

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

10:45 am

THE GATHERING

Please greet those around you and welcome our guests before the service begins.

Gathering

O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Welcome and Greeting

Renee Hoke

The peace of the Lord be with you. And also with you.

The Prelude

Debbie Watson

*Call to Worship

Renee Hoke

The prophet Isaiah declared that justice and peace shall come through the family of Jesse.

This justice shall be for all of creation.

Peace shall be established in all the world.

Get ready! Prepare for God's peace to reign!

Blessed be God who does such wondrous things!

Blessed be God whom we now worship in truth!

*Hymn of Praise

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

No. 119

*Invocation

Renee Hoke

The Advent Candle of Peace

Andrew & Elise Allen

Response

When God Is a Child - vs. 2

No. 132

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,

Giving a promise of safety and worth.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,

And none shall be afraid.

Child Dedication

David Hartman

THE WORD

Reading of the Scripture

Renee Hoke

Isaiah 11:1-9

Pew Bible Page 640

Children's Message

Madi Showalter

Ministry of Music

Chancel Choir

He Will Be the Love

Schram

Andrew Allen, alto saxophone

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

David Hartman

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

Choral Response

Amen for Advent

Chancel Choir

The Sermon

The Peaceable Kingdom...[As If]!

David Hartman

THE SACRAMENT

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn

Away in a Manger

No. 147

Communion Invitation

Ann Hunter

Elders' Prayers

Ted Lauck & Ronnie James

Sharing the Bread and Cup

All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.

Please partake of the bread as it is passed;

we will share the cup together**,

after sharing our common confession:

I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Stewardship

Renee Hoke

Offertory

Chancel Choir

Mary, Did You Know?

arr. Greer

*Doxology

No. 46

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

Renee Hoke

THE GOING FORTH

*Invitation to Discipleship

David Hartman

*Hymn of Discipleship

No. 125

Come, O Long Expected Jesus

*The Benediction

David Hartman

*Response to Benediction

Chancel Choir

*Postlude

Debbie Watson

* If you are able, please stand.

** A few cups of water are in the communion tray for those on sugar-free diets

THE CANDLES OF ADVENT

2nd Candle - (purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE OR THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION - God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! "As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: 'A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation.'"' (Luke 3:4-6)

MEMORIALS & HONORS

IN MEMORY OF MIL DINNIN given by Pat Duncan, Jim & Sandy Hay, John & Gretchen Bridgman, CWF Group 3, Larry & Treva Spradley, Richard & Margaret Phillips, Carolyn Ford, Kerry & Sharon Roach.

IN MEMORY OF DAVID HARTMAN SR., father of Dr. David Hartman Jr., given by Glorie Steele.

IN HONOR OF DAVID HARTMAN JR. given by Sandrea Marvel.

The rose on the Communion Table this morning is in honor of Turner Ray Bradburn. Turner Ray was born on November 24th in Dallas and is the son of Lindsay & Ian Bradburn and grandson of Sally & Robert Hastings.

WELCOME TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Welcome! We're glad you are with us for worship today. We want you to feel right at home. For 125 years First Christian Church has been a place where people come seeking a richer relationship with God and neighbor. No matter what your background or previous experience of church, this is a congregation where you can put down roots and experience true community. Our ministry staff and elders leading in worship today will be available after worship to answer your questions. It is our prayer that any person searching for meaningful relationships and a sense of belonging will find it here at First Christian Church of Wichita Falls.

NURSERY

A quality nursery for infants and young children is available during our worship services. Also available during the week is our childcare programs of Children Come First and Young Ages Preschool.

"GODLY PLAY"

Children ages 3 years thru 2nd grade may participate in "Godly Play" following the Children's Message in the 10:45 worship service. Godly Play allows children to worship and fellowship together in an engaging and age appropriate environment. Children can be picked up immediately following the worship service in Room 213, use Exit door near altar and follow the signs for "Children Pick-Up".

HEARING AID DEVICES

Are available for those in need by asking an usher in the Sanctuary Narthex.

SERMONS

Last week's sermon is available in print form in the Narthex of the Chapel and Sanctuary or at www.firstchristianwf.com.

COMMON GROUND RECOVERY MINISTRIES

Adult peer support groups each Sunday afternoon at 6:00 pm (Women's C.A.R.E., Anger Management, Chemical Addictions Recovery & Parent Groups) For more information contact Rev. Dave Brummett, 613-2112.

MID-WEEK COMMUNION SERVICE

We are offering a Wednesday evening period of quiet prayer and communion in our Chapel from 5:00-5:30. Members and visitors are warmly invited to come in and pray for however long or as little as they feel led; from 5:00-5:15, there will be a brief vespers service consisting of scripture, guided prayer and communion.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF A CHURCH MEMBER IS HOSPITALIZED

Due to hospital policy changes & HIPAA laws, if a church member enters any hospital, the church office has no way of knowing and now needs for either the patient, a family member, a friend, or another church member to call and tell us. If in doubt, please, go ahead and call the church office as we would prefer to receive many calls about someone being hospitalized, than us not knowing at all!



Relate. Inspire. Engage.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD WEDNESDAY NIGHTS / 3701 TART MEAL BEGINS AT 5:30PM FOOD FOR THE BODY AND SPIRIT... JOIN US!

THE NEIGHBORHOOD CONTINUES THIS WEDNESDAY!

Food Truck open from 5-7:30 pm (cash only) Coffee, tea and lemonade available in Fellowship Hall

Worship 6-7 pm in Fellowship Hall After worship we'll move outside for fellowship and fun.

Young Disciples (K-5th)—Sit with your family during worship, depart after the Children's Message for Young Disciples Class.

Chi Rho and CYF (grades 6-12)—Attend worship together, followed by youth groups.

Toddler and pre-school—Our children's area in Fellowship Hall allows little ones and their parents to enjoy worship together.

Sunday Evening Activities Schedule

- 3:45 Chancel Ringers [High School-Adults] (Stratten Hall)
- 5:00 Grow in Grace Choir [Grades K-5] (Stratten Hall)
- Come As You Are [Grades 6-12] (Room 403)
- 5:14 CGRM Bible Study (Rm 307)
- 5:45 Young Disciples [Grades K-5] (Scout Hall)
- 6:00 Common Ground Recovery Ministries (CGRM) Groups:
 - Parenting (Room 306)
 - Anger Recovery (Room 304)
 - Chemical Addictions Recovery (Room 305)
 - Women's C.A.R.E. (Room 307)

Ministry News & Calendar Highlights

Prime Timers Luncheon will be today at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Choir Cantata: Join us next Sunday, December 11, at 10:45am for one service in the Sanctuary as our Chancel Choir presents *A Celebration of Carols* by Joseph Martin. This cantata is filled with overflowing with beloved carols and original seasonal songs that tell the story of Christ's birth, a story adorned with beautiful arrangements, meaning scriptures, and congregational hymns. Your Christmas season will be blessed by this gift of music from our choir!

Christmas Fellowship Dinner: This year's Christmas Fellowship Dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 14th, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The program for the evening will feature the children of our church in their annual Christmas pageant. Children ages Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to participate in the pageant. Rehearsal will be next Sunday, December 11th, in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am during Sunday School.

You are asked to bring your favorite Christmas vegetable, salad or dessert. The church will provide the meat. Cost is by donation. Bring your food to the Scout Hall before 6:00 pm. The dinner line will begin in Stratten Hall, continue through Scout Hall, then into the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to make your reservations in worship this Sunday or by calling the church office.

A certain special gentleman may make his annual appearance during the evening.

Our Sock Tree: For the 21st year the Sock Tree for Fain Elementary School students is up in the church office. Let's decorate it with colorful socks, hats and gloves!

Tea At Two on Tuesdays! Who doesn't love a fragrant cup of tea on a cool autumn afternoon? Claudine Farrell and Renee Hoke are hosting a gathering for women on Tuesday afternoons at 2 pm in the Church Parlor. Bring your favorite tea cup and join us for hot tea, tasty treats, and a guided conversation using Joyce Rupp's wonderful book "The Cup of our Life: A Guide for Spiritual Growth." Everyone is welcome—bring a friend or neighbor!

The Redemption Of Scrooge: Wednesdays in Advent: 10:30 am in Room 310, 6:00 pm at The Neighborhood. Is there an intersection between Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and the Gospel? You bet! Renee Hoke will lead a four week study through December 21st of Matt Rawle's new book *The Redemption of Scrooge*. Choose the morning group at 10:30 am, the evening group at 6 pm, or mix and match. Join us as we explore how the world of Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the Crachits speaks to our Christian faith.

Christmas Eve Services: We will have two identical Christmas Eve services at 6:00 pm and 11:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Both services will have the 47th annual performance of Herbert Burtis' *CHRISTMAS EVE*. We ask that no flash photography be done during the performance, thank you. Communion will be served at both services and each service will conclude with a service of candle lighting. We invite you to attend one or both services!

First Christian Church
3701 Taft Blvd, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
(940) 692-2282, www.firstchristianwf.com

Dr. David B. Hartman, Jr., *Senior Minister*
 Rev. Renee Hoke, *Associate Minister*
 Jeanette Showalter, *Director of Music Ministries*
 Meredith Buckley, *Interim Director of Children & Youth Ministries*
 Madi Showalter, *Children's Ministries Intern*
 Rev. Dave Brummett, *Director of Recovery Ministries*
 Heather Dickerson, *Director of Children Come First*
 Karen Bivona, *Director of Young Ages School*
 Cheryl Appling, *Business Administrator* Susan Marrs, *Executive Secretary*
 Tina Williams, *Financial Secretary* Ann Hunter, *Receptionist*
 Debbie Watson, *Organist* Glenda & Preston, *Custodians*

OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 4, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT / PANTRY SUNDAY

- 8:40—Worship.....Chapel
- 9:15—Sheri Sutton Book Signing.....Library
- 9:30—Sunday School
- 9:45—Journey Through Scripture..... Parlor
- 10:45—Worship..... Sanctuary
- 12:00—Prime Timers Luncheon..... Fellowship Hall
- 3:45-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities

Monday, December 5, 2016

- 7:30-6:00—Children Come First (M-F)
- 9:00-12:00—Young Ages School (M-F)
- 10:15—FCC Staff Meeting.....Office
- 6:00—Evangelism Ministry Meeting..... Room 405
- 7:00—Search Cmte for Director of Children & Youth Ministries..... Room 310
- 7:30—Boy Scouts Troop 15 Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

- 9:30—Young Ages School to Fantasy of Lights MSU
- 2:00—Tea at Two Parlor

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

- 7:00—Elders' Breakfast..... Room 405 & Chapel
- 9:30—Young Ages School to Fantasy of Lights MSU
- 10:30—The Redemption of Scrooge II..... Room 310
- 5:00—Mid-Week Communion Service Chapel
- 5:30—Food Truck Meal Outside Fellowship Hall
- 6:00-7:00—The Neighborhood Worship Fellowship Hall

"The Redemption of Scrooge II"

[Young Disciples (K-5th) meets 6:30-8 pm in Room 402 and

Chi Rho & CYF (6th-12th) meets 7-8 pm in Room 403]

- 7:00—Chancel Choir (High School-Adults)..... Stratten Hall

Sunday, December 11, 2016

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CHRISTMAS OFFERING

- NO—8:40 Chapel Worship
- 9:30—Sunday School
- 9:30—Children's Pageant Rehearsal Fellowship Hall
- 9:45—Journey Through Scripture..... Parlor
- 10:45—Worship: Choir Cantata "A Celebration of Carols" Sanctuary
- 3:45-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities

