

Morning Worship Service 11 a.m.
December 14, 2008
Third Sunday of Advent

*Please adjust all electronic communication devices so as not to disrupt the service.
Also, if you need to leave the Sanctuary for any reason, please use the exits at the
back of the Sanctuary.*

*We appreciate your assistance as we seek to maintain a proper worship
environment for everyone present.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Caroling, Caroling - arr. G. Martin

Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.

Call to Worship

Leader: The shepherds said one to another, let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing which has happened which the Lord has made known to us.

People: **But you, Bethlehem... though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.**

Leader: And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are by no means the least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler.

People: **He will shepherd my people.**

ALL: **We are the sheep of your pasture, O Lord, we give thanks to you forever, from generation to generation.**

**** Glorifying God in Song**
Once in Royal David's City
Hymn #225

**** 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 Pastoral Prayer

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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.

**** Offertory Hymn**

O Jesus Sweet, O Jesus Mild

Hymn #232

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

Deacon Richard Zak

Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

I Timothy 6:6-16

The Offertory

Messiah Medley No. 2 - McKechnie

*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.

***O Holy Night* – John Rutter**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Choir and Congregation

Verses 1 & 2 – Congregation

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Verse 3 – Choir

Verses 4 & 5 – Congregation

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give law in cloud and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Choir

Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Choir and Congregation

Verse 1 – Congregation

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

Verses 2 & 3 – Choir

Verses 4 & 5 – Congregation

Saints before the alter bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King.

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

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-23

This 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. Because 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. But 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. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

What Child is This?

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Choir

The First Nowell

Choir and Congregation

Verse 1 – Congregation

The first Nowell the angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields
as they lay; In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's
night that was so deep: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King
of Israel.

Verse 2 – Choir

Verse 3 – Congregation

And by the light of that star, three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Verse 4 – Choir

Verses 5 & 6 – Congregation

Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our Lord,
That made heaven and earth of naught and with his blood mankind hath
bought: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 8-16

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." 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." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Away in a Manger

O Holy Night

Joy to the World!

Choir

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2: 1-11

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel." Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

Three Kings of Orient

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Choir

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Message

Rev. John K. Keen,
Senior Pastor

**** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***
Choir and Congregation

Verse 1 – Congregation

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 angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.

Verse 2 – Choir

Verse 3 – Choir and Congregation

Hail the heaven 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.

**** Benediction**

Postlude

Willie, Take Your Little Drum – J. Biery

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 877-6783, ext. 222 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) 877-6783, Ext. 245

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

Thank You!

A word of thanks is offered to our instrumentalists: Alda Hilsinger and Karen Pfister – violin; Terry Rejko – viola; and Carlos Audi – cello. Additionally, thank you to Barbara Friedman for joining daughter Becky Groomes on the prelude this morning.

Christmas Eve Service

Please join us at **6:30 pm** on **Wednesday, December 24** for our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

Sunday School Notice

This year's Sunday School break for the holiday season will be Sunday, December 28 and Sunday, January 4, resuming on January 11. Also the Sunday Night Programming Break will be from December 28 through January 11, resuming on January 18. There will be Sunday School and Sunday Night programming on Dec. 21.

Choir News

The choir will not rehearse the Wednesday after Christmas (December 31) and will be on hiatus January 4. Rehearsals will resume January 7.

Sunday School Classrooms

A Study of the Psalms	High School Library
Officer Training / Leadership Class	Room 117A
Walden Class: Judges	Room 114
Infant Nursery and 1's	Room 113
2's – 3's	Room 110
K-4 & K-5	Room 108
1st – 3rd Grade	Room 117B
4th & 5th Grade	Room 116
6th – 8th Grade (Junior High)	Church Library
9th – 12th Grade (Senior High)	Youth Room

Adult Sunday School Classes

Transformed by Praise: A Study of the Psalms

John Calvin referred to the Book of Psalms as “an anatomy of all parts of the soul.” They appeal to the whole person: informing our intellect, arousing our emotions, directing our wills, and exciting our imaginations. The purpose of this class is to deepen our love for the Lord by increasing our understanding of the Psalms. We will discuss the major types of psalms and the nature of Hebrew poetry. Consideration will also be given to the theological, historical, and literary context of the Book of Psalms. Selected topics arising from the psalms are also covered. This class will be taught by **Steve Strickland** in the **High School Library**.



Walden Class: Judges

The Walden Adult Sunday School Class is studying the Old Testament book of Judges, which emphasizes character rather than Jewish history. Judges is a great place to examine God's interaction in the lives of sinful men and women and how He accomplishes His purposes through some very questionable characters. The relevance for today is the insight we receive for our own lives. All the intrigue of human nature is there for us to see, and be blessed by how our Saving Lord guides history through a rebellious people falling away from His loving hand. This Old Testament Book has up to date information for us to use in every day life. So come join this class for some exciting study, you will be glad you did! The Walden Class meets in **Room 114**.

This Week at SPC ~ December 14 - 20

SUNDAY: *Poinsettia Order Deadline!*

Sunday School, 9:30 am
Fellowship Time, 10:30 am
Morning Worship, 11:00 am

Sunday Night Programming, 5:30 pm

TUESDAY: Prayer Meeting (Church parlor), 8:00 am

FRIDAY: Senior's Covenant Group, 10:00 am

Coming Events

December 24: Christmas Eve Service, *Church Offices Closed*

December 25: Christmas Day, *Church Offices Closed*

December 28: Sunday School Break; No Classes

January 4: Sunday School Break; No Classes



SEMINOLE AT WORK AND WORSHIP

Last Sunday's Attendance: 138

Last Sunday's Offering: \$6,370.01

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

	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Helper</u>	<u>Banner Bearer</u>
Today:	Laura Strickland	Grace Keen	Emily Strickland
Next Week:	Danielle Bolanos	Tommie Bolanos	Andrew Johnson
December 28:	Delie Koehler	Brianna Connolly	Mikayla Koehler

Children's Church for children K4/K5 meets in Room 116.

Nursery Workers, Toddler (2's/3's) Room #110

Today: Brianna Connolly
Next Week: Shannon Pothoven
December 28: TBA

Coffee Volunteers

Today: Brian Waugh & DJ Koehler
Next Week: Andy Thomson
December 28: No Coffee / Fellowship Time; Sunday School Break

Greeters

Today: Mike & Allene Cawley
Next Week: Jake & Mary Beckel
December 28: Tony & Donna Carrillo

If you are unable to work your scheduled Sunday, please find someone to fill in for you prior to the date you are scheduled to work.

Prayer Requests

Pray for those who are sick or are recovering from illness:

- Martha Thompson (leukemia)
- Jon Irwin (MD)
- Dot Smith (broken neck)
- Mikayla Koehler (arm)

Pray for those seeking employment or better employment:

- Amarnath Boodoosingh
- Servy Fernandez
- Elaine Crescent

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

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