaela Dalton are thrilled to now be living in Tampa and would like to invite their entire Seminole family (kids are welcome and Kaela will be crushed if none attend!) to an Open House **TODAY** from **3:30 pm to 5:30 pm**. In planning your visit, please be mindful that youth small groups begin at 5:45 pm. Also, please, no gifts.



Christmas Eve Worship Service - Please join us at **6:00 pm** on **Friday, December 24** for our annual candle light Christmas Eve Service.

Programming Note – Please be advised that Sunday School will be suspended on Sunday, December 26 and Sunday, January 2 for the Christmas and New Year holidays. Our Worship Service will be held at its regular time, 9:00 AM, followed by a time of fellowship at 10:15 AM.

By Faith Magazine – Complimentary copies of By Faith magazine (a publication of our church's denomination) have been made available to our congregation. Pick up your copy (one per family) today where you drop off your hymnal.



Metropolitan Ministries Food Drive – We will continue to partner with St. Paul Lutheran on a Holiday Food Drive for Metropolitan Ministries. A collection box will be located in the front entry area of the Sanctuary; please place your donations in this box.



MS/HS Youth Progressive Dinner Christmas Party!

Friday, December 17, 5:00 PM - 9:30 PM

**CHRISTMAS
Progressive Dinner** Middle and High School students don't miss out on this awesome party. We will meet at Ben & Jane Lamber's home (10812 N. Oregon Ave.) at 5 pm, where we will enjoy the first course of a yummy dinner. Then we will travel to two other church member's homes enjoying a main course at one and dessert at the other. Oh, yeah, we will have some great fun along the way, too! And, at our final house we will have a crazy gift exchange. Have your parents pick you up at Bryan & Jackie Toenes' home at 9:30 pm (4907 Wishart Blvd; 33603). Please invite a friend and sign-up by Tuesday, December 14.

Required:

- (1) Notarized Medical Release for 2010-11 school year (required for invited friends too; the form can be downloaded from the church's website [www.seminolepca.org] under the Student Ministries section of the Ministries tab. Andy Thomson will be available to notarize forms TODAY!).

(2) A new wrapped gift valued at \$5 or less



Reminder – Parents, please remind your children to not run while exiting the Sanctuary or while making their way to the Snyder building. There are a number of St. Paul members arriving and making preparations for their service as ours is concluding; we also have our ushers positioned at the doors. All would appreciate Seminole’s children transitioning from one building to the other in a clam and orderly manner. Thank you for your attention and cooperation as we strive to be good and gentle guests of St. Paul.

STILL NEEDED!!! Coffee Volunteers - Do you enjoy having a cup of coffee each Sunday after worship? Did you know that it is just a handful of people (five to be exact) that provide this for everyone's enjoyment? These five can use your help! The volunteers rotate the duty, so they are not "on" every week. The more volunteers there are, the less frequent each volunteer serves. Please see or contact Larry Dickey (813.695.3173), our Coffee Time Coordinator, for more information and more importantly - to volunteer!



Las Posadas – Seminole! We are invited to join in St. Paul’s 2nd Annual “Las Posadas” celebration, which commemorates Mary and Joseph’s cold and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of shelter. Participants will sing carols, walking to four pre-arranged neighborhood homes. At each home, the group will ask for a room (which will be denied). The group will then proceed back to the church (a symbol of the stable) and of course will be welcomed. The night will end with a simple fiesta, food, and marshmallows roasted over a fire pit. The celebration will be held on **December 19th**, beginning at the church at **6:30 pm**. One and all are welcome to join in the celebration. *If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Jackie Toenes (220.4095 or jtoenes@seminolepca.org).*

End of Year Contributions - This is a reminder that for any contributions to count for the 2010 tax year, they must be postmarked to the church by December 31, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Toenes.



Boxed Offering Envelope Sets - Boxed offering envelope sets will be made available upon request. **Envelopes are NOT required or needed.** Only request a set if they assist you in keeping up with your tithe and contributions. Contact Jackie if you would like a set: jtoenes@seminolepca.org or leave a message at 220.4095.

Marriage, Family & Friendships

Seminar Speaker: Tim Lane

(Executive Director, *Christian Counseling & Education Foundation*)

www.ccef.org

Friday, Feb 11 (7:00p - 9:15p) &
Saturday, Feb 12 (9:00a - 12:15p)
at

Covenant Presbyterian Church, 210 E. Poppell Dr., Lakeland

Limited Childcare Available

Childcare provided for Infants - 2nd Grade (register children below).

\$5 per child or \$15 maximum per family

Hosted By

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Full registration forms for this seminar will be available at the doors to the Sanctuary (where you pick up and drop off your hymnals).

Prayer Requests

Prayer/Praise:

- Bill Bergen (chemotherapy)
- Judy Kneeshaw (radiation)
- Praise! For Bryan Toenes' new job!
- Praise! For Alex Fernandez' new job!

Pray for those seeking employment or better employment:

- Elaine Crescent
- Amarnath Boodoosingh
- Amelia Boodoosingh

Pray for our missionaries:

- Don & Judy Vander Ploeg, Wycliffe/JAARS in Papua New Guinea
- Marc & Aline Mailloux, Mission to the World - ministry to French speaking people in South Florida and the Caribbean
- Dave Hawes, Navigators – training and development
- Jeff Lee, Reformed University Ministries @ USF

E-mail: prayer-list@lists.seminolepca.org

Christian Education ~ Adults, Youth, & Children

Class/Grade	Class Teacher(s)	Class Room
Ages 2-3 / Toddlers	Bev Thomson	#115
Ages 4-5 / K4-K5	Laura Strickland & Jane Lambers	#109
Ages 6-8 / 1 st – 2 nd Grade	Debbie Vincent & Tami Pothoven	#111
Ages 9-10 / 3 rd -5 th Grade	Alex & Kelly Fernandez	#105
Jr. High / 6 th -8 th Grade	Steve Pothoven	#107
Sr. High / 9 th –12 th Grade	Brian Waugh	#101
Adult – Walden Class	Bill Earnest	#108
Adult – Theology	Ben Lambers	#102
Adult – Ethics	Joe DeNitto	Church Office

Youth Sunday School

Middle School Sunday School - Worshiping God Today

Did you know that God created you for worship? Worship is the center of our existence. It is one of the things we will do forever. Yet, many of us worship the wrong thing or at least don't worship God how He has commanded that we worship him. This quarter we will be studying the how's and why's of worship. This is a foundational, as well as very practical, course to help you fully participate in the worship of God on Sunday mornings as we gather as the church.

High School Sunday School- Evangelism

Think of the countless people who cross your path. Some of them you know well while you hardly know others at all. Nevertheless, all of them need Jesus. We all know this, but most of us find it difficult to share our faith. We feel overwhelmed and inadequate. We're unsure where to start and what to say. Well... relax! During this course we will begin with the basics and, by God's grace, help you get started. We are going to look at some topics such as motivations, what the gospel really is, how prayer is involved, and even how to solve the problem of not knowing any non-Christian people. Come and join us. You'll be glad you did.

Adult Classes

Walden Class – Update - Room 108

Teacher: Elder Bill Earnest

Paul's letter to the Philippians continues as we look over their shoulder and read what the Apostle has to say. Up to this point, Paul has been very appreciative of the folks in his home church for the ministry they have been doing in his absence. But now his letter turns to another matter which has the potential to cause disharmony among the brethren. Paul wants to send Timothy to them since he must stay in Rome for an unknown amount of time. Will the Philippians except Timothy or be disappointed at best? Then there is the question of Epaphroditus. He has been with Paul for a very long time and the Philippians are getting anxious for his return. These are tough questions for Paul to be concerned with in light that the Romans may kill him any day. And we think we have problems! The beautiful thing for us to see is how God's Holy Spirit leads his Church, Paul, and the Philippians to a loving conclusion to these problems. It is a picture of ministry that any church can emulate, grow, and produce ministry for our Lord Jesus. In preparation for class this morning read Ph. 2:19-30. All are welcome to join us; see you in class!

Theology of the Christian Faith: I - Room 102

Teacher: Elder Ben Lambers

Are you well grounded in your faith? Would you like to reinforce or perhaps strengthen your theological foundation? It is the conviction of our denomination and our elders that the Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF) contains the best summary of the teaching of the Bible. Therefore, this class which is the first of four classes and covers chapters 1-7 of the WCF, is a great way to get a concise and precise summary of Sacred Scripture, especially pertaining to the doctrines of Scripture, the Trinity, God's Eternal Decree, Creation, Providence, The Fall, and God's Covenant with Man. This class will be a rich feast of theology which will lead you to worship and to maturity in Christ.

Ethics – Church Office

Teacher: Elder Joe DeNitto

Each of us make numerous decisions everyday, some without much thought and others with great strain and agony. Is it always clear what the right (or best) decision is for any given situation? Did you know that your theology, for better or worse, determines how you make decisions? For, each decision involves the application of some moral principle or standard to a situation by a person. These three perspectives are interrelated and interconnected. The purpose of this class is to help spur all of us onto making godly choices that bring glory to God. Therefore, join elder Joe DeNitto for this class that will help provide a Biblical foundation for Christian decision making as we explore the Ten Commandments in great detail as they are expounded in the Westminster Larger Catechism.

This Week at SPC ~ December 12 – December 18

SUNDAY:	Morning Worship, 9:00 am Fellowship Time, 10:15 am Sunday School, 10:45 am
	Dalton Open House, 3:30 – 5:30 pm
	MS/HS Youth Small Group @ the Dalton's, 5:30 pm
WEDNESDAY:	Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
FRIDAY:	Seniors Covenant Group, 10 am
	MS/HS Progressive Dinner, 5 pm



December 19:	Las Posadas, 6:30 pm
December 24:	Christmas Eve Service, 6 pm
December 25:	Christmas Day

SEMINOLE AT WORK AND WORSHIP

Last Sunday's Attendance: 140

Last Sunday's Offering: \$10,556.95

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has,
not according to what he does not have. 2 Cor. 8:12*

Volunteers

Children's Worship Volunteers

	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Helper</u>	<u>Banner Bearer</u>
Today:	Tami Pothoven	Shannon Pothoven	Maggie Groomes
Next Week:	Cathy Armstrong	Cameron Pothoven	Ashley Johnson
Dec. 26:	Andrea Cawley	Kourtney Melendi	Lesley McKenzie

Children's Church for children in K4/K5 meets in Room 109.

Nursery & Coffee Volunteers

	<u>Nursery Volunteers</u>	<u>Coffee Volunteers</u>
Today:	Anna Claire Lambers	Brian Waugh
Next Week:	Mary Beckel	Andy Thomson
Dec. 26:	Deana Johnson	Randa Gravanti

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Anna Claire Lambers 12/3	Bryson Pothoven 12/22
Tom McFarland 12/6	Joey Hickerson 12/23
Alex Fernandez 12/10	Eva White 12/24
Jared Frail 12/12	Grace Morton 12/26
Abby Johnson 12/15	Hannah Johnson 12/27
Pat Bardin 12/16	Carol McFarland 12/30
Dave Bardin 12/17	DJ Koehler 12/30
Jane Lambers 12/20	Andrea Cawley 12/31
Judy Wildeboer 12/20	
Lesley McKenzie 12/20	

Anniversaries

Tom & Andrea Cawley 12/20
Dave & Pat Bardin 12/29