



December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Summerville Presbyterian Church

585-342-4242

Ministers - Every Member of this Congregation

The Rev. Dr. Carson O. Mouser— Pastor

Jacqueline Anderson—Director of Bell Choirs

Teresa Shyr—Director of Music

Deborah Carter— Director of Youth & Education

Mary Keller - Office Manager

Rod Cutler - Director of Maintenance

Stephanie Desmore - Housekeeper

WELCOME. We are a compassionate Christian community fostering a personal connection with God for people of all ages and expressing God's love through worship, education, mission, music and fellowship.

We're glad to gather together as a community of faith today. No matter where you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here to join in worship and service. If you are new to this community of faith, we rejoice in your presence with us. Remember, we're not strangers, but rather friends who journey together, following the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are a newcomer, we invite you to sign the pew pad.

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available from the ushers or the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary.

MISS A WORSHIP SERVICE? Services are recorded every week. A CD-R is available upon request by contacting the church office at 342-4242.

Rev. Mouser can be reached by cell at 519-5280,
or by email at pastorcarson@summervillechurch.org

***Pastor's Office Hours: Monday & Wednesdays from 1-3
Please call ahead.***

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesdays from 8:30-4, Thursdays 8:30-noon

GREETERS: ALICE ESTES

BANK BAG: RUTH MCNAMARA

USHER: JULIE GIRON

MUSIC: TERESA SHYR

There will be no one available to arrange transportation for December 31st.

Please join us after Worship in Fellowship Hall.

Your host is Bill Carter.



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*those who are able, please stand

***GATHERING HYMN #8** (blue– Presbyterian Hymnal) TRURO

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates ”

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE

CENTERING PRAYER IN SILENCE

Ever-loving God, we are here this day, but we are unsure if our voices will ring pleasantly enough to delight your ear; unsure if our hearts will find the rhythm of yours; unsure if we have enough courage to place our trust in you. Remind us that even the most insecure find strength in the good news because you have prepared their hearts for service and praise. Prepare us for worship. We are ready, and like Mary, we wish to be your servants. Amen.

PRELUDE “Sonata”

BY MOZART

CALL TO WORSHIP

SARAH GUERESCHI

One: What shall we sing?

All: That God’s love is loyal and never-ending!

One: What shall we shout?

All: God’s faithfulness is for all generations!

One: What shall we proclaim?

All: God’s covenant is our firm foundation!

One: We worship and praise our Creator, shouting praise to the rock of our salvation.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING: Tom Upson, Mark, Eric and Abby Leavitt

Congregational Response #2157 (blue–Sing the Faith) “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

Alleluia

CALL TO CONFESSION

SARAH GUERESCHI

God's love is so amazing because it is out of this steadfast love that God reaches out to embrace us as beloved sons and daughters coming home, assuring us we can tell the truth about our need of grace. Pray with me.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

SARAH GUERESCHI

God, you have shown us the good news, revealing to the whole world the love of which the prophets wrote. But we have kept your love quiet. We have forgotten to seek your wisdom. Any glory which we have found we have claimed for ourselves.

Silent Reflection

Strengthen us, O God, with your announcement of justice and peace, that we might be faithful in obedient love to your Beloved, sharing Christ's love with a broken world, and offering our humility before our God.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. DR. CARSON O. MOUSER

One: God looks with favor on the lowliness of the servant, shows mercy from one generation to the next, and scatters the pride and arrogance of our hearts so that we might be filled with Christ's love. God's faithfulness is our strength. God's mercy is our song.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

***HYMN #579** (blue-Presbyterian Hymnal)
"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

PASSING THE PEACE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

SARAH GUERESCHI

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM “The Holly and the Ivy”

ARRANGED BY NICK PAGE

The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown:

The rising of the sun and the running of the deer
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir

The holly bears a blossom, as white as the lily flower
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet savior:

The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas day in the morn

WORDS *with* CHILDREN, THE LORD’S PRAYER

BILL CARTER

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 1:26-38

REV. DR. CARSON O. MOUSER

SERMON “Advent: Here Am I”

REV. DR. CARSON O. MOUSER

***HYMN #5** (blue-Presbyterian Hymnal)
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

PICARDY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY – HYMN NO. 556

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

When we have hungered, O God, you have filled us with good things. You have entrusted to us the gifts of the Kingdom so that no person need be empty-handed. Trusting that what you give is even more than enough and that you work wonders in unexpected ways, accept the offerings of our lives this day. Use us and our offerings as beacons of your mercy in the world. Amen.

***HYMN #9** (blue– Presbyterian Hymnal)
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Sonata”

HAYDN

Devotion for December 31st: We struggle to take responsibility for new beginnings. We rely on the calendar to tell us when it is time to start over again with new resolutions; we count on the words in our prayers of confession to prompt us to begin again in our faithful walk with God; we wait until the conditions are just right to start doing the new thing that God calls us to do. On this first Sunday following Christmas, we read of God's people declaring and prophesying about the new beginning we might claim in Christ.

Did Isaiah or the psalmist have in mind that righteousness and salvation would come into the world in a form as vulnerable as a newborn baby? Probably not, but Anna and Simeon saw in the Christ child salvation and redemption—a new beginning. Paul also sees the long-awaited hope taken from in Christ. As God's people, this is also our baby to bear and raise up. We are called to participate in the creation of God's just realm on earth.

Scriptures: Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Luke 2:22-40, Galatians 4:4-7

The staff wishes all of you a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.



Children's Workshop



Journey to Bethlehem

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Teachers</u> | <u>Room</u> |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| December 3 | Mrs. Debbie Carter & Mr. Jim DeVoe | 12 |
| December 10 | Mr. & Mrs. DeVoe | Memorial Lounge |
| December 17 | Mr. & Mrs. DeVoe | Memorial Lounge |
| December 24 | Mr. & Mrs. DeVoe | Kitchen |
| December 31 | Out-of-the-Box Worship For all ages | |

Youth Group News

(Grades 6-12)

- Where's Waldo Youth Night: Friday, January 5th at Greece Ridge Mall, meet at church at 7:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Tax reform legislation is working its way through the House and Senate. Current proposals could substantially limit the amount of itemized deductions available to many taxpayers. **If you plan on itemizing deductions for 2017 (rather than simply claiming the standard deduction), you should consider prepaying your 2018 pledge by making a payment in 2017.** This could be a substantial tax benefit to you, as your contribution to SPC would be deductible for you on your 2017 income tax return, but it may not be deductible at all if your contribution is made in 2018. **You may wish to review your recent tax returns (or consult your tax professional) to see how this might affect you.** If you decide to make your contribution early, **please include some notation to identify it as a "2018 pledge"** so that we can keep our records straight. **Thank you!**



In addition to Doug Angold and Charlie Buck, the following were involved in constructing, sanding, painting and installing the 112 book racks in the pews. Thanks to: Bob Megargle, Neil Greene, Dave Stryker, Jim Verni, Jim Shawhan, Bill Carter, Mike James, Tom Swartz, Mike Giron, Fred Stiffler

Poinsettia Remembrance (2017)



Given by

Doug & Karen Angold
Douglas, Dorothy, Edward & Maeve Caine
Susan Connor
Marilyn Drumm
Alice Estes
Eric & Mary Hauptmann
Linda & Todd Hayes
Mike & Barb James
The Mayer Family
Bob & Stella Megargle
Pat Myers
The Ordway Family
Jeri Powell
Hal Schindler
Marilyn Schindler
Milton, Kay and Pamela Shares
Jane & Jim Shawhan
Fred & Joyce Stiffler

The Westman Family

Given By

Peg & Bruce Baker
Bill & Debbie Carter

Alice Estes
Holly Hammond
Mary Haverfield
Mike & Barb James
Bob & Stella Megargle
The Westman Family

in Loving Memory of

Our Parents
Audra Claire Caine and Betty Caine
My parents, Homer & Dorothy White
Loved Ones
Husband, William Estes
Amy Hauptmann
All Our Loved Ones
Henry, Margaret, & Susan Heck
Paul W. Mueller
Amy Hauptmann
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Parents and Bob Kessler
In loving memory of Gretchen
George Schindler, family and friends
Loved Ones
Our Parents
Don & Norma Palmateer
Ralph & Margaret Stiffler
Joe & Barb Westman from your loving family
Shirley VanDenBergh

in Honor of

Karen Angold
Our 2 new grandchildren: Jonathan Birmingham
& Lindsay Marie Carter
Granddaughter, Sgt. Andrea Estes-Conklin
Youth of Summerville Church
My wonderful family
Ebee James and Phoebe James
SPC Staff and Property Committee
Joyce & Bob Rude

CALENDAR of EVENTS



Sunday, December 24th

10:00 am
10:15 am
7:00 pm

Christmas Eve and Christmas Joy Offering

Worship
Children's Workshop
Christmas Eve Worship

Monday, December 25th

6:30 pm

AA

Room 15

Wednesday, December 27th

6:30 pm
6:45 pm
7:30 pm

Troop 127
Troop 79
Senior Choir

Room 14
Room 15
Room 13

Next Sunday, December 31st

10:00 am
10:15 am

Out-of-the-Box

Family Worship
Children's Workshop



The office is closed all of Christmas week. We will re-open on

Tuesday, January 2nd at 8:30 am.