
Join us for Lessons and Carols

Welcome. We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us today. Please feel free to pick up a blue informational folder outside the entrances to the sanctuary to learn more about our church. Also, please fill out a visitor card in the pew racks and place in the offering plate so we can have a record of your visit.

A Word About Our Worship Service. Greeting and Announcements: Before the service of worship begins, the congregation is made aware of opportunities to serve the church or to receive ministry. Special aspects of the worship service may be highlighted in order to help worshippers better understand why we do what we do in worship.

Sunday Nights @ First. Join us tonight at 6 PM for Lessons and Carols.

Denominational Offering. Each year at Thanksgiving time the ARP Church collects a special offering to support some of the ministries of our denomination. Today is the deadline for this offering.

Christmas Poinsettias. You may find order forms and envelopes at each narthex entrance. Your memorial and/or honorarium poinsettias will be placed in the church in early December. The last Sunday for returning this form is TODAY, December 4. Please put the order form and \$8 per plant in the envelope provided and place in the offering plate.

Lessons and Carols. Join us tonight for Lessons and Carols event. This event is one to mark, invite your friends to it and dig out your festive wear (plaid pants and sweaters!). The service will be the read Word of God and the best of sacred Christmas music. There will be readings from the Bible that show God's wonderful plan of redemption (the Lessons) and wonderful selections of Christmas songs (the Carols). This will be a wonderful event to involve the whole body and to get our minds centered on the Christ of Christmas! There will be a reception following. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall to bring a finger food treat: *Vegetable, Fruit, Salty, or Sweet!* Contact Fran Haynes if you have any questions.

Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon will be Tuesday December 6 at 11:45. Turkey, dressing and gravy will be furnished. Please bring vegetables, fruits, salads and desserts. Tim and Lynn Robinson will present the program.

Annual Business Meeting. The Session has called the annual business meeting of the congregation for Sunday, December 11, 2016 after worship. The purpose of the meeting is to adopt the 2017 Budget and hold elections for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Congregational Chair and Treasurer. Copies of the budget and the final ballot for officers will be distributed prior to the meeting by mail.

Christmas Caroling. On Sunday, December 18, we will be taking our evening service out and about as we go caroling to our homebound members. We will leave our parking lot at 6 PM sharp to make our rounds and then return for cookies and hot drinks in the Fellowship Hall. Just as our recent visits and basket deliveries were a blessing, we hope this will be an important touch to our fellow members who are unable to attend worship with us each Sunday.

Christmas Eve. Make plans to join us on December 24 at 5 PM for our Christmas Eve service. The Lord's Supper will be served.

Christmas Day. Join us for worship at 11 AM. We will not have Sunday School or Sunday Evening Service.

Ministry Information

Nursery: Today: Carol Erb and Jimmy Smith
Next Week: Fran Haynes and Macon Baird

Counter: Today: John Robinson
Next Week: Glenn Owens

Deacon on Duty: Today: Stephen Robinson
Next Week: Glenn Owens

Last Week's Tithes and Offerings:

General Fund:	\$3,224.25
Fall Denominational Offering:	\$1,030.00
Poinsettias:	\$ 132.00

Pastor: Rev. Bryan P. Crotts
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“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”
Genesis 1:28

**The Lord's Day
December 4, 2016**

Order of Worship

11:00 AM

Greeting of the Saints *The Congregation & Visitors*

Prelude *Ed Limon*
Lo, How A Rose E're Blooming

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary for Silent Prayer

Votum Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Salutation Revelation 1:4-5

Call to Worship* Psalm 135

Hymn of Adoration*
#145 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation* The Word Made Flesh

We confess the mystery and wonder of God made flesh
and rejoice in our great salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.
With the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son created all things,
sustains all things, and makes all things new. Truly God,
He became truly man, two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary and lived among us.
Crucified, dead, and buried, He rose on the third day,
ascended to heaven, and will come again in glory and judgment.

For us, He kept the Law, atoned for sin, and satisfied God's wrath.
He took our filthy rags and gave us His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King, building His church,
interceding for us, and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord; we praise His holy Name forever.

Amen.

Song of Praise*
#72 We Will Glorify

Corporate Confession of Sin
*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from
my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever
before me. Against you, you only have I sinned and done what
is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in
iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you
delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom
in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and
gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. Hide your
face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a
clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. In the
name of Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, I pray. Amen.*

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Scriptural Assurance of Pardon Luke 1:68-69
Matthew 1:21

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed
his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us. You shall
call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Hymn of Redemption*
#155 Once in Royal David's City

Reading of the Old Testament Psalms 127 & 128

Pastoral Prayer and 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, 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.*

The Lord's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory/Anthem *Adult Choir*
Antiphonal Praise

Hymn of Praise*
#625 Doxology

Reading of the Old Testament Genesis 1:26-28 and 2:15-25

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of God's Word *Pastor Bryan Crotts*
Lessons for Advent: Be Fruitful and Multiply

Prayer to Seal God's Word

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Hymn of Advent
#163 As With Gladness Men of Old

Benediction*

Postlude *Ed Limon*

The **Lord's Supper** will be administered today as part of our
morning worship service. The Lord's Supper is for those who have
been baptized in the Name of the Triune God, have publicly
professed their faith in Christ, and are members of an evangelical
church. Children who have not yet made a profession of faith and
united with the church should refrain from taking the elements.

Sermon Notes

* Please stand if you are able