

News and Information

Welcome - Welcome to University Presbyterian Church, an open and affirming "More Light" congregation in the PC(USA). Please sign the guest register at the back of the sanctuary if you are worshipping here for the first time. For more information about the life and work of this congregation, please contact Ron Gilmer.

Worship - The PC(USA) affirms that "the life of the Church is one, and that its worship, witness and service are inseparable" (*Book of Order*, preface to the Directory for Worship). In an effort to be inclusive, gender-neutral language is used in worship. When patriarchal language appears in hymns, members often substitute language that recognizes that God is neither male nor female. You are welcome to join them. Please be seated for the voluntaries at the beginning and end of the service. You may choose to use this time for prayer and meditation.

Announcements - All are welcomed to make announcements of interest to the congregation at the beginning of the service. The session asks that announcements be succinct. You are encouraged to submit announcements in writing by the end of business hours on the Wednesday before the Sunday that you would like the announcement to appear in print. Please send announcements to Carolyn MacVicar at upsa@bellsouth.net.

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day - Being a university church in a university town, we find ourselves scattered on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. In an effort to help us to worship together wherever we find ourselves when the church celebrates Christ's coming, liturgies for services of Evening Prayer for Christmas Eve and Morning Prayer for Christmas Day to be used in homes are available. Please take as many as you need. Liturgies are on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Christmas Joy Offering - The PC(USA) annual Christmas Joy Offering will be collected this Sunday. One half of this offering goes to support retired church workers and their families. The other half of this offering goes to support racial ethnic education within the PC(USA).

Service of Ordination and Installation - A Service of Ordination and Installation will take place on Sunday, January 10, when the church remembers the Baptism of the Lord. Please be in prayer for Jamie Campbell, who will be ordained to the office of elder, Rachel Walker, who will be ordained to the office of deacon, Annabel Stephens and Lena Prewitt, who will return to active service on the session and Pat Dunbar, who will return to active service on the diaconate.

Deacons' Lunches - Please set aside every second Sunday of the month for deacons' lunches. The first deacons' lunch of 2010 will take place on Sunday, January 10, following the ordination and/or installation of the next class of officers. Contributions to the Deacons' Food Pantry are welcomed. You may give by bringing plastic bags, canned foods and/or contributing financially.

Attendance - December 6—42, December 13— 33 + 2 nursery

December Birthdays— **December 5**-Kai Miller, **December 7**-Cathy Andreen, **December 8**-Linda Grote and Robert Robinson, **December 9**-Suzanne Alexander, **December 16**-Vicki Cox, **December 21**-Phil Grote, **December 25**-Jeanette Byrd, **December 30**-Sheri Shuler.

Sunday Assignments

December 20

Communion Nancy DuPree
Reader Gillie Presley
Ushers Lydia Gilmer and
Mary Helen Martin
Welcomer Julia Hartman
Greeter Cathy Andreen

December 27

Communion Paige Miller
Reader Nancy DuPree
Ushers Julia Hartman and
Denise Yanaura
Welcomer John Whitehead
Greeter Pat Dunbar

Lectionary Readings

December 20

Mic. 5:2-5a
Luke 1:47-55 or Ps. 80:1-7
Heb. 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

December 27

1 Sam. 2:18-20, 26
Ps. 148
Col. 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52

Let us Pray....

Tabatha Jarnagin, Anna Gordon, Danielle Rabel, Ginny Hartman, Paige Miller, Quinn Miller, Jared Dearing, Torry Ryan, Aaron Chun, Michael Yampolsky, James Walker, Marie and Joe Stone, Robert Robinson, Lois Field, Wilma Warren, Jackie Reid, Carl Washington, James Darget, Carla Hall, Tiffany Washington, Cadarius Washington and Frederick Washington.

This Week at UPC

Sunday 9:30 Sunday School
10:15 Coffee Hour
11:00 Worship

Tuesday 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday Office Closed

Thursday Office Closed

Monday

Friday 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Elders

Steve Borrelli
Nancy DuPree
Linda Grote
Julia Hartman
Gillie Presley
Lena Prewitt

Robert Spencer
Garry Warren
Ann Webb
John Whitehead

Deacons

Robert DuPree
Carla Hall
Paige Miller
Torry Ryan

Mission Statement

We come together as the body of Christ, an expression of God's grace in this community. We are bound together in God's steadfast love and in our mutual love and support for one another. We honor a special commitment to provide nurture, support and encouragement to students. We honor a special commitment to provide nurture, support and encouragement to students. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live with compassion, to work for justice, to integrate faith and learning and to celebrate the gift of our life together. Since God's love excludes no one, our mission is to be inclusive. We trust that in God's time and by God's grace, God will destroy all barriers. We resolve to erect no barriers while working to overcome existing ones. Recognizing that we do not possess all the truth all the time, we affirm a variety of expressions

Ron Gilmer, Pastor Stated Hours: Tuesday 11:30-1 and Thursday 8-9
Carolyn MacVicar, Secretary Office Hours: Tuesday 8-12, Wednesday 8-12 and Thursday 8-2

All rights reserved for both words and music. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-707580



University Presbyterian Church

1127 8th Street, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-5422 upsa@bellsouth.net www.uaupc.org

Ron Gilmer, Pastor
William Henderson, Director of Music
Faythe Freese, Organist
Heekyung Lee, Intern

“University Presbyterian Church is a More Light Congregation,
an Inclusive Church Committed to Social Justice“

December 20, 2009— 11:00 a.m.
4th Sunday of Advent

THE GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY *Wake, Shepherds, Awake (German carol, 1840)* Hermann Schroeder

MEDITATION based Hosea 11

*O God my Mother, you carried me from conception.
You delivered me from darkness. You nourished me and sustained me.
You let me crawl and taught me to walk. You put the first word into my mouth.
You encouraged me. You guided me.
You agonized in my hurts and my hurtfulness.
You let me go but never stopped loving, O God my Mother.*

OPENING SENTENCES Luke 1:38

Then Mary said: Here am I, the servant of the Lord;
Let it be with me according to your word.

LIGHTING OF THE HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE CANDLES Lena Prewitt and Denise Yanaura
Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.

Come and cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.

Come and execute justice and righteousness.

Come, for a way is being prepared.

Come and anoint us to bring good news to the oppressed.

To bind up the brokenhearted,

To proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God;

To comfort all who mourn;

In the coming of this child, there is hope.

Come, Lord Jesus.

In the coming of this child, there is peace.

Come, Lord Jesus.

In the coming of this child, there is joy.

Come, Lord Jesus.

In the coming of this child, there is love.

Come, Lord, Jesus. Come!

PRAYER from *The Book of Common Prayer*

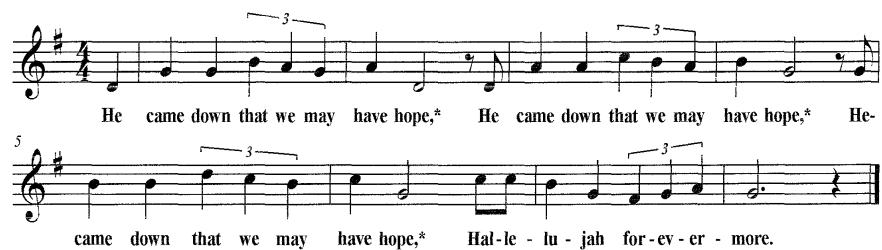
God of grace, you chose Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior. Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things, embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN PH #9** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

CONFESSION OF SIN from *The Book of Common Prayer*

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of our salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

He Came Down John Bell



*peace, joy, love, life

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gillie Presley

FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a (*OT p. 865*)

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT

Luke 1:46-55

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for the Lord has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things

for me, and holy is God's name.

God's mercy is for those who fear the Lord from generation to generation.

God has shown strength with the Lord's arm;

God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

God has helped the Lord's servant Israel, in remembrance of God's mercy, according to the promise

God made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his descendants forever.

SECOND READING

Luke 1:39-45 (*NT p. 57*)

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

*The King Shall Come when Morning Dawns
Consolation*

Ludwig Lenel

SERMON

To You, O Bethlehem

Ron Gilmer

*HYMN PH #12

People, Look East

BESANCON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us in the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Now to This Babe So Tender (German Carol, Munich, 1604)

Hermann Schroeder

DOXOLOGY PH #455

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*All creatures, your Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness.*

O sing ye! Alleluia!

Praise, praise Creator, praise the Son,

And praise the Spirit, Three in One!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

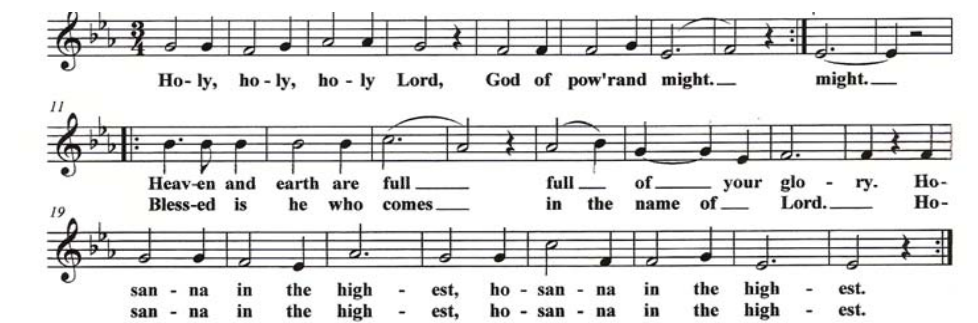
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise....

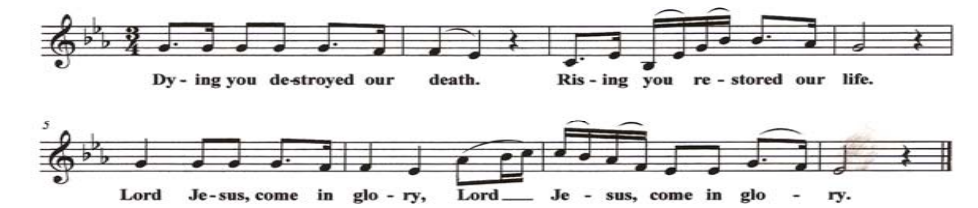
SANCTUS

Franz Schubert



MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Franz Schubert



LORD'S PRAYER

Please begin, "Our Mother and Father God, who art in heaven..."

AMEN

Franz Schubert



BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Please gather at the Lord's Table. When giving the bread, it is appropriate to say, "The body of Christ, the bread of heaven." When giving the cup, it is appropriate to say, "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

*HYMN PH #8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

VOLUNTARY

Sing with Joy, Glad Voices Lift (Resonet in laudibus, 14th C.)

Hermann Schroeder

Please be seated during the closing voluntary as we give thanks to God for the gift of music.

*The Worship Committee asks that you show your appreciation for the musicians
by some way other than clapping.*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE

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

VENI EMMANUEL