

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

The Morning Worship

December 17, 1989

11:00 A.M.

THE PERIOD OF PREPARATION (the first order after we are seated) Be thoughtful, be reverent, for this is the house of God. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

The Prelude..."We Three Kings of Orient Are"..... Hopkins

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

\*The Hymn of Praise No. 163..... "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

\*The Invocation and Lord's Prayer

\*The Apostles' Creed (p. 12 of Hymnal)

\*The Gloria Patri

THE GREETING AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Hymn No. 152.... "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

The Time of Silence and Prayer

The Children's Sermon

The Offertory.."Preparation for the King"..... Corelli  
(from "Concerto Grosso, Op. 6, No. 1)

\*The Doxology

THE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Scripture Lesson..... Luke 1:26-38

The Sermon

\*The Hymn No. 155....."There's a Song in the Air!"

The Benediction and Choral Amen

The Postlude..."Sing to the Lord on High!"..... Livingston

\*Please Stand

+ + +

Welcome to Philadelphia! We are delighted to have you worshiping with us today as we continue to celebrate the Advent of Christ.

It is customary in some churches to "open the doors of the church" or to issue a call at the end of the service. This practice is not observed in the Presbyterian Church because our doors are always open. There is a standing invitation to all who accept Christ as their personal Savior to speak to the minister or one of the elders about church membership.

You may unite with this church by profession of faith in Jesus Christ, transfer of letter, or reaffirmation of your original profession.

Please remember to pass the Ritual of Friendship pad down your pew and back to the center aisle. This will enable us to greet one another by name, especially our visitors, following the worship service.

TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS:

Margaret Brown (friend of Westlunds)

Pam Brown (friend of Westlunds)

Mimi Stevenson (friend of Kathy Vandiver)

Our Shut-Ins:

Elinor Allwine

Clyde Cramer

Jean Elliott

Virginia Keller

Looney Lasseter

Lynn Orr

Ross & Leona Jenkins

Dot Warden

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1989

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1989

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Fabie and Willis Lasseter on their 50th wedding anniversary December 23!

**THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK**

Today 2:30 p.m. - PLOT members will meet at the church to go caroling and will return to light the luminarias and hear the Christmas Cantata.  
7:00 p.m. - **CHRISTMAS CANTATA AND RECEPTION FOR CHOIR**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship breakfast at Butch's Restaurant in Jonesboro

Thursday 10:00 a.m. - PLOT - **SENIOR HIGHS ONLY** will meet for a Christmas Outing and will return to the church around 3:00 p.m. They will need money for lunch.  
6:00 p.m. - PLOT - JUNIOR HIGH Christmas Outing - A trip to Stone Mountain Christmas and Laser Show.  
6:30 p.m. - Mary and Martha Circle will meet at the home of Joan and Wendell Cushing - covered-dish - husbands invited.

Next Sunday 7:00 p.m. - **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE**  
No PLOT Christmas Eve.

**ABOUT THE POINSETTIA** - The poinsettia is as closely associated with Christmas as the lily is with Easter. This beautiful plant was named for Joel Poinsett from South Carolina, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico over a century ago. But how did this Flor do la Noche Buena - Flower of the Holy Night - come to Mexico? The legend is that on Christmas Eve it was the custom to offer gifts to the Christ Child in remembrance of the three Wise Men who came seeking the one born King of the Jews, and when they found the infant Jesus, they presented Him their gifts. A poor young girl had no means with which to buy a present so she plucked some roadside weeds and laid them on the altar with her love. So pure and fervent was her faith that the dry brown weeds were miraculously transformed into gorgeous red and green foliage. So it has ever been, that even the most humble gift, if presented with love and sincerity, becomes a priceless treasure. Franciscan priests in the 17th century were the first to use the poinsettia to brighten a Christmas procession.

Offering envelopes for 1990 are in the narthex. If you do not see a set for your family and would like to use envelopes in the coming year, please notify the church office.

"'Thanks' to the large group of helpers who came to Work Day on December 9. The church and its grounds were greatly improved by your efforts."  
- The Property Committee