



# HARVEST Presbyterian Church

*First Sunday of Advent*  
December 2, 2018

**A Service of Worship**

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*Beginning with the Sunday nearest November 30 and ending on the day before Christmas, the season of Advent is observed for the four Sundays prior to Christmas. This is a season in which the Church, rejoicing in Christ's first coming, eagerly looks forward to Christ's coming again. It is also common for Advent to be observed, in addition to the regular corporate worship services of the Church, through a special service of Lessons & Carols, often on Christmas Eve.*



Why did Jesus come? What was his life and ministry all about? And further, what are the areas of our lives today that need to be exposed to and engaged in Jesus' ongoing mission in the world?

During our observance of Advent this year, we will allow the book of Isaiah to guide us, paying particular attention to the theme of why the Messiah would come. Written about 600 years before Jesus' birth, these prophecies gives us a window into the eternal purposes of God, as well as the longings of God's people.

*What is THE MESSIAH'S MISSION & how do we fit in to it?*



*There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.*

(Isaiah 11.1-5)

*In him, his happy subjects enjoy a peace which passeth all  
understanding such as the world can neither give nor take away.*  
(John Newton)

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
*Corporate Worship*

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The Invocation

Joining the Chorus

*from Ephesians 1 & Revelation 11*

God raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

**And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.**

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying,

**“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”**

And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying,

**“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.”**

Beloved, let us join the saints and angels and worship God together.

O Come, All Ye Faithful, no. 208

Once In Royal David's City, no. 225

## **Covenant Baptism**

*John Bennett Michael Smithson & Luke Sweetin*

*Vows for the Parents:*

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

*Vow for the Congregation:*

Do you as a congregation receive Bennett Smithson & Luke Sweetin as non-communing members of this church, and promise to surround them with Christian love, to pray for them, and to set an example before them of genuine Christian faith and virtue, that they might know rich fellowship in the kingdom of God and the reality of personal salvation through Christ?

*(vows taken from The Book of Church Order  
of the Presbyterian Church in America)*

**The New Testament Reading**

*Luke 1.5-25*

**The Pastoral Prayer**

Tom Phillips, elder

**The Offering**

**The Hymn of Preparation**

**Jesus Shall Reign, no. 441**

Isaiah 9.6-7

- <sup>6</sup> 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.
- <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**



Now in putting everything in subjection to Christ, God left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The Lord's Supper

The Parting Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus, no. 170

The Benediction

*from Colossians 1*

*God our Father has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. May you be strengthened, therefore, with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Amen.*

## Announcements & Reminders

### **Talent Show & Art Exhibit – TONIGHT**

The talent portion of the show will start at 5pm with art exhibited over the course of the evening. A potluck meal will follow the entertainment, as well as a raffle for a few of the art pieces. Please bring a dish to share. You will want to be here!

### **Ladies Christmas Dinner – THIS Thursday**

Our annual Christmas Dinner Party will be held this Thursday, December 6, beginning at 6:30pm. The Party is for Harvest Church women attendees, their daughters and nursing babies. There will be a catered meal & Chinese gift exchange. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a gift for yourself and each of your daughters. Gift cost should be limited to \$10 each. (There will be *NO* nursery provided.) RSVP to Mary Turner at [mpmturner3@yahoo.com](mailto:mpmturner3@yahoo.com) or 757.531.5763.

### **Holiday Schedule**

Please note our *Service of Lessons & Carols on Christmas Eve*, beginning at 5pm with a meal to follow. Please arrive no later than 4:45 so that you may get your food dropped off and enter the sanctuary to enjoy the musical prelude. Also note that there will be *no Sunday School* the last Sunday in December.

### **Our Deployed Personnel & Their Families**

**Chip & Laura Raybon** (Chloe, Samuel & Gabriel)

**Wes & Tammy Scholtz** (Elijah & Jude)

**Chris & Aubrey Maldonado**

**Billy & Kristin Gunther**

**Jono & Joy Thomsen**

### **Nursery Reminders**

**Dec 2 – SS:** Teresa Smith, Tori Wells & Joy Davis

*Worship Infant:* Amanda Y., Aubrey M. & Abby Z.

*Worship Toddler:* Drew & Heather C., Ruth A. & Kaylee D.

**Dec 9 – SS:** John & Rebekah Magill & David James

*Worship Infant:* Hannah Harger, Cindy & Matthew James

*Worship Toddler:* Kirsten B., Lindsey O., Bridget & Sophia D.

# HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- PCA -

*harvestpres.com*

910.353.9888

Meeting at: 900 Piney Green Rd

Mail to: P.O. Box 12243

Jacksonville, NC 28546

*Harvest Presbyterian Church*

*exists by the providence and grace of God*

*to develop and equip God's people for their calling*

*to glorify and enjoy him in all of life through*

*worship, nurture & service.*

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