

UPCOMING *ARTS OF THE SPIRIT* EVENTS

*CONCERT WITH A CAUSE*

WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE  
CONCERT HANDBELL CHOIR  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010, 8:00 P.M.  
SANCTUARY

*GATHERED TO SING*

HYMN FESTIVAL WITH MARK SEDIO  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2010



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WORD AND SACRAMENT:

HOLY COMMUNION

NOVEMBER 29, 2009

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Please join us for our next  
**Advent Taizé Prayer Service**  
Tuesdays, December 1 and 8, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.  
in Rand Chapel

*(a service of songs, scripture, silence, meditation, prayer, and candles)*

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

201 Washington Street • Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
404-659-0274 • www.cpcatlanta.org

WORSHIP STAFF

Gary W. Charles, Pastor • Caroline M. Kelly, Associate Pastor  
Lynn A. Turnage, Christian Educator • Molly Kent, Director of Youth Ministries  
David A. VanderMeer, Director of Music Ministries • J. Michael Morgan, Organist  
Catherine Neelly, Erika Rembert, and Emily Wilmarth, Resident Pastors  
Stephen A. Bacon, Coordinator, Pastoral Residency Program

PASTOR EMERITUS

P. C. (Buddy) Enniss

IN PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Matthew Flemming & Jillian Embrey



**Wait for the Lord**

Advent 2009

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Advent is a season of four weeks before Christmas. During the Advent season, the church claims God's promise to bring peace and justice to earth by remembering Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and by looking far to the future, trusting that we can count on God to keep a promise.

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**      PRELUDE SOLENNEL: VENI EMMANUEL      RICHARD PURVIS  
*(As the opening voluntary begins, please use this time to center yourselves for worship.)*

**WELCOME**  
*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*  
**And also with you.**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**INTROIT**      *WAIT FOR THE LORD*      TAIZÉ  
*(The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing. Please sing three times)*

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

♠ **HYMN** No. 2      *COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS*      HYFRYDOL

♠ **CALL TO CONFESSION**

♠ **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and deliver us from all that binds us and blinds us. When our eyes are half shut, seeing only what we want to see, forgive us and open our eyes to see signs of your loving reign. When our eyes are bleary with tears, cleanse them and open our eyes to see life abundant and eternal. When our eyes are closed, pry them open by the power of your grace to see signs of hope that we have long discarded. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel . . .

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

♠ **DECLARATION OF PARDON**

♠ **RESPONSE**      *AWAKEN US, GOD*      MUELLER

O hear us, we pray, God, for dark is the night,  
 And still we are waiting in hope for the light.  
 Oh, teach us to trust you, preparing the way,  
 Until with rejoicing we enter the day.

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST LESSON**      JEREMIAH 33:14-16      PAGE 757, OT, PEW BIBLE

During Advent and Christmas we often refer to Jesus as "Emmanuel" or "Immanuel" which means "God with us." To know Jesus is to know God.

## THANKS TO THOSE SERVING DURING WORSHIP TODAY

<p><b>Ushers</b> Beth Grashof, captains Central Youth</p> <p><b>Counters</b> Doris Beachy ▪ Bill Crosland Max Gallman ▪ Stephen Smith Alice Veldhuis</p> <p><b>Greeters</b> Ann Bryan ▪ John Bryan Don Robinson ▪ Ellen Thompson Carol McCullough ▪ David Messer</p> <p><b>Cashier</b> Philip Covin</p>	<p><b>Collectors of Friendship Pads</b> The Pittman Family Lisa, Pete, Alex, &amp; Nicholas</p> <p><b>Deacons of the Day</b> David Messer ▪ Frances St. John</p> <p><b>Sound Engineer</b> Matt Parrish</p> <p><b>Elders of the Day</b> <i>Campbell-Eagan</i> – Bettye Russell <i>Washington Street</i> – Leslie Pope</p>	<p><b>Caring for Our Youngest Members</b> <u><i>Infants &amp; Toddlers</i></u> Brett &amp; Stephanie Williams</p> <p><u><i>Pre-School and Pre-K Room</i></u> Jackson &amp; Susan Hills</p> <p><b>Choir Guild</b> Frances Padgett</p> <p><b>Bread Baker</b> Jennie Butler</p>
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## THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

<p><b>Sunday, November 29</b>                  12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil                  12:15 p.m. Lunch                  12:15 p.m. Alternative Christmas Gift Shopping                  2:00 p.m. Reception for <i>Highly Favored</i>,                  the Tull Hall Art Exhibit</p> <p><b>Monday, November 30</b>                  1:30 p.m. Staff Devotions  <i>Rand Chapel</i>                  2:00 p.m. Worship Staff Meeting</p> <p><b>Tuesday, December 1</b>                  1:00 p.m. Genesis Handbell Choir                  7:00 p.m. Taizé Prayer Service  <i>Rand Chapel</i></p> <p><b>Wednesday, December 2</b>                  12:15 p.m. Mid-week Advent Worship                  2:00 p.m. Genesis Handbell Choir  <i>Clairmont Place</i>                  5:30 p.m. Geneva Handbell Choir                  7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</p> <p><b>Thursday, December 3</b>                  10:00 a.m. Administrative Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>Friday, December 4</b>                  No activities scheduled</p> <p><b>Saturday, December 5</b>                  8:00 a.m. Prison Trip                  9:00 a.m. Shopping at Ten Thousand Villages                  7:00 p.m. Young Adults Christmas Party</p> <p><b>Sunday, December 6</b>                  9:00 a.m. Children's Choirs                  9:00 a.m. Youth Handbell Rehearsal                  9:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant Parents' Meeting                  9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages                  11:00 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day                  Gary Charles preaching                  12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil                  12:15 p.m. Lunch                  12:15 p.m. Alternative Christmas Gift Shopping                  12:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal                  1:00 p.m. Movement Choir                  4:50 p.m. Jerusalem Choir                  5:00 p.m. Cancer Ministry  <i>Potluck dinner at Paulsen home</i>                  6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship</p>
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For more information about any of the above events,  
 please call the Church Office - 404-659-0274.

## WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ Please rise in body or spirit.

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in bold.

**Our liturgists today** are Caroline Kelly, Emily Wilmarth, and Catherine Neelly.

**Our lector** today is Linda Lehfeltd.

**The lighting of the Advent candles** is an old tradition, probably originating with the Lutheran church, but appropriated by almost all others. While we light a new candle each week to signify the important themes of the season—hope, peace, joy, and love—it is important to focus primarily on the increasing light that the candles generate throughout the season as we draw nearer to our celebration of the birth of Jesus, who is the light of the world. This morning Rick, Vicki, Carl, and Jill Hertzberg will light the first candle, the candle of hope.

**Royal blue** is the color of royalty to welcome the coming of a King. It can also symbolize the night sky in which the star appeared to announce the birth of Jesus. While purple has traditionally been the liturgical color for Advent, royal blue is increasingly used for Advent, especially in Protestant churches, to distinguish it from Lent.

**The Advent paper-lace banners** were created by Ellen Phillips, a liturgical artist and member of Central. The banner for the first Sunday of Advent (Hope) is based on the first five verses of John's Gospel. The banner depicts the creative movement of our Triune God that is present among us most clearly in Emmanuel, the child born in Bethlehem. In him and through him, "the hopes and fears of all the years" are met.

**This Sunday is** the second of three weeks to do your alternative Christmas shopping. You may order fairly traded items today in the Taylor Conference room. This is the second and final Sunday that we will have goods here from the Trade as One organization. In addition to this, next Saturday December 5 the 10,000 Villages on St Charles Avenue will open early for Central Presbyterian. The store will be open from 9-11 for us with 10% of the sale proceeds going to Central for global mission. Then on Sunday December 6 many of our Community Ministry partners will be here selling alternative gifts.

**During Advent**, the flowers in the sanctuary reflect the beauty of the season, provided through gifts in honor or memory of a friend or family member. A list of donors and the names of those whom their gifts honor will be included in the bulletin on December 23.

**Audio recordings** of today's sermon may be found on the Central website: <http://cpcatlanta.org/worship/sermons.html>. You may also subscribe to the podcast of sermons preached at Central by visiting <http://cpcatlanta.org/worship/podcast.html>.

**Music is printed** under Onelicense.net AA-710014.

*RESPONDING TO THE WORD*

## ✠ ADVENT LITANY

ADAPTED FROM ROMANS 8:18-25; IONA WORSHIP COMMUNITY

*In hope the universe waits:*

**God's purpose shall be revealed.**

*Limited by mortality, yet destined for liberation, in hope the universe waits:*

**God's purpose shall be revealed.**

*Trusting in what is unseen, believing the best is to come, in hope the universe waits:*

**God's purpose shall be revealed.**

*In the shadows of a barn where the Maker of All will be born, in hope the universe waits:*

**God's purpose shall be revealed.**

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

## MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH

ARR. JOHN FERGUSON

CHANCEL CHOIR AND HANDBELLS

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;

Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand

Christ our God to earth descending come our homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,

Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood.

He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way;

As the light of light descending from the realms of endless day,

That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,

veil their faces to the presence as with ceaseless voice they cry:

Alleluia, Lord most high!

## ✠ AT THE PRESENTATION

ADVENT DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

**Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*SEALING THE WORD*

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

(For the text of the Lord's Prayer, see page 16 in the Hymnal)

*May the God of Advent be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*People of Advent, lift up your hopes.*

**We lift them to the One who comes**

**to share our lives with us.**

*People of hope, offer your thanksgiving to God.*

**Joy, praise, and adoration are in our hearts**

**and on our lips.**

The Iona Community, located at the site of a medieval abbey off the shore of Scotland, is an ecumenical Christian community committed to seeking new ways of living the Gospel in today's world. It has given the church a vast store of musical and liturgical resources.

During Advent we will sing the Doxology set to the familiar music of favorite Advent and Christmas music. Today, we are using VENI EMMANUEL, the tune of a beloved Advent hymn.

SANCTUS

...we lift our songs of joy to you.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly. Reign - ing God of  
 pw'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,  
 All cre - a - tion seeks your light! Bles - sed is the One who  
 comes in Your name. Bles - sed be the Lord most High!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

...we proclaim that mystery called faith.

Christ has died; Christ is ri - sen;  
 Christ the Lord will come a - - gain.

AMEN

...God in Community, Holy in One.

A - - - men. A - - - men.  
 A - - - - - men. A - - - - - men.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We often sing parts of the Communion liturgy. This setting is to PICARDY, the same hymntune used in the choir's anthem.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✠HYMN

NOW THE HEAVENS START TO WHISPER

SUO GAN  
 TEXT: MARY LOUISE BRINGLE

Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.  
 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.  
 Christ, e - ter - nal sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,  
 Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in;  
 Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.  
 Come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.  
 Seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plan - ted, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!  
 Christ the morn - ing star of splen - dor gleams with - in a world grown dim.  
 In the lone - ly, in the stran - ger, in the out - cast, hid from view;  
 Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
 Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
 Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Mel Bringle is the chair of the new hymnal committee for the PCUSA. She teaches at Brevard College and is a prolific hymn text writer. This text, written specifically for the Welsh melody SUO GAN, touches on the Celtic notion of "thin places" - places where earth and heaven, or secular and sacred, seem to be in closer touch with one another.

✠ADVENT BLESSING

FROM CLOTH IN THE CRADLE, IONA COMMUNITY

God of the watching ones,  
 the waiting ones,  
 the slow and suffering ones,  
 the angels in heaven,  
 the child in the womb.  
 Give us your benediction,  
 your good word for our souls,  
 that we might rest and rise  
 in the kindness of your company.  
 Amen.

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE LOVE'S ROAD RUNS DOWN TO BETHLEHEM

MORNING SONG  
 TEXT: HERMAN STUEMPFLE

Hope's roads converge at Bethlehem, Through every land they wind.  
 And all who, seeking, walk on them their hearts' true homeland find.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

J. S. BACH