

November 27, 2011 “First Sunday in Advent” 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

**Gathering Around The Word**

*Welcome to worship at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church!  
This time of preparation is offered so that you may make ready your heart  
for the worship of God. May God bless you as you enter God’s presence.*

**Prayer of Preparation**

God of manger and star, let us enter your story once again and find ourselves kneeling with the shepherds, singing with the angels and worshipping with the Magi. Touch our hearts with the wonder of birth and the depths of your love. Speak to us in word and song and lift us to the realms of glory. Amen.

**The Chimes**

**Welcome and Announcements**

“A La Ru” (8:30)  
“Le Gaillarde” (11:00)

**\* Prayer of Praise and Adoration**

**\* Call to Worship**

Leader: Behold, we are a people who dwell in darkness.

**People: Our understanding is dim, a mere shadow of truth.**

Leader: In a land of deep darkness we await light from our God.

**People: In faith we see but a faint reflection of God’s glory.**

Leader: Illumine our darkness by the light of Christ.

**People: Then we shall see and be radiant,**

Leader: When the true Light which enlightens everyone has come into the world.

**People: Amen, let it be so! Let us worship God!**

**\* Hymn #244** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

**Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

God of blessing and love, when the time was right you sent your son to the world. Teach us the art of patience and give us an understanding of your wisdom. Forgive us for making this holy season of anticipation a whirlwind of lists and activities, a flood of joyless obligations and heartless generosity. Forgive our rush as we forgive those who rush past us. Lead us not into anxiety, but deliver us from pretense. For your kingdom is coming with the power of love and the glory of angelic carols, now and forever, heralded in the birth of the Christ Child...*(Worshippers continue in a moment of silent, personal confession.)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Be comforted and hear the good tidings of great joy. If anyone has sinned, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

**People: And he is the sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.**

**All: Let us believe the Gospel and live in peace for we are forgiven. Amen.**

**\* Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Steve and Tamara Mason (8:30)  
John, Anne and Jack Reed (11:00)

Leader: Let us read the word of God found in Isaiah chapter 9.

**People: “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”**

Leader: Today we remember the prophets of old, who demanded to be heard, who dared to speak of a child to come, and who insisted that God’s hope was greater than any power of this world.

**People: Today we give thanks for the prophets, who brought to us surprising new visions of hope, who challenged us to think outside the box, who called us to open our hearts to our Savior.**

Leader: O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, desire of every nation, Savior of all peoples, come and dwell among us and give us your hope.

**People: Amen.**

**Anthem** (11:00)

“People Look East”  
*Lindsay Barker and Mike Hawn*

**Four Cents a Meal Offering**

Meditation of “Neumark”

**Children’s Time**

Glenn Martin

At the conclusion of the “Children’s Time” older children are encouraged to stay for worship and younger children, up to age 4, are welcome to go to the nursery or stay with their families. Let us thank God for our children by singing “Jesus Loves Me.”

*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

*Little ones to him belong; They are weak, but he is strong.*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

**Dismissal for Worship Exploration**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Proclaiming The Word**

**\* Hymn #273** “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Reading the Word of God** Luke 3:1-6 Pew Bible Page 891

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** “Home for the Holidays: Preparation” Merle Fisher

**Responding to The Word**

**\* Affirmation of Faith** Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings**

**Offertory**

“People Look East” (8:30)  
*Lindsay Barker and Mike Hawn*  
“Andante” (11:00)

**\* Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

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. Amen.

**Bearing The Word Into The World**

**\* Hymn #292** “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”

**\* Charge and Benediction**

**\* Postlude** “Day of Glory” (8:30)  
“Postlude” (11:00)

\* all who are able, please stand.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Worship with us at Tinkling Spring** each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. In addition, on the third Sunday of each month, we hold a concurrent contemporary worship service, *Third*, in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m.

**If you are visiting** with us this morning, we welcome you! Crib and Toddler nurseries are provided in rooms 100 and 102 on the first floor of the main building. Please see an Usher for assistance. To learn more about Tinkling Spring, or if you are interested in becoming a member, please speak with one of our pastors or greeters, or you may visit our website at [www.tinklingspring.com](http://www.tinklingspring.com).

**Audio compact discs** of today’s 11:00 a.m. worship service are available for \$4. To obtain a copy, please contact the church office (885-0746) on Monday morning.

**Last Sunday, Tinkling Spring Church** welcomed 30 guests to its worship services. Each Sunday morning, many of our pews will have a first-time or repeat visitor. Your warm welcome to our guests expresses the inviting and hospitable character of this congregation. Your smile and welcoming word make a difference!

**Hearing assistance devices** are available if needed. Please see an usher if you would like one for use during worship.

**We respectfully ask that you** place your cell phones and pagers on silence or vibrate prior to the worship service.

**Greeters for today** are Rick, Nancy and Matthew Heidel for the 8:30 a.m. worship service, and Matt and Rhonda Beyeler and Mary Helen Ayers for the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

**Stewardship Dedication Update as of November 20th!** To date, we have received 137 pledges totaling \$413,600.00. We give thanks to God and encourage everyone who has not done so to turn in your 2012 pledge as soon as possible by placing your pledge card in the offering plate or by bringing your pledge by or mailing it to the church office. Stewardship brochures are located in the pew racks and in each entry way for your convenience. Your dedication to serving God through Tinkling Spring is greatly appreciated.

**The Four Cents-A-Meal Offering will be received today:** Twenty-five percent is shared between the Valley Mission in Staunton and the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. The remaining seventy-five percent is dispersed by the Shenandoah Presbytery to fight hunger locally, nationally and internationally.

**Worship Exploration takes place today** during both worship services. Children ages 5 years through first grade depart the sanctuary after the Children’s Time to be involved in their own worship experience in room 108 and then return to the sanctuary during the final hymn. Worship Exploration takes place on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from October-April.

**Today is the deadline for placing orders for Christmas poinsettias.** The poinsettias will adorn the sanctuary from December 11<sup>th</sup> through December 24<sup>th</sup> in honor or in memory of loved ones. For your convenience you will find an order form inserted in today’s bulletin. Please complete the form, make your check payable to “TSPC Poinsettia Fund”, place in the offering plate, or give directly to Sharon Wood. Any questions may be directed to Sharon at 649-0439.

**Youth will not meet** this evening due to the Thanksgiving holiday. We look forward to shopping next week for our two Adopted Christmas Families.

**Join us for Wonderful Wednesdays** from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday through December 14<sup>th</sup>. Ministry opportunities are available for elementary children, youth and adults. This session runs through December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**This Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. the youth is meeting to practice the Hallelujah Chorus. Dinner is provided.

**Attend the Wonderful Wednesday Congregational Gathering** on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary with the Christmas musical “Light of the World” led by the Wonderful Wednesday Children’s Choir and the Chancel Choir. Immediately following the musical a finger food buffet will take place in Spring Hall. Bring your favorite finger food to share and bring your family and friends for a wonderful evening filled with the Good News, good food and fellowship!

**Mitten Tree:** You can help us support the Zacchaeus’ Kitchen Program which collects and distributes NEW hats, socks, gloves, mittens and scarves to homeless individuals in Washington, D.C. Donated items can be placed on the Mitten Tree in the coffee gathering area until Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Your support is greatly appreciated. Please contact Glenn Martin 943-5725 for further information.

**157 Christmas Shoeboxes** were made by TSPC for Operation Christmas Child! Thanks to all who made boxes and donated items or money to this ministry.  
~ Vickie Craft

**Care Group Spotlight:** Each week we highlight one Care Group complete with the leader’s name, contact information, and members. The purpose of the Care Group Leader is to be in relationship with members, come alongside them in times of need, and to encourage them throughout the year. This week’s Care Group Leader is George Cox. You may contact George by phone at 942-4749 or by email at gwc355@comcast.net. George’s group members are:

George and Gladys Allen	Ashley Campbell
Joe Cappel	Zac
Chris DeBiasi	Luc and Muriel Langouet-Astrie
Andrew	Christophe
Jason and Jessica Skeens	
Rien	

**Thanks to everyone who made the spaghetti lunch** and dessert auction a great success. The event raised \$1,375.66 for the Youth’s two adopted Christmas Families. One family consists of a mom and a twins; the second family consists of mom, dad and 3 children. We cannot wait to go shopping!

<u>Our Stewardship Report</u>			
Needed per week:	\$9,935.00	Year to date:	\$466,945.00
Received last week:	\$ 13,766.75	Year to date:	\$469,092.55
Other:	\$ 417.00	Building Fund (11/13/11)	\$718.49
Building Fund (11/20/11)	\$758.00		
<u>Attendance Last Week</u>			
8:30 Traditional Worship	92	11:00 Traditional Worship	131
11:00 <i>Third</i> Worship	117		
Sunday School	151	Sunday School Offering	\$99.50
<b>8:30</b>	<u>Today</u> Emily Wagoner (A) Sandy Wagoner (B) Alan Wagoner (C) Keaton Boysen (D)	<u>Ushers</u> John Habel (A) Lori Nouwairi (B) Renna Nouwairi (C) Sarah Nouwairi (D)	<u>Dec. 4th</u> Betsy Coleman (A) Wendell Coleman (B) Robert Quickel (C) Mike Griffith (D)
<b>11:00</b>	Karen Cunningham (A) Nancy Foster (B) J.C. Foster (C) Kendra Beyeler (D)		
<u>Nursery Attendants</u>			
<b>8:30 Crib &amp; Toddler:</b>	<u>Today</u> Diane VanFossen, Cheryl Moffett	<u>Dec. 4th</u> Pinky Palmer, Greg Palmer	
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Donna Houff	Donna Houff	
<b>11:00 Crib &amp; Toddler:</b>	Becky Williams, Cindy Corell	Angela Quickel, Abby Quickel	
<u>Weekly Schedule</u>			
Date	Time	Event	Location
Today	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Worship Exploration	Room 108
Today	8:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
Today	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	
Today	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
Today	6:00 p.m.	Grace Bells	Choir Room
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Young Adults	Kitchenette
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Scout Den Meetings	Rooms 122, 124
Tuesday	9:15 a.m.	Staff Meeting	Kitchenette
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Zumba Class	Spring Hall
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Wonderful Wednesdays Youth	Youth Rooms
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Wonderful Wednesdays	
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Christian Education Meeting	Kitchenette
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Men’s Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
<u>Prayer List</u>			
<u>Health Concerns</u>			
Ethan Blevins	Addison Bower	Don Campbell	Kathryn Campbell
Qavah Campbell	Betty Jane Clouser	Brenda Coffey	Troy Coleman
Vicky Conyers	Elvira Crummett	Mark Diehl	Jan Deitz
Lyle Fangman	John Filler*	Martha Forbes	Ariel Gandy
Jack Groome	Lowell Harold	Janis Hepler	Justin Johnson
John Keys	Barb Kiser	Haley Kudro	JoAnne Lam
Frank Law	Goldie Lockridge	Wendy McCoy	Michael Meoni, Jr
Carol Mills	Harrison Moyers	Phyllis Myrtle	Landon Payne
Terry Puffenbarger	Virginia Roscoe	Libby Shephard	Angie Smithkin
Virginia Snead	Frankie Sours	Bertha Terrell	Betty Young
Nelson Sutton	David Webster	Claire Williams	Linda Young
<u>In Special Care</u>			
Jackie Batson	Vera Brown	Lorraine Caldwell	Joe Cappel
Janet Weaver	Laura Weaver	Irene Wiseman	Otis Fisher
<u>Special Concerns</u>			
Gwen Carr	Ryan Chandler	Derick Coffey	Laura Collmus
John Craft	Morgan Gardner	Luke Lockridge	Logan Ridley
Jeff Sensabaugh	Ben Sprouse	Kenny Wolfe	Doug Wolfe
<u>Bereavement</u>			
*New to Prayer List			
The family of Kathryn Rose*			
If you have a concern or joy to share with the congregation, <b>Please drop a written note in the basket on the pulpit prior to worship.</b>			