WORSHIP AT SECOND
THE LORD’S DAY
December 19, 2021
www.spcgreenville.org

MORNING WORSHIP
8:30 & 11:00 am
Luke 1:39-45
The BLESSED WHO BELIEVE
Rev. Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
6:00 pm
Rev. Chad T. Bailey preaching
The NEWBORN KING

THOUGHTS FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER
A CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

As our families and churches prepare for the Christmas celebration, many are seeking to emphasize the biblical expectation of the promised Savior, rather than the commercial and sentimental emphasis of our society. One way to do this is to walk through the Old Testament, following the centuries-long expectation of God’s people for the promised Messiah. This spirit is found in one of our advent hymns, “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus.” It reads:

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

In this spirit, I would like to offer a brief meditation on how the story of Adam and Eve anticipates Jesus’ coming, and in which Christ appears prior to his incarnation.

Did you know that Adam knew Jesus? Adam was the first human being, made by God's special creation in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:7). Jesus was there, with the Father, as they fashioned the first man and breathed into him the spirit of life. Genesis 3:8 says that Adam and Eve, “heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.” That is referring to Jesus. After Adam and Eve sinned, God clothed them with the innocence of the lamb, just as Jesus would clothe us in his own perfect righteousness (Genesis 3:15). We call this message the gospel: the good news that God forgives our sin through faith in Christ and clothes us in his righteousness.

Don't you think that Adam and Eve would have been looking forward to Jesus' birth? They were made by him, he was their divine friend, and he was the Savior they were trusting for salvation. All these things are true of us as well if we believe in Jesus! We should be looking forward to Christmas as a way of thanking God for the wonderful salvation he has given through his Son.

“In him was life, and the life was the light of men” — John 1:4
PCA Retirement & Benefits (RBI) is a Ministry of Relief that has been providing financial assistance and encouragement to retired PCA pastors, missionaries, church servants and their families for 40 years. The predominant assistance we provide is to widows of PCA Teaching Elders. Without this financial assistance they struggle to afford the basic needs of life. In fact, many would live in near poverty without the assistance we provide. The annual Ministerial Relief Christmas Offering is the principle source of funding to meet the needs of these widows and other PCA church servants.

We need your help more than ever. According to the recent PCA Retirement Readiness Survey conducted by RBI, the number of retiring PCA pastors will triple over the next 25 years. Since 82% of wives outlive their husbands by an average of 11 to 14 years, a large portion of those pastors retiring will leave widows who will outlive their retirement accounts resulting in incomes at or below the poverty level. Over the next 25 years, the number of families needing Ministerial Relief will quadruple.

If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause please mark your check PCA Relief Offering and put it in the offering plate or you may donate online at pcarbi.org/relief.

When you give, you give HOPE.

May the Lord bless you all with the joy of our Savior’s birth! Thank you for the gift of your love and prayers!

The Phillips Family

May the flock of Second Presbyterian rejoice knowing how loved you are by Christ and by our family; may His peace abide with you all this Christmas season, and His joy be your strength. – Laboring with you for His kingdom, The Bailey Family

God Bless You This Christmas and Beyond, The Windt Family

“O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!” On behalf of my family, I would like to wish each of you a very merry Christmas! May the joy of the Lord be yours in abundance as together we celebrate the coming of Jesus to earth as a child, and may our worship of His holy name be both sincere and glorious as we sing to Him our songs of praise making music for His glory in this season of celebration. – Sincerely in Christ, Verlyn for The Smoker Family

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15
Tidings of Comfort and Joy

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Annual Christmas Program

Celebrate the birth of Christ with us!
Wednesday, December 15 | 6:30 PM

Holiday SPC Schedule Reminders

There will be no Wednesday night activities on:
Wednesday, December 22
Wednesday, December, December 29
Our church offices will be closed December 24-31.
The West End Herald will not be mailed the last two weeks of December.
WIC Bible Study with Ramona White has concluded for the year and will resume January 4.
Men’s Friday Bible Study Luncheons have concluded for the year and will resume January 7.

Lessons and Carols

We will marvel with the heavenly host as we hear the good news of our Savior’s birth retold in Scripture and song.
Friday, December 24 | 6 PM

December Birthdays

December 1 Bonnie Church
December 3 Charlotte Therrell
December 4 Emma Uhall
December 5 John Gray, Addison Maralit, Ashton Scoggins, Ramona White
December 6 Tony Stephens
December 7 Jeff Windt
December 8 Marcus Laughter
December 9 Anya Barringer, Josh Briscoe, Don Nickson
December 10 Josiah Schvaneveldt
December 11 Alice Bailey, Noelle Bombaro, Dempsey Bouchillon, Hope Hughes, Orla Johnson, Ken Pujdak
December 12 Ella Gamble, Anna Ruth Mobley
December 14 Joe Bianchi, Shannon Flaherty
December 15 Monica Bianchi, Henry Gamble, Beth Grubbs
December 17 Shirley Duncan, Jeff Gearhart, Holden Trautner
December 18 Deborah Tingle, Wanda Walton
December 19 Brian Moore, Garison Plourde, Sam Styles
December 20 Geoffrey Barnett, Matthew Griffin, Kate Hughes, Prairie Thompson
December 21 Steven Fultz, Kevin Mobley, Jingle Robinson
December 22 Jennifer Horn
December 23 Sarah Tusing
December 27 Chris Zimmerman
December 29 Rainey Hoopes, Jr.
December 30 Laura Whigham
December 31 Grace King, Wayne Kirk, Lydia Luttrell, Barnetta Stephens

2021 Christmas Poinsettia Honorees

Pay to all what is owed to them... respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Romans 13:7

The Christmas poinsettias adorning our sanctuary are given
In honor of the Church Staff by Patricia Tyner
In memory of our parents by Ed and Margaret Butler
In memory of Dr. Jay H. Jones by The Maralit Family
In honor of our girls: Gina, Selena, Lorri, and Lynn Stephens and Mary, Matthew, Alston, Alan, and Alex Stephens by Tony and Barnetta Stephens
In honor of the Church Staff, Elders, and Deacons
In memory of Colonel Jeffrey Reeves Wilkey and Mrs. Charles D Phillips by Rick and Sharon Phillips
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Pitts and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ellis by Larry and Judy Pitts
In memory of Jesse Webb by Larry and Martha Guy
In memory of Chuck and Betty Swope and Jim and Barbara Moreland by their loving children Chuck and Marjorie
In memory of our parents by David and Deborah Lichtenfelt
In memory of Mr. Umberto N. Lancianese by Mike and Maria Chivers

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The flowers and Christmas décor are placed in the sanctuary this Lord’s Day to the glory of God.

Remembering Our Shut-ins

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in members, sending a note of encouragement:

**Doris Youngblood**
109 Providence Square | Greenville, SC 29615

Weekly Wisdom

**Proverbs 2:6A, 20–22**

For the LORD gives wisdom...

So you will walk in the way of the good and keep to the paths of the righteous.

For the upright will inhabit the land, and those with integrity will remain in it, but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.

CHURCH CALENDAR
spcgreenville.org/ calendar

**Upcoming Events**

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<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>Irene Siemen Baby Shower</td>
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<td>Dec. 24</td>
<td>Lessons and Carols (6 PM)</td>
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<td>Standard Church Office Schedule Resumes</td>
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<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>WIC Bible Study Resumes (10 AM)</td>
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<td>Jan. 5</td>
<td>Pastoral Care Committee Meeting (5 PM)</td>
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<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>WIC Council Meeting (5:15 PM)</td>
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<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Men’s Friday Bible Study Luncheon Resumes</td>
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<td>Jan. 28–30</td>
<td>Missions Conference (Banquet on Jan. 28)</td>
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Pray for Our Country

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

CHURCH INFORMATION
The West End Herald Editor: RE Melton L. Duncan, Sr.

**Telephone:** 864.232.7621
**Website:** spcgreenville.org
**Email:** info@spcgreenville.org
**Social Media**
facebook.com/spcgreenville twitter.com/spcgreenville

**Office Hours:**
Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Information Centers:**
Church Services information 1 * Directions 2
Hospital Information 3 * Wednesday night menu 4
Church Directory 5 * Weekly Activities 6 * Monthly Activities 7

**Church Services:**
Sunday: Sunday School - 9:00 AM * Morning Worship - 10:00 AM
Sunday: Church Offices Closed for Christmas Break
Sunday: Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

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Sunday: Standard Church Office Schedule Resumes
Sunday: Missions to Main Street Resumes (1 PM)

**Church Office:**
Monday, December 20
6:30 AM Men’s Bible Study
9:30 AM Rafiki Bible Study

**Church Office:**
Wednesday, December 22
NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

**Church Office:**
Friday, December 24 (Church Offices Closed for Christmas Break)
6:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE (Lessons and Carols)

**Church Office:**
Sunday, December 26
11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP

**Church Office:**
Wednesday, December 29
NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY.
Questions? Contact Jane Warner, SPC Bookkeeper jwarner@spcgreenville.org

Baby Shower (It’s a Boy)

Irene Siemen
December 18, 10:30am–noon, Fellowship Hall
Registered at Buy Buy Baby

Missing your church group event announcement?
E-mail these to Susan by 9 AM on Thursdays the week prior.
skindall@spcgreenville.org

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