

Morning Worship Service 9:00 AM
December 9, 2012
Second 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

Silent Reflection

Advent means “coming.” It is a time to prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ’s second coming as well as his first. The glowing flames of the candle remind us of the star of Bethlehem, and most of all, the Light of the World Jesus Christ.

Of the five candles, three are blue, one is rose, and one is white. The blue candles represent the attitude of hope and expectation with which we anticipate His coming. The rose candle, the Shepherd’s candle, stands for God’s love and faithfulness. The white candle in the center represents Christ’s holiness and perfection.

The First Candle is the prophecy candle. It reminds us that Christ’s coming was revealed by God through the prophets hundreds of years before Christ was born.

The Second Candle is the Bethlehem candle, which points to the Christ becoming man in Bethlehem.

Prelude

I Wonder as I Wander -

Blake Performing Arts High School Flute Ensemble

Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.

Call to Worship

Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6

Leader: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah,

People: out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel,

Leader: whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,

Leader: and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called:

ALL: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**** Glorifying God in Song**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymn #214

**** The Invocation**

**** The Apostles' Creed**

“I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.”

The First Scripture Lesson

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. ¹⁶ But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

Isaiah 7:10-16

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

The Confession of Our Sins

O God of all goodness, what shall we render to thee for the gift of gifts, thine own dear Son, our redeemer, proxy, surety, and substitute?

Herein is love: he came below to raise me above, was born like me that I might become like him.

Herein is wisdom: when I was undone, with no will to return to him, he came, God-incarnate, to save me from my sin, to shed satisfying blood on my behalf, to work out perfect righteousness for me.

O God, take me in spirit to the watchful shepherds, let me hear good tidings of great joy, and hearing, believe, rejoice, praise, adore and serve, to the glory of Thy holy Name. AMEN

-The Valley of Vision p.16

Assurance of Pardon

Musical Offering

Presentation of New Members

Richard and Lois Gainer

Andrew Breed (associate membership)

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.

Christmas Canticles,
A Cantata of Carols in Four Suites -
Benjamin Harlan

Suite II: The Promised Coming

O come, O Come, Emmanuel, Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Prepare ye the way, the way of the Lord!
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!
Prepare ye the way, the way of the Lord!
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night. And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit, Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

The Second Scripture Lesson

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.” ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 1:18 – 25

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

**** Offertory Hymn**
Of the Father's Love Begotten
Hymn #162

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

¹⁰When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ... ¹⁷You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

Deuteronomy 8:10-14, 17-18

The Offertory

O Little Town of Bethlehem - arr. Mark Hayes

*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. Danny Dalton
Associate Pastor

**** Glorifying God in Song**
Good Christian Men Rejoice
Hymn #207

**** Benediction**

Postlude
O Come All Ye Faithful - Sigvart Hofland

*** 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.

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



Poinsettia ORDERS

paying by check, please make a notation in the memo line that the payment is for poinsettias.) The deadline for ordering is TODAY!

Poinsettias - It's time to place your poinsettia orders! If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary, you may do so by filling out the red insert and placing the insert *along with your payment* in the offering plate. (Important!: *If you are paying with cash, please place the insert with the money in an envelope, and mark the outside with the amount enclosed. If you are*



Congregational Meeting - Please make plans to attend our annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 16, immediately after the morning worship service.** The purpose of this meeting is: 1) to elect new officers; 2) present the 2013 Church Budget to the congregation and entertain and address any questions not already answered previously; and, 3) to elect and seat/reseat trustees of the corporation. No other business will be discussed at this meeting (per our *Book of Church Order*).



Welcome! Please join us in welcoming our newest SPC Family members: Richard & Lois Gainer, and Andrew Breed (Associate Member). More about each is provided below:

Andrew Breed: My name is Andrew Breed; however, I prefer to be called by my last name, Breed. I am 20 years old and am a junior at USF with creative writing as my major. I enjoy adventurous activities such as rock climbing, kayaking, camping, hiking, and bike riding. I spend my summers at Ridge Haven, a camp in North Carolina, as a counselor. My passion for the future is to work in ministry as a college minister, a youth pastor, or a camp director.



Richard & Lois Gainer: Lois was born and raised in a small village in Virginia, and the Lord saved her in January 1947 at an evangelistic tent meeting. Richard was born and lived in West Virginia until he was 14 years old. It was then that his parents moved to Virginia where the Lord saved him in 1948. The couple met in July 1948 while attending church together. They were married on April 16, 1949. Twin girls were born in April 1950, and another girl in April 1952. They have twelve grandchildren and twenty-five great grandchildren.

After their marriage the couple began serving the Lord by teaching Sunday School and Summer Vacation Bible School. The pastor of a church suggested that Richard should go to college to pursue ministerial studies, so, trusting the Lord to guide, the family moved to Greenville, SC where he prepared for the ministry. After, graduation, he pastored a church for a year, and then returned to seminary for a Masters Degree. Richard taught Bible and Ancient Language courses at the University for a few years. Lois worked in the business office of the school. In 1971 the couple moved to Greensboro, NC where Lois worked as a supervisor in the business office of the ER at a Local Hospital from which she retired. Richard worked as a social worker for the county and state government for twenty years and has been retired for twenty-two years.

During the last many years they have had a ministry of preaching and teaching in both Greenville, SC and in Ft. Myers, FL. Richard has also taught ancient Biblical languages to "distance-learners" over computer. He served as both a teaching and ruling elder at a Reformed church in Cape Coral for several years. They now live near Wesley Chapel near one of their twin daughters. They are indeed happy to find a PCA church that follows the enriching and traditional worship format of the historic reformed faith.



Middle School/High School Ice Skating Christmas Party

**Sunday December 16
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

An outdoor ice rink in Florida? What better way to actually pretend it's winter and cold outside! If you are a middle school or high school student, come join us as we wrap up the year and celebrate Christmas together as we glide along the ice rink at Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park in downtown Tampa. Afterwards, we will recuperate with food, cocoa, and cookies at the Dalton's home, along with our Christmas gift exchange game. *Not to be missed.*

Cost: \$10

Bring: A wrapped gift (no more than \$5 in value);
Notarized Medical/Release form

Details:

- **Sign up with the church office (or Danny) by Wed. December 12**
- Be at the church office by 4pm. We will drive downtown together to ice skate. Then we will head to the Dalton's home for dinner.
- Be sure to get picked up at the Dalton's (5903 N Tampa St.) at 8:00 PM.

Attention Ladies!

Formal Registration Has Begun for the Spring Retreat:

"Loving Relationships": A Women's Retreat

Please see the registration form inserted in this bulletin, as it has additional details regarding the retreat. Registrations and deposits are due Sunday, January 13, 2013.

If you have any further questions, please contact Kelly Fernandez at kellyjfernandez@hotmail.com or (813)420-8662.



Las Posadas – Seminole! We are invited to join in St. Paul's 4th Annual "Las Posadas" celebration, which commemorates Mary and Joseph's cold and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of shelter. It will be **Sunday, December 16th at 6:30 PM**. The event begins in the church courtyard (between the Sanctuary and Snyder Buildings) and will proceed to neighboring (pre-selected homes) where participants will sing carols and ask

for a room for Mary and Joseph, and the new baby Jesus. Then everyone will return to the church (a symbol of the stable) and of course be welcomed. A simple fiesta ends the evening with food and marshmallows roasted over a fire pit. One and all are invited to join in - it's a lot of fun and symbolism for all. Mark your calendars to share the real meaning of Christmas. Please RSVP to stpaulslutherantpa@verizon.net or to church@seminolepca.org.



Christmas Eve Worship Service - Please join us at **5:00 pm** on **Monday, December 24** for our annual candle light Christmas Eve Service.



"Bethlehem...

out of you will come...
one who will be ruler over

Israel."

MICAH 5:2, NIV

Prayer Requests & Praise Reports

Prayer/Praise:

- Larry Dickey – Praise! Larry is regaining his strength!
- Kim Dostal (DIL of Judy Dostal) & Alan Dostal (Judy's husband)
- Servy & Raquel Fernandez – parents' health issues; Servy's new business
- Amarnath Boodoosingh – better employment

Pray for our missionaries:

- Scott & Kathy Craig, MTW/Short-term Team Coordinators in Costa Rica
- Don & Judy Vander Ploeg, Wycliffe/JAARS; Papua New Guinea
- 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	Jane Lambers & Liz Hickerson	#109
Ages 6-7 / 1 st - 2 nd Grade	Lisa Johnson & Laura Strickland	#105
Ages 8-10 / 3 rd -5 th Grade	Therese McKenzie & Cathy Armstrong	#107
Jr. High / 6 th -8 th Grade	Steve Pothoven & Brian Waugh	The Tower
Sr. High / 9 th -12 th Grade	Danny Dalton	#101
Adult – Walden Class	Matthew McKenzie	#108
Adult – Church & Sacraments	Ben Lambers	#102
Adult – Esther	Joe DeNitto	Church Office

Current Adult Classes

Walden Class – Room 108

Teacher: Matthew McKenzie

The Walden class is made up of folks of all ages, from young adult to those in their late eighties. From a group such as that you may well imagine the range of perspective the discussions take. This class is a Bible study class, open to class discussion, questions, and comments. We study Old Testament as well as New testament books. The length of time (weeks) to complete a Study depends on the class participation and the discussion level generated by a particular text. We do keep a schedule, but are open to the leading of God's Holy Spirit and follow where scripture leads. If this sounds like your kind of Bible study then by all means come and join us. Our worship service is conducive to the study of solid spiritual food, the encouragement to practice what we learn and to follow the leading of Micah 6:8: "To act justly, To love mercy, To walk humbly with our God". The Walden class meets in each Sunday morning from 10:45 to 11:45 with greetings, prayer for the needs of God's people, and Bible study. Come join us, you are most welcome!

Theology 401: The Church and Sacraments - Room 102

Teacher: Ben Lambers

This is the fourth of four classes as we study the Westminster Confession of Faith. We will cover chapters #25-33 discussing topics such as, "What does it mean to be a member of the church?" "What are the Sacraments?" "How do the Sacraments effect my faith?" "What is church discipline?" "What happens to Christians when they die?" and "What exactly is the Last Judgment?" Do you have a biblically informed answer to these questions? Come join us as we conclude our study of the best summary of Sacred Scriptures teachings. *(Please note, attendance at prior Westminster Confession classes is not required to benefit from this session.)*

Esther – Church Office

Teacher: Joe DeNitto

Come and join Joe DeNitto as he leads us through the book of Esther. This book tells the story of a Jewish woman who became queen of Persia and thwarted a plan to commit genocide against her people. Though God is not mentioned specifically even once, his providential care and covenantal presence saturates the entire book. This teaches us that the hand of God is active in all our circumstances. Nothing is merely a coincidence. God is the sovereign Ruler of the universe and we can be assured and comforted that His plans will not be moved by the actions of mere men.

This Week at SPC ~ December 9 - 15

SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:00 am
Fellowship Time, 10:15 am
Sunday School, 10:45 am

MS/HS Youth Group, 5:30 pm
@ Luther Tower (on campus)

WEDNESDAY: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm



December 16: Congregational Meeting

MS/HS Ice Skating Party, 4 pm – 8 pm

Las Posadas, 6:30 pm

December 24: Christmas Eve Service, 5 pm

December 25: Christmas Day



SEMINOLE AT WORK AND WORSHIP

Last Sunday's Attendance: 132

Last Sunday's Offering: \$18,447.93

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:	<i>Tami Pothoven</i>	<i>Shannon Pothoven</i>	<i>Julia White</i>
Next Week:	<i>Kelly Melendi</i>	<i>Kourtney Melendi</i>	<i>Nora Fernandez</i>
Dec. 23:	<i>Randa Gravanti</i>	<i>Abby Johnson</i>	<i>Nikolas Royer</i>

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

Coffee Volunteers

Coffee Volunteers

Today:	<i>Andy Thomson</i>
Next Week:	<i>Steve Strickland</i>
Dec. 23:	<i>Randa Gravanti</i>

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

<i>Anna Claire Lambers 12/3</i>	<i>Lesley McKenzie 12/20</i>
<i>Alex Fernandez 12/10</i>	<i>Bryson Pothoven 12/22</i>
<i>Jared Frail 12/12</i>	<i>Joey Hickerson 12/23</i>
<i>Abby Johnson 12/15</i>	<i>Eva White 12/24</i>
<i>Pat Bardin 12/16</i>	<i>Grace Morton 12/26</i>
<i>Dave Bardin 12/17</i>	<i>Hannah Johnson 12/27</i>
<i>Chris Kladakis 12/17</i>	<i>Rainey Hoopes 12/29</i>
<i>Jane Lambers 12/20</i>	<i>Andrea Cawley 12/31</i>
<i>Judy Wildeboer 12/20</i>	

Anniversaries

Tom & Andrea Cawley 12/20

Dave & Pat Bardin 12/29