

Welcome

December 17, 2017

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

piercechapel.com

Third Sunday of Advent; Purple

Prelude "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" arr. Page
Youth Handbells

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Choirs arr. Clydesdale
"It's All About Him/Jesus, What a Wonderful Child"

*Call to Worship

Leader: Let us come before the Lord rejoicing as we anticipate the birth of Christ.

People: Let us come before God with thanksgiving for he has blessed us beyond measure.

All: With praise and thanksgiving let us worship the Lord our God.

*Hymn of Praise "Joy to the World" No. 246

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders
of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

(8:30) David, Jessica, Chloe, Hayley, Tristan, Erica, Conner & David Stanley

(11:00) Mark, Jennifer, Brianna, Zachary, Nick, Nathaniel,
Kenny, & Johnathan Putnam

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-11

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of joy. May the joyful promise of
your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

Congregational Response (sung):

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Musical Word "Joy to the World" arr. Vader, Rouse, Aspinall

Children's Sermon

(After the children's sermon, children age 3-kindergarten are invited to go to Children's Church across
the hall in Room 315, and children in 1st-4th grades are invited to go to Chapel Kids in the Chapel.)

*Hymn of Meditation "Silent Night" No. 239

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon
virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant
beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Morning 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Greeting

*Hymn of Preparation "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 234

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye,
to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O Come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens
of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be
all glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: (Refrain)

*Prayer for the Offering (8:30) Mike Lorentz (11:00) Kathy Robison

Receiving the Offering "Still, Still, Still"

Duet: Bobbie Getz and Donna Pounds

Written Word Luke 2:8-11

Spoken Word "Joy Is Our True Home"

*Hymn of Commitment "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" No. 204

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. (Repeat)

*Benediction

*Please stand as you are able.

Copies of this week's calendar are available
on the credenzas in the hallway.

CONNECTION CARD

Name _____ Email _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Names of other family members (include grades for children or youth): _____

Service attending: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

Check all that apply: 1st time guest Returning guest

1st time filling out this card Update contact info

How did you hear about Pierce Chapel? _____

DECISION CARD

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I would like to:

- Receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
- Recommit my life to Jesus Christ.
- Talk with the pastor.
- Be baptized.
- Become a member of Pierce Chapel.

Questions and/or comments: _____

Prayer Request

Please write your prayer request below so we may join with you in prayer.

Please pray for _____

Requested by _____

Would you like to be informed when prayers are lifted up? Yes / No

Email _____

Phone# _____

Please place completed form in the offering plate today or in the locked box at the Welcome Center. Your request will be communicated promptly to our 15-member Prayer Team.

OUR STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2017

Attendance Sunday School: 211 Sunday Night:
 8:30 Worship: 200 Youth: 44 + 6 adults + 3 supper helpers
 11:00 Worship: 260 Tweenagers: 10 + 2 adults
 Total in both services: 460 Wednesday Supper: 239

Offering Generously Given \$41,058.29
 Generously Given to Date \$793,240.12
 Budgeted to Date for Ministry \$780,193.95
 Benevolence Fund \$265.00
 Faith Promise (Mission Offering) Generously Given to Date \$54,830.34 \$2,340.00
 Open Door Community House (Sunday School Offering) \$33.00
 Ronald McDonald House (Sunday School Offering) \$80.00
 Building by Faith \$6,715.00
 Building by Faith Loan Principal \$994,832.74 Targeted Monthly Payment \$13,527.00
 Building by Faith Month-to-Date Generously Given \$11,105.00
 Building by Faith Month-to-Date Shortage/Overage (\$2,422.00)
 Gifts were given to Building by Faith:
 — in memory of John Clark by Windle & Elaine McKenzie.
 — in memory of Joleen Oney by Pierce Chapel.
 — in honor of Sharon Anthony, Jane Armour, Elaine McKenzie, Pam Myers, Gwen Pleban & Lynn Meadows-White by Kathy Robison.



Thank you for worshiping with us at Pierce Chapel today. We hope you'll be encouraged and inspired by your experience here. If this is your first time at Pierce Chapel, please take one of the colored bags found at the Welcome Center. It's our little gift to you! Again, thank you for being here today. May God bless you.

We express our love and sympathy to Lisa and Luis Diaz at the death of Lisa's mother, Joleen Oney, on December 10.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the A/V booth at the back of the Worship Center.

A "cry room" with closed-circuit TV capability (Room 305) is available across the hall for parents of infants and toddlers who wish to keep their children with them for the service but feel more comfortable in a more child-friendly environment.

PIERCE CHAPEL STAFF

Rev. Howard G. White	Pastor
Rev. Lynn Meadows-White	Minister of Discipleship
Nathan Carr	Director of Youth Ministries
Roseanna Harbuck	Children's Ministry Coordinator
Donna Pounds	Service Accompanist/Choir Director
Debi Van Noy	Preschool Director
Katie Ingram	Church Secretary/Nursery Director
Dawn Krueger	Financial Secretary
Jessica Stanley	Youth Ministry Assistant
Allison Williams	Ministry Intern
Justin Daniel	Tweenager Intern
Kiddy Seifu	Nursery Caregiver
Lisa Courtney	Custodian
Steven McKenzie	Set-Up Custodian
Jarod Ingram	Security

Church Office 706-327-9807 Fax 706-327-7253 Preschool 706-327-9807, ext. 6
 E-Mail Prayer Ministry: Send prayer requests to prayers@piercechapel.com

Coming Home

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

Sunday, December 17, 2017

 Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services Sunday, December 24, 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

There will *not* be an 8:30 worship service or Sunday School.

A loving nursery will be provided for kindergarten and younger.

New Year's Eve Celebrations!

Sunday, December 31

Regular Worship Schedule

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services and 9:45 a.m. Sunday School

- Special time during worship to make spiritual commitments for 2018
- New Year's Eve Party in the hospitality room after each service — please bring finger food to share! It's POTLUCK: bring "breakfasty" foods after the 8:30 service and any finger foods after the 11:00 service!
- Video slideshow of 2017 Pierce Chapel memories
- Photo booth for fun family/group photos

Kids in Christ (K.I.C.) Christmas Party

Sunday, December 17, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

All 3rd & 4th graders are invited to the annual K.I.C. Christmas party! We will have a hot chocolate bar, gift exchange game (\$10 limit), ugly Christmas sweater contest and crafts! Friends are welcome! Join us in the Worship Center. RSVP by noon today to Roseanna at roseanna@piercechapel.com.



Tweenager Christmas Party

Sunday, December 17, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Home of Stephen and Heather Childers, 8001 Chapel Lake Drive, Midland, GA
All 5th & 6th graders are invited to our annual Christmas party! Pizza dinner, scavenger hunt, gift exchange game (\$10 limit), ugly Christmas sweater contest & lots of fun! RSVP by noon today to roseanna@piercechapel.com.



Ladies, ready for a meaningful break?

Join us for our annual women's retreat!

Friday, February 2 - Sunday, February 4

Watch for more information!



The Pierce Chapel Preschool will be closed December 21-January 7.

Youth will not meet on Sundays, December 24 & 31 and Wednesday, December 27.

Tweenagers will not meet on Sundays, December 24 & 31.

The church office will be closed Monday-Wednesday, December 25-27 and Monday, January 1.

Choose a gift that lasts!

Faith Promise Offerings 2017

As a way to honor loved ones this Christmas, consider giving to Pierce Chapel's Faith Promise, which funds many of our mission efforts locally, nationally, and globally. When you give a gift in honor of someone, we will send an acknowledgment card, or we will give you the card so you can send it to the recipient yourself. Our total Faith Promise this year is \$88,989.00 — \$54,830.34 of which has been received. Lives will be touched and changed because of what you have done.

A gift has been given to the Faith Promise Mission Offering at Pierce Chapel in honor of

by _____

This gift will be used to minister to the needs of others in the name of Christ.

Date _____

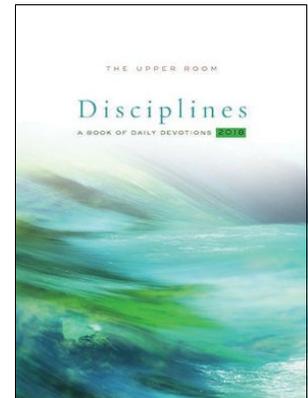
*"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."
Isaiah 9:6*



Please remember that all contributions for 2017 must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2017 in order to qualify as a charitable tax deduction for this year. If you want to donate stock to Pierce Chapel, please have your broker transfer your gift to Pierce Chapel's account. To ensure the transaction is completed before the end of the year, the transfer should be done ASAP. If you have questions, please call Dawn Krueger at 706-327-9807, ext. 5. Thank you for your faithful stewardship.

Need encouragement to read the Bible & pray daily?

Consider using the 2018 Upper Room Disciplines, a devotional guide based on the lectionary featuring a different writer each week. The Disciplines offers you a way to spend the year listening to God through daily readings of scripture and reflections on those Bible passages. We have a very limited supply, so please reserve your copy by emailing lynn@piercechapel.com. Checks should be made payable to Pierce Chapel (\$11 for regular print; \$13 for large print) & earmarked "Disciplines."



Our Calendar for the week

Sunday, December 17

3:00-4:30 PM K.I.C. (Kids in Christ) Christmas Party in Worship Center
5:30-8:00 PM Tweenagers (5th-6th grades) Christmas Party in
home of Stephen & Heather Childers
5:30-8:30 PM Youth (7th-12th grades) Christmas Party in Youth Barn

Monday, December 18

6:30-8:30 PM Northside Football Banquet in Worship Center

Tuesday, December 19

9:00-10:30 AM Senior Exercise in Youth Barn
6:30-8:00 PM Boy Scouts in Youth Barn
6:30-8:00 PM Cub Scouts in Worship Center
7:00 PM Tabitha's Heart in home of Tina Armistead

Wednesday, December 20

6:00-6:50 PM Youth (7th-8th grades) Small Groups in Youth Barn
6:00-6:50 PM Youth (9th-12th grades) Small Groups in main building
7:00-8:00 PM Youth (7th-12th grades) games in Youth Barn

Thursday, December 21

No Preschool December 21-January 7
9:00-10:30 AM Senior Exercise in Youth Barn
11:30 AM Happy Achers sack lunch & games in Hospitality Room
6:00-6:30 PM Stephen Ministry in Room 206
6:30-8:00 PM N.A.M.I. (National Alliance on Mental Illness) in Room 216

Saturday, December 23

No Preschool December 21-January 7
9:00-10:30 AM Senior Exercise in Youth Barn