

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT JOURNEY OF HOPE

December 24, 2017 - 10:30 AM

Please turn off all communication devices. Hearing Assistance Devices and Large Print Bibles are available; please ask an Usher. Children's Bulletins and "Quiet Bags" are available at the Welcome Table.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – The Candle of LOVE

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14 (ESV)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Arr. by David Lanz

Please take this time to quietly meditate on the following Scripture passage as you prepare your heart to worship the Lord.

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14 (ESV)

INTROIT

One Small Child

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 42; Psalm 130:7 (selected ESV)

As God's Word calls us to worship, let's shout these words to one another recognizing that our worship is a response to God's gracious call.

Pastor: As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.

People: **My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?**

Pastor: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

People: **Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.**

Pastor: By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

ALL: **O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.**

*SONG OF PRAISE

Who Is This, So Weak And Helpless

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

*SONG OF PRAISE

Prince Of Heaven

CHILDREN'S SERMON

The Promise Fulfilled

*HYMN OF PRAISE #162 (stanzas 1-2, 4-5) *Of The Father's Love Begotten*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

After the public confession below, you are encouraged to confess your sins silently to God.

Our Father in heaven, we thank You that You have led us into the light. We thank You for sending the Savior to call us from death to life. We confess that we were dead in sin before we heard His call, but when we heard Him, like Lazarus, we arose. But, O Father, the grave clothes bind us still: old habits that we cannot throw off, old customs that are so much a part of our lives that we are helpless to live the new life that Christ calls us to live. Give us strength, O Father, to break the bonds; give us courage to live a new life in You; give us faith to believe that with Your help we cannot fail. All this we ask in the name of our Savior who has taught us to come to You.

**The congregation stands.*

COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF THE GOSPEL

Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Philippians 4:7 (ESV)

Please take this opportunity to greet those around you, offering them the right hand of fellowship and the peace which is only found in Christ.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

[Pray] at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.

WORSHIPPING THE LORD WITH HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Please take a moment to sign our "Fellowship Pad" and pass it along to those worshipping with you. Thank you! The offering is a vital part of our response to God and God's Word. It helps us connect our adoration for God with our life of discipleship.

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper.

1 Corinthians 16:2 (ESV)

OFFERTORY

Journey To Our Hearts

SCRIPTURE READING (page 983 in pew Bible)

Colossians 1:2-5, 25-27

SERMON

"Christ, Our Hope"

Rev. David Stain

Pastor, Spring Hills Presbyterian Church

***CLOSING HYMN #214**

Angels We Have Heard On High

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Ding Dong Merrily On High

Arr. by Marilyn Thompson

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE TONIGHT!

4:30 PM

PLEASE INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

Spring Hills Presbyterian Church is committed to:

CHANGED HEARTS through the power of the Gospel of Grace,

CHANGED LIVES through Biblical preaching, teaching, fellowship and discipleship, and a

CHANGED COMMUNITY, where the community is so impacted by the Gospel that it becomes predominately Christian and committed to the worship and service of our Triune God.