

Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are a first time visitor please see one of our greeters or usher to receive a gift from us. Also, please fill out a visitors form located in the back of the pew.

Welcome

Happy Birthday!
December 6—Stuart West
December 9—Leigh Norton
December 10—Elizabeth Turnipseed



There will be a PPRC meeting on Monday, December 5th at 6:00 pm.

We will be having our Christmas Party for Jesus on Sunday, December 18th at 5:00pm. We need all the names of the children who will be attending the party along with their age. Please drop this form into the offering plate. Thanks!

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Please bring finger foods and let Melissa McNeill know what you will be bringing for the party. Thanks!

HANGING OF THE GREENS

December 4, 2016

Liturgical Color: Blue

Leader: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through him might be saved.

All: Glory to God in the highest!

GOD WILL SEND A RIGHTEOUS KING **Jeremiah 23:5 6**

*In ancient times the cedar was revered as the tree of royalty.
It also signified immortality and was used for purification.
We place this cedar branch as a sign of Christ,
who reigns as King for ever,
and whose coming, in justice and righteousness, will purify our hearts.*

Hymn "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" No. 196

THE PROPHET DECLARES A CHILD WILL BE BORN **Isaiah 9:2, 6 7**

*Because the needles of pine and fir trees appear not to die each season,
the ancients saw them as signs of things that last for ever.
Isaiah tells us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah.
Therefore, we hang this wreath of evergreens shaped in a circle,
which itself has no end,
to signify the eternal reign of Jesus, the Christ.*

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: No. 211
Verses 5,6, & 7

THE FOURTH SERVANT SONG **Isaiah 53:1 6**

*For Christians, this passage from Isaiah reflects the sufferings of Jesus,
who saved us from our sins by his death on the cross,
and by his resurrection from the dead.
In ancient times,
holly and ivy were considered signs of Christ's passion.
Their prickly leaves suggested the crown of thorns,
the red berries the blood of the Savior,
and the bitter bark the drink offered to Jesus on the cross.
As we hang the holly and ivy,
let us rejoice in the coming of Jesus, our Savior.*

Hymn: "Who Is He in Yonder Stall?" No. 190
Verses 1, 3, & 5

HANGING OF THE GREENS

December 4, 2016

THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION ***John 1:1 5, 9 14**

*As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World,
we light the Christmon tree.
During this Advent, wherever you see a lighted Christmas tree,
let it call to mind the One who brings light to our darkness,
healing to our brokenness, and peace to all who receive him.*

The tree is now lighted, and the Blessing of the Chrismon Tree may be prayed.

BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE-260

*Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son,
who rescued us from the darkness of sin
by making the cross a tree of life and light.
May this tree, arrayed in splendor,
remind us of the life giving cross of Christ,
that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(BOOK OF BLESSINGS, U.S.A., 20TH CENT.)

.BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again.
Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love,
That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin,
That this wreath may constantly remind us
to prepare for the coming of Christ,
That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy
as we strive to follow the example of Jesus,

**All: Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior,
who enlightens our hearts
and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.
Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath.
May their light reflect the splendor of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.**

(BOOK OF BLESSINGS, U.S.A., 20TH CENT.)