

Sunday, November 30, 2014

9:00 a.m.

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE: On Jordan's Bank Winchester New, arr. Malcolm Archer

THE WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Advent is a time of waiting and preparation.

People: God is at work calling us to renewed lives.

All: Here it begins, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

(Matthew 3:2)

*HYMN 125 Come, O Long-expected Jesus Hyfrydol

CALL TO PRAYER, PRAYER, AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God of all times and places, we rejoice that You have called us to be Your covenant people. We see Your great love for us in the coming of Jesus Christ into our midst. In Him You have taught us to love one another. We confess that we have not been as obedient in loving as You desire, nor have we been as sensitive to those in need. We confess that we have often taken Your gifts for granted and used them to serve our own needs. Remind us this day that all of us belong to You as well as to one another.

In seeking forgiveness, may our hearts be stirred with hope, confidence and a clean fresh start...(moment of silent reflection)

Pastor: Through Jesus Christ we pray.

People: Amen.

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PROMISE OF NEW LIFE

CEREMONY OF LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE --- HOPE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 11: 1-10

SPECIAL MUSIC: O Come Emmanuel arr. Ellen J. Lorenz

GOSPEL LESSON St. John 1: 25-42

*HYMN 668 For the Healing of the Nations CMW Rhondda

SERMON: GOOD MORNING ST. ANDREW Rev. Ernest Smart

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

*HYMN 606 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending Nettleton

THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY: Light Dawns on Weary World
Temple of Peace, arr. Nancy Raabe

THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CALL TO PRAYER AND THE PASTORAL PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Let us pray . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*using trespasses*)

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 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 and ever. Amen.

* HYMN 683 O for A World Azmon

THE BENEDICTION (*unison*) A Celtic Prayer

**May the peace of the Spirit be ours today.
May the peace of the Son be ours today.
May the peace of the Father be ours today.
May the peace of all peace be ours this day,
and every morning and evening of life. Amen.**

POSTLUDE: Hark the Glad Sound Bristol, arr. Malcolm Archer

HAPPY ST. ANDREW'S DAY!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY AND EVERY SUNDAY. St. Andrew's Day (November 30) is a golden opportunity to remember the life and soul of our patron St. Andrew. We have so much for which to be thankful.

DO PLEASE JOIN US for a delightful light reception after worship. Many thanks again to those who have prepared it.

THERE IS A GUEST BOOK at the entrance of the Sanctuary. All guests and visitors are invited to "sign in."

THANKSGIVING CONTINUING. We do wish to thank those volunteers who helped to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season, and to the generous members of First Christian Church who enhanced the pews of the Church with pew cushions. Greatly appreciated by everyone.

DECEMBER 3RD 2014 (WEDNESDAY) IS THE CHOSEN DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL ST. ANDREW'S POT-LUCK DINNER. From 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. we will enjoy a gorgeous meal together, enjoy each other's company, and enjoy wrapping gifts for one of our mission projects. Sign-up sheets will be found on the lounge piano. For more information, please call Linda Schneidereith at 410-828-8986.

ADVENT TOUR AT THE WALTERS ON DECEMBER 7 AND 21. Barbara Pour will be tour leader on the dates above. Everyone is invited. Please come early at 12:15 p.m. for some lunch at the Café. The tour will begin at 1:00 p.m. Free of charge.

OUR NEXT P&R MEETING (Planning and Review) will be held on Monday, December 15, 2014 at 7:00. in the Fellowship Hall. This is an open business meeting to which everyone is invited.

OUR ST. ANDREW'S BOOK CLUB will hold a Wassail Night at Barbara Pour's home on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. Please give her a call for further details. (410-377-4046).

NEXT SUNDAY we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. Once again this is an open invitation to EVERYONE.

Thought for the Week Ahead:

"Life without hope is an empty, boring and useless life. I cannot imagine that I could strive for something if I did not carry hope in me. I am thankful to God for this gift.

It is as big a gift as life itself."

-Vaclav Havel (from a speech)-

ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

November 30, 2014



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**THE REV. ERNEST R. D. SMART, *Pastor*
Patricia McKewen Amato, *Music Director***