

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2014

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music (Hymnal 95)

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Veni Emmanuel" arr. Callahan

Call to Worship

O that God would tear open the heavens and come down!

Of that day or hour, no one knows, only God.

Be alert! Keep awake! The time is drawing near:

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

* Hymn 83 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

God-with-us, we confess that you can seem far away.

You are hidden when we need you near.

**In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to you;
instead, we lash out - against you, our neighbor, even those we love.**

Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us!

Let your face shine until all tears are dried,

all sins are faded, and all hope is restored.

After all, we belong to you,

and in your hands, we can be made new.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Response (Hymnal 95)

**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9 (OT, p. 694)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Keep Your Lamps" Spiritual; arr. Andre Thomas

Our young children are invited to attend "Joyful Noise" in room 103.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 13:24-37 (NT, p. 50)

Sermon: "Stay Awake"

Rev. Carter

Theme: Advent Awakenings

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 105 "People, Look East"

Baptism of Dean Clarence Shane (Hymnal, page 14)

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "Gottes Sohn Ist Kommen" arr. Burkhardt

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 357 "The Days Are Surely Coming"

Joyful Noise! participants will return to the sanctuary.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Haf Trones Lampa Fardig" arr. Hahn

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by Meg Hatch to the Glory of God and in honor of the Deacons.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Director of Educational Ministries	Tina Ide
Director of Music	Susan Kelly
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Laura Schillinger
<i>Joyful Noise</i> leaders	Barb Wadsworth, Elaine Lavelle
Ushers	Debbie Traettino, Betty Keen, John Conklin
Welcomer	Jo and John Conklin



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

First Presbyterian Church
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FIRST SUNDAY OF

Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Mark 13:24-37

“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”