

Morning Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
December 13, 2009
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

Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.

Call to Worship

Luke 2:8-20

Leader: 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.

People: **Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.**

Leader: 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,

People: **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."**

Leader: 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. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

ALL: The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

**** Glorifying God in Song**
Once in Royal David's City
Hymn #225
(vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5, only)

**** 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

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Isaiah 40:1-5

The Confession of Our Sins

“O God of grace, I bewail my cold, listless, heartless prayers;
 their poverty adds sin to sin.
If my hope were in them I should be undone,
But the worth of Jesus perfumes my feeble breathings,
 and wins their acceptance.
Flood my soul with repentance
 that my heart may be broken for sin and unto sin.
O my great high priest,
 pour down upon me streams of needful grace,
 bless me in all my undertakings,
 in every thought of my mind,
 every word of my lips,
 every step of my feet,
 every deed of my hands.
O give sincerity to my desires,
 earnestness to my supplications,
 fervor to my love. AMEN”

—*The Valley of Vision*

The Second Scripture Lesson

¹The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" - "a voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" ⁴And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Mark 1:1-8

The 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 Seminole Sanctuary Choir

Away in a Manger -arr. John Rutter

**** Offertory Hymn**
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Hymn #194
(vs. 1, 2 & 3, only)

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

⁴⁶And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,...⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers."

Luke 1:46-47, 52-55

The Offertory

*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**
God Be Merciful to Me
Hymn #486
(vs. 1, 2, 5 & 6, only)

**** Benediction**

Postlude

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.

Officer Nominations & Congregational Meeting

It is our pleasure to announce the names of the following men whom Session has approved and who have agreed to serve as officers of Seminole Presbyterian Church, pending a majority vote by the congregation during our annual meeting **TODAY!**:

Ruling Elder

Mr. Bill Earnest
Mr. Preston Kneeshaw
Mr. Steve Strickland
Mr. Brian Waugh

Deacon

Mr. Bill Bergen
Mr. Frank Frail
Mr. Richard Zak

Additionally, we offer thanks to God for the service of two current officers, **Mr. Ben Lambers** and **Mr. Stan Wildeboer**, who will be rotating off the Session and Diaconate, respectively. These men have served in a distinguished and commendable manner for the past three years, and we express our collective gratitude for a job well done!

Metropolitan Ministries Service Opportunity

We have an opportunity to serve our community as a group once again! This time we will be helping out Metropolitan Ministries **this Saturday evening, December 19, from 5:00 to 7:30 pm**. A few people have already signed up, but we are looking for up to 25 people to meet this ministry need. If you are available please contact Danny Dalton ASAP to sign up; 813.767.7016 or ddalton@seminolepca.org.

SPC Family Matters

- **MS/HS Progressive Dinner: Sunday evening, December 20** - It's Christmas time and school is out, so let's celebrate! During this event we will travel to three different houses, eating one course at each house (appetizer, main course, and dessert). Eating, hanging out, and gifts, what could be better? **Meet at the church at 5:00 PM** and we will travel as a group to each destination. **Students can be picked up at the church at 9:00 PM.** Don't forget you will need to have a Notarized Med/Release form, and wrapped gift (new) with value of \$5 or less.
- **Christmas Eve Service** - Please join us at **7:00 pm on Thursday, December 24** for our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service.
- **Programming Note** – Please be advised that Sunday School will be suspended on Sunday, December 27 and Sunday, January 3 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.
- **PCA Christmas Offering** - If you would like to contribute to the annual PCA Christmas offering, please send your gifts directly to PCA Retirement and Benefits at 1700 North Brown Road, Suite 106, Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143. **DO NOT SEND OR GIVE THESE GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.** Thank you.
- **End of Year Contributions** - This is a reminder that for any contributions to count for the 2009 tax year, they must be postmarked to the church by December 31, 2009. 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 813.774.3881, ext. 722.
- **Children's Ministry News** – God has truly blessed SPC with a wonderful and diverse group of women who have stepped forward to help develop a Philosophy of Ministry (PoM) for SPC's Children's Ministries. Packets containing articles and examples have been distributed to the team; our goal is to come together and begin drafting this PoM sometime in January 2010. *If you are interested in helping with this endeavor – it is not too late to join in!* Just contact Jackie Toenes today (813.220.4095 or jtoenes@seminolepca.org) to receive a packet and more information.



December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Anna Claire Lambers 12/3
Tom McFarland 12/6
Alex Fernandez 12/10
Jared Frail 12/12
Abby Johnson 12/15
Pat Bardin 12/16
David Bardin 12/17
Jane Lambers 12/20
Judy Wildeboer 12/20

Bryson Pothoven 12/22
Eva White 12/24
Grace Morton 12/26
Hannah Johnson 12/27
Zach Bolanos 12/27
Carol McFarland 12/30
DJ Koehler 12/30
Andrea Cawley 12/31

Anniversaries

Tom and Andrea Cawley 12/20
David and Pat Bardin 12/29



Sunday School and Youth Small Groups

Children & Youth Sunday School

Sunday School	Class Teacher(s)	Class Room
Ages 2-3 / Toddlers	Bev Thomson w/ Alina Sanchez	#115
Ages 4-5 / K4-K5	Tami Pothoven and Jane Lambers	#111
Ages 6-8 / 1 st – 3 rd Grade	Debbie Vincent w/ Jamie Dalton	#109
Ages 9-10 / 4 th -5 th Grade	Alex & Kelly Fernandez	#107
Jr. High / 6 th -8 th Grade	Danny Dalton & Richard Zak	#105
Sr. High / 9 th – 12 th Grade	Ben Lambers	#101

Youth Small Groups (Evenings)

Additionally, for the youth (MS & HS) on Sunday evenings, there are small groups from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at the home of Servy & Raquel Fernandez.

The groups are studying:

- **The Person of Jesus** - How did Jesus react to people and situations? And what does that communicate about love? In this excellent study we will take an in-depth look at love by focusing on the one truly good man, Jesus of Nazareth. Specifically, this fall semester we will look closely at the compassion of Jesus and explore the enemies of compassion such as judging, self-righteousness and legalism. This study is equally suited to discipling believers and helping non-believers discover the beauty of Jesus. Therefore, let's sit at the feet of Jesus as the Holy Spirit ignites, rekindles, or fans the flame of our joy of knowing Jesus.

Adult Sunday School

Walden Class: Judges, Part III - Room 108

Teacher: Bill Earnest

Here we are with just a few weeks remaining in 2009. The Walden class study has now progressed to the last two judges of the Hebrew people. The question for discussion today is: "Could we give up our beloved son as Hannah and Elkanah did for service to God?" Samuel was only about 4 years old at the time. But wait, that story sounds familiar, doesn't it? God did just that! He gave up His Son so as to redeem mankind. Also for discussion: "What mistakes do fathers make when raising their sons?" Both Eli and Samuel did a poor job raising theirs. Today in class we will search for the spiritual message God has for us in this wonderful story of faithfulness and love for His people. Join us after fellowship time in the Snyder building, room 108 for a great discussion on these two great Judges, Eli and Samuel. But there's more:--- "Hannah's song"--- what a diamond field of gems for us to mine! You just can't afford to miss Sunday School class today!

A special note for all Walden class members; Do not forget the 104th Walden class Christmas party December 20th, 2009. See you in class today for the details.

Studying Scripture – Room 102

Teacher: Joe DeNitto

Have you ever had problems understanding God's Word? When you come to a passage in the Bible that confuses you, do you tend to read past it? Would you like to have more tools to assist you in your Bible study?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this class is for you. In this class we will learn many ways to faithfully study the scriptures. We will apply these techniques to scripture passages, so that very practical methods will be developed for your study. Easy, medium and difficult scripture passages will be studied throughout the class. Participating in this class could change the way you read, think about & understand the Bible. Please join us in **Room 102** each Sunday morning.

Exploring Church Membership Class – Room 100

Teacher: Randy Johnson

What is the church? What does it mean to be a member of a church, and specifically this church-Seminole PCA? Join Ruling Elder Randy Johnson in Room 100 where he will be answering these questions and many more about membership. Please note: attending this ten week class does not require that one become a member, but this class or its equivalent is required for membership.

This Week at SPC ~ December 13 – December 19

SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:00 am
Congregational Meeting, 10:15 am
Fellowship Time, following meeting
Sunday School, 10:45 am

MS/HS Study @ Servy & Raquel
Fernandez' home, 5:30 pm

TUESDAY: Ladies Bible Study @ Keen's
home; 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

THURSDAY: Ladies Bible Study @ St. Paul LC
Room 108; 10:00 am

FRIDAY: Seniors Covenant Group, 10 am

SATURDAY: Metropolitan Ministries Service
Opportunity



December 20: Choir Cantata, morning worship
service

MS/HS Progressive Dinner, 5 pm

SEMINOLE AT WORK AND WORSHIP

Last Sunday's Attendance: 144

Last Sunday's Offering: \$8,207.50

*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><i>Teacher</i></u>	<u><i>Helper</i></u>	<u><i>Banner Bearer</i></u>
<i>Today:</i>	<i>Delie Koehler</i>	<i>Shannon Pothoven</i>	<i>Mikayla Koehler</i>
<i>Next Week:</i>	<i>Gail Chang</i>	<i>Ross Edwards</i>	<i>Rebecca Armstrong</i>
<i>Dec. 27</i>	<i>Jamie Dalton</i>	<i>Adrienne Lambers</i>	<i>Kaela Dalton</i>

Children's Church for children in K4/K5 meets in Room 111.

Nursery Volunteers

<i>Today:</i>	<i>Adrienne Lambers</i>
<i>Next Week:</i>	<i>Jaclyn Biedronski</i>
<i>Dec. 27</i>	<i>Kate Melendi</i>

Coffee Volunteers

<i>Today:</i>	<i>Ron & Marilyn Quick</i>
<i>Next Week:</i>	<i>Brian Waugh & DJ Koehler</i>
<i>Dec. 27</i>	<i>Andy Thomson</i>

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)
- Mercedes Fernandez (Servy Fernandez' mother; various health issues)
- Becky and Tavin Groomes (Becky – ankle; Tavin – UTI)

Pray for those seeking employment or better employment:

- Elaine Crescent
- Amarnath Boodoosingh
- Matthew Mattice

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

Prayer / Praise:

- Praise! Servy Fernandez has a new job!
- Pray for the Dalton's Winter Haven home to sell quickly

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

