



ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morning Worship | Third Sunday of Advent | December 11, 2022 | 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- VOLUNTARY

Chris Currie

- *ADVENT CANDLE WREATH RESPONSE

Steven Blackmon, organ

Ashley, John, Robert & Lizzy Hope; Betty and John Hope

Over a hundred people, from the ages of two to eighty years old, were asked the question, “What brings you joy?” From the voices of different generations, hear their answers:

A clean kitchen... Sand between my toes... Being outside... Sleeping in my own bed after a night away... Having a camera in my hands... My partner’s laugh... Mountain air... When my parents pick me up... The end of my to-do list... Hugs from my niece and nephew... Baby giggles... My cat... Putting my hands in the garden... A chord resolved... Stargazing... Bedtime books... A warm cup of coffee with friends... My new granddaughter... Lingered at the table after dinner... Time with family.

Family of faith, what brings you joy?

Today we light the candle of joy.

- PRAYER OF THE DAY (*unison*)

May the light of this candle remind us of all the good news this season brings. May its light remind us of the many sources of joy in our lives, and may that joy not only draw us closer to one another, but closer to God. Amen.

- †*HYMN 107

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

REJOICE, REJOICE

- CALL TO CONFESSION

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

- PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Eternal God, you are Lord over the light and the darkness, and at work in all our preparations, comings, and goings during Advent. During these sacred days, keep us from having so much to do that we miss the quiet spaces and the sound of your voice. Enable us, who are anxious over many things, to find comfort in your coming among us. Enable us, who are blessed in many ways, to work for the justice of your promised kingdom. For all the ways we prefer to walk in darkness and deal in darkness, shine your light on us. Through your forgiveness, help us amend what we are, help us gratefully receive our status as your adopted children, and help us rejoice in the promise of your coming; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Blackmon

- ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

Isaiah 35:1-10

CHERUB CHOIR

“Come, Everybody Worship”

Sleeth

“Lullaby Carol”

Polish Folk Song

CHILDRENS CHOIR

“O How Lovely Is the Evening”

arr., Handel, Jennings

†MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN: Dedication of White Gifts

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

- SECOND READING (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

Matthew 1:1-17

- SERMON

“Family Baggage on Display”

Chris Currie

- *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles’ Creed” (*unison, Hymnal p. 35*)

- *GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581

“Glory Be to the Father”

GLORIA PATRI

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (*unison, Hymnal p. 35*)

- THE OFFERING

Offertory

“The Star-Song”

Jonathan Dove

Tell us, thou clear and heav’nly tongue, where is the babe but lately sprung? Lies he the lily banks among? Or say, if this new birth of ours sleeps, laid within some ark of flowers, spangled with dew-light; thou canst clear all doubts, and manifest the where. Declare to us, bright star, if we shall seek him in the morning’s blushing cheek, or search the beds of spices through to find him out? No, this ye need not do; but only come and see him rest a princely babe in’s mother’s breast. He’s seen! Why then around let’s kiss the sweet and holy ground; and all rejoice that we have found a king before conception crown’d. Come then and let us bring unto our pretty twelfth-tide king, each one his sev’ral offering. And when night comes, we’ll give him wassailing; and that his treble honors may be seen, we’ll choose him king and make his mother queen.

- Robert Herrick, 1591-1674

The Chancel Choir

- *Doxology, Hymn 606

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDREDTH

- *Prayer of Dedication

- SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (8:30 service only)

SENDING

- *HYMN 110

“Love Has Come!”

BRING A TORCH

- *CHARGE AND BLESSING

- *VOLUNTARY

•8:30 service | *Please stand as you are able | †Latecomers seated
Large print bulletins are available. Please see an usher.

TODAY’S USHERS for the 8:30 service are Mayson Buffington, Miriam Hollar, Thomas Schulingkamp, and Wesley Simon; and for the 10:30 service are Roger Fleshman (captain), Leon Hinson, Sallee Benjamin, Caty Johnson, and Kandice and Mike Snow.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ADVENT WREATH: This year's Advent theme is "From Generation to Generation." Our Advent wreath will be lit each week by a three-generation family in our church. The spoken text and prayers are by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed of *A Sanctified Art LLC*.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Hardy Henderson, Mrs. Marietta Lawton Fabacher, and Mr. William Michael Mann, Sr. by Lyn and Bob Fabacher.

THE ADVENT BANNERS are given in loving memory of Tom and Kathryn "Kit" Favrot.

THE FRONT DOOR WREATHS are given in loving memory of Mrs. Richmond's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Berckes, and Mr. Randolph Richmond, Jr. by Mrs. Randolph Richmond, Jr.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30-10:15 A.M. | CLASS DETAILS AT [SCAPC.ORG/SUNDAY-SCHOOL](http://scapc.org/sunday-school)

ADULT CLASSES:

"The History of Christmas": Land Building Lakeside Room and Zoom | Nov. 20 - Dec. 18 | led by Robert Edgecombe

The holiday of Christmas has a fascinating history, one which begins long before the event it celebrates. Over the centuries, Christmas has changed dramatically, evolving alongside culture, economics, technology, and theology. We will explore the significance of Christmas history and enjoy lots of fun, unexpected facts along the way.

"Parents Take Five" Podcast Class: 2nd floor conference room

Join us as we dive into a variety of topics that offer meaningful parenting and family tips to help you grow in faith.

Upcoming: "African American Spirituality" led by Richard Ashmore | January 8-February 5

We will explore African American spirituality from its roots in many diverse Western African societies to its many manifestations in America today, learning how enslaved Africans adopted and adapted Christianity.

Upcoming: "God, Improv, & The Art of Living" book by MaryAnn McKibben Dana | January 8-April 30

This book blends personal stories, pop culture and Scripture into a smart, funny down-to-earth guide to the art of living.



A CELEBRATION OF CAROLS

Our annual "Celebration of Carols", performed by the SCAPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra, will take place during the 10:30 a.m. service next Sunday, December 18 and will feature Taylor Scott Davis' *Magnificat* along with arrangements of familiar Christmas hymns and songs. Music Director Steven Blackmon will conduct.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SITTER BONUSES: We are so thankful for our staff of loving sitters who take care of our most precious members each week during church. If you would like to honor them this Advent Season with a bonus, you can either bring cash or checks (made out to "CASH" with "Sitter Bonus" in the memo), to Michele Murphy's mailbox in the church office now through December 18, or Venmo your donation to Michele Murphy (@Michele-Murphy-12) for her to distribute to the sitters. Please put "Sitter Gift" in the memo. Note that Michele has one 'L' in it.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY: At WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT this week, our children will perform the play "Twas the Night" from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in Frampton Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. On the menu are Christmas ham, sweet potatoes, spinach salad, fresh fruit, cake, and ice cream. **Dinner reservations are required by tomorrow at noon** at scapc.org/wno.

SCAPC CRECHE/NATIVITY SHOWCASE: Do you have a special creche you would like to share with the congregation? Members are invited to showcase their Nativity scenes in the Phifer Library December 16-20 by signing up with Michele Murphy at michele@scapc.org. All versions are welcome: traditional, exotic, playful, etc. You may set up your creche in the library between December 14 and 15. The congregation will view the scenes on Sunday, December 18. You may pick up your treasures December 19-20.

ADVENT FOOD DRIVE: During Advent, we are collecting food for Okra Abbey. We encourage you to bring any non-perishable items to the collection bins inside the vestibule by the Chapel entrance during the week or Sunday mornings in Frampton Fellowship Hall. We have one suggested item for each week of Advent. This week we will collect boxes of MAC 'N' CHEESE. Other items especially appreciated are cereal, rice, pasta, canned fruit and vegetables, and juice.

ADVENT LUMINARIES IN MEMORY/HONOR OF LOVED ONES: Luminaries will be lit in front of the church on the nights of December 17-25. The luminaries are \$15/each and can be purchased in honor or memory of a family member, friend, or even pet. Each luminary represents one individual or couple. Acknowledgements for each memorial and honorarium will be included in the bulletins on December 18 and Christmas Eve, as well as online and in *The Quatrefoil* e-newsletter. **The order deadline is TODAY**. Order yours by filling out the envelope in your pew and enclosing payment, or by purchasing online at scapc.org/luminaries.

The PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ANNUAL RETREAT will take place Friday-Saturday, January 13-14 at the Solomon Conference Center in Loranger, LA. Our theme this year is "Beautifully Made", led by Rev. Taylor Lewis Guthrie Hartman. We will explore the depths of our God-given beauty, the ways the world turns that on its head, and how we can seek beauty in the midst of it all. We will worship and pray together, study scripture, renew friendships, and simply recharge our batteries. To learn more about our speaker and theme, and to register, go to scapc.org/pw-retreat The registration deadline is December 30.

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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