

✠ ENTRANCE ✠

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.
(Matthew 18:20^{NRSV})

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Invocation

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.



We light this candle in hope. *Light the first candle.*

We light this candle for peace. *Light the second candle.*

Hear Zechariah's song of hope for peace to the Christ child. A reading from Luke 1:76-79:

"You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of salvation to His people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

*Let us pray:

God of hope, Prince of Peace, You speak peace into the world in the Way of the Christ child.
Help us embody Your peace and live as peacemakers that we may called Children of God.
God of hope, God of peace, into our darkness come, please come. Amen.

*Hymn "Oh, Come, Little Children" #195 BH

*Confession of Sins (in Unison)

God of Peace, by the tender mercy of Your grace, You shine the light of Your love into the shadow of our lives, that those who sit in darkness may find peace and hope. Shine Your light on us, O God, for we have heard Your call to prepare the way of the Lord. Come to us like a refiner's fire and fullers' soap, that we may be purified in body and soul and made ready to make Your paths straight, that all may see Your salvation. Amen.

*Words of Assurance

God brings light to our darkness.
In Christ, we see hope and peace. In Christ, all who seek the Lord finds life anew. Amen.

✠ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ✠

*Prayer of Illumination

*Gospel Reading Luke 1:68-79;

Children's Time

Hymn "Away in a Manger" #205 BH

Sermon Luke 1:76-79;

"PEACE!"

✠ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

Hymn "The Birthday of a King" #191 BH

*Affirmation of Faith

*Response "Glory Be to the Father"

Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Offering/Offertory Prayer

*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

✠ SENDING FORTH ✠

*Closing Hymn "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" #182 BH

*Charge & Benediction

May your love overflow in compassion,
as you walk pure and blameless in the ways of Christ.
May you produce a harvest of hope for peace as you grow in faith as
Christ's disciples, to the glory and praise of God. Amen!

Postlude

In the Life of *STONEGATE* Family

Sunday, December 6, 2015

2:00 p.m. – MOM'S IN PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

6:00 p.m. – BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, December 10, 2015

10:00 a.m. – LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Friday, December 11, 2015

8:00 a.m. – FRIDAY BREAKFAST / ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, December 12, 2015

9:00 a.m. – LIVING FREE FACILITATORS MEETING

Sunday, December 13, 2015

Noon – CHURCH SESSION MEETING

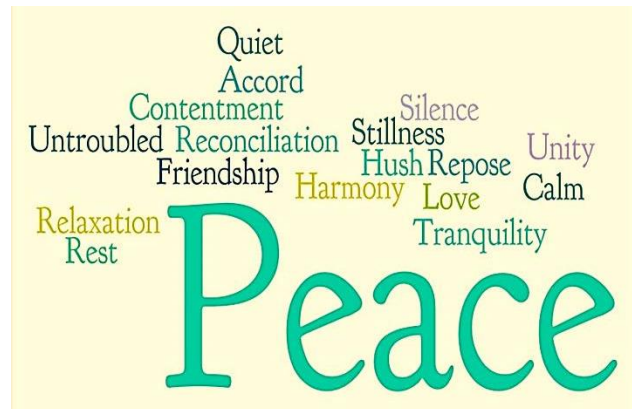
Sunday, December 13, 2015

2:00 p.m. – MOM'S IN PRAYER MEETING



THEME IDEAS

The message of God's salvation is like a refiner's fire or fullers' soap, cleansing us of our impurities. While the advent of the Messiah is marked with hopeful expectation, preparing for that arrival places demands upon our lives. With words that confront our complacency, John the Baptist warns us to repent and amend our ways. Christ is coming - bringing hope, eagerness, and anticipation, but also a little fear and trepidation - like a refiner's fire and fuller's soap.



For Our Guests

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to God as we worship the true and living God together.



Some prayers, litanies, and other worship resources or their parts used in bulletin, except as noted, come: "From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2015 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright © 2014 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission," and others come from unrecognized, unnamed resources, or are our own ideas.

*Lead like Jesus...,
Lead to Jesus...,
Be led by Jesus...*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. , Pastor
 , Pianist
 , Liturgist
 , Children's Time
 , Welcome and Announcements



* Please rise as you are able
 #156 RH = Page 156 Red Hymnal
 #156 BH = Page 156 Blue Hymnal
 Back Cover BH = Back Cover Blue Hymnal



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STONEGATE CHURCH

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

*Sunday Worship Service 10:45 am
 2nd Sunday of Advent – December 6, 2015*