

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC (USA)

Rev. Jack Westlund, Pastor

Pastor Westlund's Email: westlund.jack@gmail.com – Church Office: 404-366-1851

Cindy Adair, Church Secretary: 404-366-1851; Prayer Requests & E-mail: secyppc@bellsouth.net

Weekday Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:00am - 2:30pm; Website: www.ppc-usa.org

December 20, 2020

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

404-366-1851

CHURCH STAFF

Verena Anders, Choir Director/Accompanist
Emory Pearce, Treasurer

Mary "Pat" Smith, Sunday School Superintendent
Diane Banke, Church Genealogy/Historian 706-636-3259

SESSION COMMITTEES

Administrative

Rick Pierce '20, Admin. Chair

Finance & Stewardship

Rose Enow '20, Finance Co-Chair
Rick Pierce '20, Finance Co-Chair

OutReach Team

Mary Smith '22, Outreach Chair

Property Management/Memory Garden

Fred Rohrbach, Property Co-Chair
Jim Phillips, Property Co-Chair

Worship & Music Committee

Greg Durden '19, W&M Co-Chair
Debbie Durden, W&M Co-Chair

Clerk's Committee

Jennifer Rohrbach '22, Clerk's Comm. Chair

Christian Education & Fellowship

Serena Staats '20, CE&F Chair

OTHER COMMITTEES

Officers of the Corporation

Greg Durden, Chair
Eliot Lawrence, Corp. Treasurer
Rick Pierce, Corp. Secretary

Funeral Stewards

Fred Rohrbach, Chair

Cemetery Committee

Jim Phillips, Chair

Bereavement Committee

Barbara Barlow, Chair

PPC Men's Fellowship

Jim Phillips, Chair

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Debbie Bray, Moderator
Nancy Phillips, Secretary/Treasurer
Pat Randolph, Historian
Connie McWilliams, Community Missions
Kathie Pierce, Worldwide Missions

Debbie Durden, Search
Connie McWilliams, Spiritual Growth, Poinsettias
Debbie Durden, Spiritual Growth, Advent
Connie McWilliams, Cantata Reception
Jennifer Rohrbach, Spiritual Growth, PW Retreat

Frances Youngblood, Busy Bees Chair
Joyce Smith, Circle One Chair
Kathy Banke, Mary & Martha Chair
Pat Randolph, Yearbook

MISSION OUTREACH

Calvary Refuge Center*
Child's Fund (PW)*
Christmas Joy Offering***
Columbia Friendship Circle (PW)**
Good Shepherd Clinic*
Kinship Care Resource Center**
Local Benevolences (Pastor's Discretion)*

Mission Haven (PW)***
One Great Hour of Sharing (Easter)***
Presbyterian Homes***
PW Birthday Objective**
PW Blessing Boxes**
PW Least Coin**
PW Presbyterian Mission Pledge*

Forest Park Ministers Association*
Securus House (PW)***
Session & PW Misc. Benevolences*
Shared Mission - PC (USA)*
Souper Bowl of Caring**
The Gideons International**
Thank Offering (PW)*
Thornwell***

*Budgeted **Contributions from the Congregation

***Budgeted + Contributions from the Congregation



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS: *For the benefit of the congregation, please try to give announcements to Cindy before Wednesday. When that doesn't work, please write them down for the Pulpit Assistant or come to a microphone to speak. Your consideration is appreciated.*

Welcome

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

Eleven O'clock in the Morning

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship

Greg Durden, Liturgist

Leader: Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.

**People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be upon his shoulders.**

Leader: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God
Everlasting Father, Prince of peace.

**ALL: Glory to God in the highest heaven,
And on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Announcement

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning. In him was life, and that life was the light of all people.
The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

The Lighting of the Candle (three purple candles, one rose candle)

The Question

Why do we light four candles?

The Meaning

This is the fourth Sunday of Advent.

Each year on the four Sundays preceding our celebration of Christmas Day we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Savior.

We light the first candle, the *Candle of Prophecy*, to remember the prophet's promise of Christ's coming to be the savior of the world.

We light the second candle, the *Candle of Bethlehem*, to remember the dark night when Joseph and Mary found light and warmth in the stable.

We light the third candle, the *Shepherd's candle* to remember the great light and joy which surrounded the shepherds at the announcement of Jesus' birth.

We light the fourth candle, the *Angel's candle* to remember the glorious announcement that an angel of the Lord made to the shepherds of the Messiah's birth.

The fourth candle is **rose** signifying the Messiah's suffering for the sins of the world.

The Advent Scripture Luke 2: 1-7

The Advent Prayer

God of all wisdom, our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love, and our minds search for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and strengthen us to grow in love, that at the dawn of his coming we may rejoice in his presence and welcome the light of his truth. This we ask in his holy name. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61: 1-4

The Sacred Music

The New Testament Reading Matthew 1: 18-25

The Sermon "No Story, Like the Christmas Story" Rev. Jack Westlund

The Affirmation of Faith

from Luke 1: 68-75

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us, to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

The Pastoral Prayer and the 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;
and 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 Benediction

The Postlude

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, December 20, 2020

WELCOME! We are so thankful you chose to worship with us. We hope your worship today will be meaningful. We encourage you to participate in all aspects of our congregational life, and invite you to become part of our Christian family. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join with us.

MEMBERSHIP – Please speak with an Elder or the Pastor if you would like to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior or if you would like to become a member of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church.

THIS WEEK AT PHILADELPHIA

TODAY 11:00am – In Person **Worship Service** and Livestream thru Facebook
TONIGHT 06:00pm – Virtual **Christmas Cantata** thru Facebook
Thursday 07:00pm – In Person **Christmas Eve Service**

We are thankful for all who are reaching out to each other in prayer and encouragement. We would also like to thank our Philadelphia family who are being faithful to continue to give your tithes and offerings to the church during this difficult time. If you are still unable to attend, you may mail your gifts to the Church at 351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, GA 30297. You may also place your offering in the locked mailbox outside of the Fellowship Hall.

TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS (new info in bold)
Please notify us concerning new info and updates. Inquiring minds – and prayerful hearts – want to know!

12/15 Botsford family (Randolph's friends) – Grandfather was killed in house fire

- 11/11 David Hatch – back in Worship now, still recuperating
- 11/22 Ethel Lynn & Wade Keeton—recovering from COVID-19
- 11/01 Paul Kress (Rick Pierce's nephew) – recovering from COVID-19 and pneumonia
- 11/01 Mike Kress (Rick Pierce's nephew) - recovering from COVID-19
- 11/11 David Lamon (Mary Smith's nephew) – prostate cancer
- 12/16 Richard Phillips (Jim's brother) liver cancer-chemo & surgery**
- 11/11 Lucie Stanton (Cathy Morris' sister) – recovering from COVID-19, special needs

OUR HOMEBOUND: *Please refer to the Church Directory for contact information*

Marie Foster Patty Boone Becky Huie Ann NeSmith

Prayer Request: Call 404-366-1851, Email secyppc@bellsouth.net or call a Session member or Shepherd.



2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

During the month of December, your 2021 offering envelopes will be available in the narthex.

Protocol adjustments for congregation and visitors for the time being:

1. No ushers - Fred will be at the back door and will provide guidance/info
2. Bulletins will be placed on a table in the Narthex for individuals to pick up
3. Masks will be REQUIRED and are to be worn throughout the service.
4. Hand sanitizer will be available on the pews that seating is allowed.
5. Doors will be open whenever/wherever possible
6. There will be NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING during service.
7. Offertory plates will be in the Narthex. Members can place their tithes there.
8. Please sit with whomever you come with.
9. We encourage you to greet one another but please do not hug, etc.
10. If you don't feel well, please don't come to church.

Secur'us House



Once again this year, we have the opportunity to serve the community thru Secur'us House. SECUR'US HOUSE is Clayton County's refuge for abused women and their children.

Each Christmas we ask everyone, who's able, to bring a gift for the children. The children range in age from babies to 17. Do not wrap them so Securus can direct their distribution.

Some suggested gift items are: toys, games, cars, trucks, baby dolls, puzzles, crayons & coloring books, all kinds of children's books.

We will also be collecting some of their needed supplies. You may bring your donations in right away. Place them in the collection bin in the narthex. If you are not attending worship in the sanctuary but still wish to donate, please bring your gifts by the church on Tuesdays or Wednesdays while Cindy is in the office or contact Connie McWilliams to meet you and let you in the church.

PLEASE NOTE: *You may make monetary donations. Make your checks payable to Philadelphia Presbyterian and mark for Securus House. Place them in the offering plate or mail to the church office. All donations and gifts must be received by TODAY, Sunday, December 20.*

Connie McWilliams, Community Missions



Christmas at Philadelphia 2020



Even though the pandemic has kept us from celebrating together as much as we do each year during Advent, we do plan to have a **Virtual Christmas Cantata THIS EVENING, December 20th, at 6:00pm.** Look for it on Facebook.

We are also planning to have a **Christmas Eve service on December 24th, at 7:00pm.** The protocol adjustments listed in this bulletin will be followed so that everyone can safely social distance.