

**Morning Worship Service**  
**December 14, 2014 - 9:00 AM**  
**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 in the narthex.*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude**

*Mary, Did You Know?*

*Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.*

***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. The lighting of the candles calls us to worship and sets this time apart as holy.

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.

# Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Lopez de Lara Ahued Family*

The Third Candle is the **shepherd's candle**. We must recognize that we, like the shepherds, must come to Christ, believe in Him, and tell this good news to others.



8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. *Luke 2:8-20*

## **\*\* Glorifying God in Song** *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

### **Verse 1 – Congregation**

God rest ye merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember, Christ, our Saviour  
Was born on upon this day,  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

*Continued...*

## **Verse 2 – Choir**

### **Verse 3 – Congregation**

The shepherds at those tidings  
Rejoiced with much in mind,  
And left their flocks a feeding,  
In tempest, storm and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straight-way  
This blessed babe to find:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

## **Verse 4 – Choir**

### **Verse 5 - Congregation**

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
Doth bring redeeming grace:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

## **\*\* 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 Gloria Patri**

### **Hymn # 734**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

## The First Scripture Lesson

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. 4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. 5 Aliens will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. 6 And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast. 7 Instead of their shame my people will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace they will rejoice in their inheritance; and so they will inherit a double portion in their land, and everlasting joy will be theirs. 8 "For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and iniquity. In my faithfulness I will reward them and make an everlasting covenant with them. 9 Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the LORD has blessed." 10 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

Isaiah 61

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

## The Confession of Our Sins

*(If you are able, we invite you to kneel so that our outward posture reflects our inward attitude)*

*"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, Amen."*

*Book of Common Worship, John Knox Press, 1993*

## **Assurance of Pardon**

15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst.

1 Timothy 1:15

## **Musical Offering**

*Coventry Carol* -arr. Mark Hayes

## **The Second Scripture Lesson**

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1Peter 2:9-10

**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.*

# **Anthem**

## *In the Bleak Midwinter*

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, 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 midwinter 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 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 my heart.

## **The Third Scripture Lesson**

14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. 16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. 17 The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." 20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, 21 and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:14-21

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

**\*\* Glorifying God in Song**  
Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence  
Hymn # 193

**Offertory Statement & Prayer of Dedication**

7 But just as you excel in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us--see that you also excel in this grace of giving... 13 Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. 14 At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, 15 as it is written: "He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little."

2 Corinthians 8:7, 13-15

**The Offertory**

*Lo How a Rose Ere Blooming - Max Drischner*

*Please fill out the connection card in the bulletin  
to indicate your attendance.*

**\*\* The Doxology**

Hymn # 731

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Children K4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades may be dismissed to Children's  
Church.*

**The Message**  
*Rev. John K. Keen*  
*Senior Pastor*

**\*\* Glorifying God in Song**

What Child Is This

Hymn # 213

**\* Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Toccata on Picardy - Gordon Young*

*\*\*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](http://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](mailto: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

### Congregational Meeting

Please make plans to attend our annual congregational meeting **TODAY, immediately after the morning worship service**. The purpose of this meeting is: 1) present the 2015 Church Budget to the congregation and entertain and address any questions not already answered previously; 2) elect new officers; 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*).



### Christmas Eve Worship Service

*Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM*



Please join us at **6:00 pm** on **Wednesday, December 24** for our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

### Church Fellowship Directory Update

Our church fellowship directory is long over due for an update. *This directory is for members and regular attendees alike.* Please stop by one of the clipboards in the fellowship hall, review and update your information as necessary. If no changes are needed, then please initial your entry.

Contact **Lisa Johnson** for any questions.



# **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

## **Walden Class – Room 108**

*Teacher: Matthew McKenzie*

The Walden Class, which is currently studying the book of Ephesians, offers a combination of Bible study and social interaction, as participants share their lives with one another through prayer requests, praise reports, brief devotionals, and a thirty-minute Bible lesson each Sunday. The class offers a greater degree of flexibility for those desiring to engage in a study of a particular book of the Bible, which may exceed the quarterly limitations of other classes, *e.g. a four or five month study through The Gospel of Matthew or the book of Revelation, etc.* This relaxing pace of the Walden Class allows for a comprehensive study of Sacred Scripture in the context of thoughtful dialog, question and answer, and practical application of God's Word.

## **The Letters of John – Room 102**

*Teacher: Bryan Toenes*

Which is most important for the Christian: right belief, right practice, or love? Perhaps this is a loaded question. How can we love and obey one in whom we do not really believe? How can we say we love and believe in one whom we do not obey? And how can we truly believe in and obey one whom we do not love? Do you feel as if you are spinning around on a carousel as you read this? Then why not join us this winter quarter as we sort out these questions together in our study of the three letters of the Apostle John.

## **Outreach - Church Office**

*Teacher: Elder Randy Johnson*

As Christians we are called to reach out in word and deed, both in our culture and cross-culturally. Jesus commands us, not only to love our neighbor as ourselves, but to be His witnesses to those culturally close to us and to those culturally distant (Acts 1:8). The apostle Peter also wrote that we are to always be prepared to give a gentle account for the hope that is in us. So, join us as we study the basic foundations of Outreach: mercy, evangelism and missions. Why evangelize? How and when do I show mercy? How can I be part of missions? These questions and more will be discussed as elder Randy Johnson provides an overview of the subject of Outreach as it relates to our personal Christian walk and the work of the Church.

## Supported Missionaries and Ministries

**Below are missionaries and ministries that SPC supports financially. We encourage you to pray for them and consider supporting them yourself.**

- Scott & Kathy Craig, MTW/Short-term Team Coordinators (Costa Rica), (#11130); Mission to the World, PO Box 116284, Atlanta, GA 30368-6284
- Costa Rica Mission Project: Birth of a New Presbyterian Church, (Project #92760); Mission to the World, PO Box 116284, Atlanta, GA 30368-6284
- Don & Judy Vander Ploeg, Wycliffe/JAARS (Papua New Guinea), (Member Account #222590), Wycliffe Bible Translators, PO Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200
- Dave & Page Hawes, Navigators – training and development nationwide (Member Account 35857), PO Box 6079, Albert Lea, MN 56007-6679
- Jeff Lee, Reformed University Ministries @ USF  
Reformed University Ministries, PO Box 890004, Charlotte, NC 28289-0004  
(Please include the name of campus, or individual you would like us to allocate the gift to)
- Steve Light, Sojourner Presbyterian Church (USF Area)  
Sojourner Presbyterian Church, 350 South Hyde Park Avenue,  
Tampa, Florida 33606

## Christian Education – Adults, Youth, & Children

Class/Grade	Class Teacher(s)	Class Room
Ages 2-3 / Toddlers	Bev Thomson	#115
Ages 4-7 / K4/K5 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Tami Lang & Stephanie Williams	#109
Ages 8-10 / 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Kelly Fernandez & Gail Chang	#107
Middle School / 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Steve Pothoven	#101
High School / 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Danny Dalton	The Tower
Adult – Walden Class	Matthew McKenzie	#108
Adult – The Letters of John	Bryan Toenes	#102
Adult – Outreach	Randy Johnson	Church Office
Exploring Church Membership	Brian Waugh	#111

**This Week at SPC ~ December 14 – December 20**

**SUNDAY:** Morning Worship, 9:00 am  
Fellowship Time, 10:15 am

**WEDNESDAY:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

**FRIDAY:** Senior Group, 10:00 am



**Parents: Save the Date!**

HS Mission Project: Hope for Inner City – Chattanooga June 20-27, 2015

MS Camp Kalaqua July 13-17, 2015

**SEMINOLE AT WORK AND WORSHIP**

Last Sunday's Attendance: 125

Last Sunday's Offering: \$10,308.08

*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

## ***Greeters / Ordained Officer***

	<u><i>December</i></u>	<u><i>January</i></u>
<u><i>Greeters:</i></u>	<i>Bryan Toenes</i>	<i>Fernandez Family</i>
<u><i>Ordained Officer:</i></u>	<i>Servy Fernandez</i>	<i>Alex Fernandez</i>

## ***Children's Worship Volunteers***

	<u><i>Teacher</i></u>	<u><i>Helper</i></u>	<u><i>Banner Bearer</i></u>
<i>Today:</i>	<i>Cathy Armstrong</i>	<i>Rebecca Armstrong</i>	<i>Nikolas Royer</i>
<i>Dec. 21:</i>	<i>Brianna Connolly</i>	<i>Alynn Cawley</i>	<i>Nora Fernandez</i>
<i>Dec. 28:</i>	<i>Gail Chang</i>	<i>Patrick Chang</i>	<i>Nikolas Royer</i>

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

## ***Coffee Volunteers***

<i>Today:</i>	<i>Randa Gravanti</i>
<i>Dec. 21:</i>	<i>Bill Cutler</i>
<i>Dec. 28:</i>	<i>Rob Edwards</i>

## ***Nursery Volunteers***

<i>Today:</i>	<i>Gail Chang</i>
<i>Dec. 21:</i>	<i>Laura Strickland</i>
<i>Dec. 28:</i>	<i>Tami Pothoven</i>

**WE**   
**VOLUNTEERS**

## ***Fellowship Snacks***

<u><i>Next Week – Dec. 21:</i></u> <i>Holly Edwards</i> <i>Laura Strickland</i> <i>Donna Waugh</i> <i>Glee Hamilton</i>	<u><i>Dec. 28:</i></u> <i>Judy Dostal</i> <i>Andy Thomson</i> <i>Pat Bardin</i> <i>Ananta Rivera</i>
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December Birthdays & Anniversaries



*Anniversaries  
and Birthdays*

**SERMON NOTES**