

Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service

Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church
December 24, 2017
11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent; Purple

Prelude "O Holy Night" (11:00 only)
Slade Croxton, piano solo

Welcome and Greeting Rev. Howard G. White

Carol Medley "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)

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" No. 240
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. (Refrain)

"Away in a Manger" No. 217
Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down
his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever,
and love me, I pray; bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

(11:00) Nathan Carr & Autumn Hutto
(5:00) Bob, Lynn & Alex Ingram
(7:00) Neill, Denise, Will & Lauren Fuller

Scripture Reading Isaiah 7:14
Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of Love. Through the gift of his Son,
we know God's love for us. As we await the coming of Christ, let us
be channels of that love to the world.

Congregational Response (sung):
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Invocation Rev. Lynn Meadows-White

Musical Offering "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" (11:00) Jerry Dorriety
"O Holy Night" (5:00) Alicia Vinson
"O Holy Night" (7:00) Vivian Lee-Boulton

Scripture and Meditation Luke 2:1-20

Service of Holy Communion

Note about monetary offerings

You're invited to place "regular" tithes and offerings to the Pierce Chapel
budget in the offering plates at the back of the worship center and place
offerings on the communion rail for the ministry of MercyMed at Fox Elementary.

The Confession and Pardon

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We
have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have
broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our
neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that
proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Response to the lighting of the Christ Candle:

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

People: A light no darkness can extinguish!

(over)

CONNECTION CARD

Name _____ Email _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Service attending: 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.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.

Congregational Hymn and Candlelighting Service

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, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

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!

Benediction

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

FIRST TIME HERE?

Thank you for worshipping with us at Pierce Chapel on this Christmas Eve. We hope you have been blessed by your experience here. If this is your first time with us at Pierce Chapel, please take one of the little "welcome bags" found at the Welcome Center. It's our gift to you! We hope you'll join us again next Sunday for worship at either 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. on New Year's Eve. Merry Christmas to you, and may the blessing of God's unending love be the source of your joy in the new year!

The stewardship report and gifts given for the week of December 17 and December 24 will be included in the December 31 bulletin.

A "cry room" with closed-circuit TV capability (Room 305) is available across the hall for parents of infants and toddlers who get a little "antsy" © during worship, or for parents who simply wish to keep their children with them in a more child-friendly environment.

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



MERRY Christmas

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11

Our Calendar for the week

Sunday, December 24

11:00 AM *Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service in Worship Center
5:00 PM *Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service in Worship Center
7:00 PM *Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service in Worship Center
Youth & Tweenagers will not meet

Monday, December 25

Church Office Closed December 25-27

Wednesday, December 27

No Youth Activities

Thursday, December 28

9:00-10:30 AM Senior Exercise in Youth Barn
11:30 AM Happy Achers sack lunch & games in Hospitality Room
6:30-8:00 PM N.A.M.I. (National Alliance on Mental Illness) in Room 216

Saturday, December 30

9:00-10:30 AM Senior Exercise in Youth Barn

*Indicates loving childcare provided for infant to 36 months.