



Morning Worship

The Lord's Day, December 20, 2020

During the prelude, please prepare your heart to worship our gracious, Almighty God together.

Meditation

"HARK THE HERALD ANGELS"

"Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Prelude

OLIVER DAWSON, PIANIST

"Christmas Bells"

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship *

ISAIAH 11:1-6

Leader: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

People: And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Leader: And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

People: But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

Leader: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;

People: And a little child shall lead them.

Hymn of Praise * "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" N^o. 194

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height, in ancient times didst give the law In cloud and majesty and awe. [Refrain]

3 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave. [Refrain]

4 O come, thou Dayspring from on high and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]

5 O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. [Refrain]

Invocation *

Hymn of Praise * "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" N^o. 221

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung. It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright she bore to men a Savior when half-spent was the night.

3 The shepherds heard the story, proclaimed by angels bright, how Christ, the Lord of glory, was born on earth this night. To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found him, as angel heralds said.

4 This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere. True man, yet very God; from sin and death He saves us and lightens every load.

5 O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe; O Savior, King of glory, who dost our weakness know, bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven and to the endless day.

Christmas Litany

BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Alleluia!

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

Leader: O Christ, splendor of God's eternal glory, the mighty Word,
sustaining the universe: renew our lives by your presence.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time for the
liberation of all creation: release all into your promised
freedom.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a
stable at Bethlehem: may your church be a sign of hope and
joy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in
fulfillment of their expectations: fulfill our desires in you.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, child of wonder and
splendor, mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace: may the
whole world live in peace and justice.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into
our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Teach us
to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and
reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God,
forever and ever.

People: Amen.

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.*

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music

LAKEN CURTIS, TROMBONIST

"Do You Hear What I Hear"

Dismiss Children For Children's Church (3 & 4 year olds)

Reading of Holy Scripture

JOHN 1:14-18(NIV)

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have
seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the
Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I
spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me
because he was before me.'") ¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received
grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through
Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever
seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in
closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Sermon

DR. JOHN K. DAWSON

"We Need Jesus"

Hymn of Praise * "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" N^o. 200

1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious
King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

2 Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings
unfurled, and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world:
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

3 And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

4 For lo! the days are hast'ning on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Offertory Prayer

Gloria Patri *

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen, amen.*

Benediction

* Congregation Standing

Sermon Notes

John 1:14-18

“We Need Jesus”

I. The Presence of God to Us

II. The Pardon from God to Us

III. The Knowledge of God for Us

Announcements

Christmas Special Offering: During the worship service today we will take a special offering for the PCA Ministerial Relief Ministry called look/after. Its purpose is to look after retired pastors, widows, and other PCA church servants.

Christmas Eve: The Session, with a heavy heart, has decided it is best not to hold the Candlelight Service this year.

Sunday School: There will be no Sunday School on Dec 27th.

Office Closed: The church office will be closed Dec 24-29.

Communion: Please prepare your hearts to receive the Lord's Supper on Jan 3rd.

2020 Giving: 2020 has been a very challenging year for many reasons but your heart for giving has shone through. Thank you for your faithful support of our Church with your tithes and offerings and I encourage you to continue using any giving method you prefer. For online giving, simply go to the website below. It's a website that the Presbyterian Church in America's Foundation has set up for us: <https://secure.egsnetwork.com/donate/CAA2067B89F8403>

It is best if you choose ACH (electronic bank transfer) rather than using a credit card because BPC is not currently charged a fee for ACH. If you are not comfortable with the online giving then you can continue to bring or mail your tithes to the church.

I'd also like to remind the congregation that any contributions you would like to have credited to your 2020 giving statement must be postmarked or delivered to the church before Jan 1st. If you have any questions please contact me via email: luther@brandonpres.com or (601) 209-0231.

2021 Offering Envelopes: Offering Envelopes are in the breezeway.

Flowers: 2021 calendar is on the bulletin board downstairs. If you have a date you prefer please sign up early to reserve that date.

ATTENDANCE & FINANCIAL UPDATES

Worship Service (10:00): Dec 13	78
Live Views	29
Total Online Views	59
Sunday School	63
Last Week's Offering:	\$ 5,225.00
Weekly Budgeted Offering:	\$ 7,194.00
Year-to-Date Giving:	\$ 321,199.00
Year-to-Date Budgeted Giving	\$ 359,700.00 (-\$38,501)

Brandon Presbyterian Church

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Phone: (601) 825-5259 Email: secretary@brandonpres.com

www.brandonpres.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 AM — 12:30 PM

IN PRAYER

- **MTW Missionary of the Month:** Michael and Mary Lott (SE Asia)
- **Ministry of the Month:** Palmer Home
- **Shepherding Group of the Week:** Nat Whitten, Luther Stowers, Eric Napier
- **Child(ren) of the Week:** Sara Scott and Steele Stanford
- **College Student of the Week:** Rebecca Groebe
- God would bless us with new **conversions, visitors, families, & members.**



- **Ken Bramlett:** still having pain in his legs and trouble with his balance.
- **Cindy** (Julie Rogers' sister-in-law): had open heart surgery; remains in a coma due to the anesthesia; husband, Gary, is not allowed to see her due to COVID regulations; they live in WI.
- **Jennifer & Michael McDonald** (Julie Rogers' daughter & son-in-law): both have COVID; Michael has recovered; Jennifer is better but has not regained her sense of smell and taste.
- **Jean Beasley** (Jeanne Monsour's neighbor): moved to Select Specialty Hospital where no visitation; still requiring a lot of medicines for seizures.
- **Cheryl Marbury** (Jeanne Monsour's sister-in-law): thankful to be making progress from her back surgery.
- **Bob Booth:** has ALS; receiving physical, occupational and respiratory therapies, as well as, home health.
- **Bill Glover:** still experiencing many problems due to Parkinson's; hopeful of seeing his doctor soon.
- **Julie Rogers:** Dr. says shoulder is looking good, started physical therapy; back at work. Thanks for the prayers and help.
- **Debbie Ford** (Beeg Ford's daughter-in-law): had heart surgery Dec 3rd.
- **Amy Kaiser:** Amy's mother passed away on Nov 24th.
- **Taylor** (Ken & Nancy Bramlett's grandson): back home, improving.
- **Jerry Moore:** please pray for him to regain strength and for his new medications to be effective.
- **Daisy Lucas** (Kathy & Jim Smith's niece): chronic liver disease; continues to improve; doctors have been able to further reduce her steroids and other medications; she is feeling much better.
- **Steve Pilgrim** (Charlie Moak's son-in-law): COVID-19; much improved but still weak.
- **Brandi Brock:** had gastric sleeve surgery on Nov 9th; hopes she can lose enough weight to be eligible for a kidney transplant.

Loved ones battling cancer:

- **Will Glover** (Marsha & Bill Glover's Son): cancer has reappeared on the brain stem; got a good report from his recent MRI; continuing avastin and will be evaluated again soon for physical therapy; will see his eye specialist, may have surgery to correct double vision problems soon.
- **Kala Richardson** (Kerri Matthews' friend): small cell lung cancer; metastasized to her liver; recently began treatment.
- **Robin Marbury Morris** (Jeanne Monsour's Niece): liver & colon cancer; continuing chemo but getting weaker.
- **Terry McGinty** (Kerri Matthews' Uncle): prostate cancer; has metastasized to the bone; much weaker, having difficulty walking; receiving treatment.
- **Gib Vredeveld** (Julie Rogers' Father): esophageal cancer; slowly getting worse, starting to have more bad days; sees the oncologist in January.
- **Sarah Parks Martin** (relative of Bob and Carol Booth & PCA pastor's wife): breast cancer; through with Chemo, doing well.
- **Jim Smith:** pancreatic cancer; next scan will be on Dec 15th; please pray for another stable scan.
- **Andrew Gerrard** (Jo Stanford's Nephew): Desmoplastic small round cell tumor (DSRCT); approved for clinical trial at MSK and 6 week treatment began on Nov 9th; Praise the Lord! Please pray for shrinkage of the tumors and successful management of the concerning fluid build up.
- **Anna Taylor** (wife of Jim Taylor, Pastor of The Pointe): cancer in her back; back at work; continuing chemo.
- **Andrew McCall** (Son of Rev. & Mrs. Perry McCall): acute leukemia.
- **Steven Bell** (Tiffany Glover's brother): liver/colon cancer; doing well.
- **Presbyterian pastors in MS fighting cancer:** Alan Stanton, Pinehaven in Clinton (brain tumor); Richard Owens, Westminster Pres, Greenwood (brain tumor); Jerry Long, Batesville Pres (kidney cancer).



- **Service members:** Glenn Stewart (S. Korea; Sam Heath's nephew); Isaac Jay (Army, Fort Polk; Elton & Sonia Jay's grandson); Jesse Thomas Dickey; Matthew Hellier (Japan); S.T. Heath; Joey Brown (Barbara Fowler's nephew)



- **Nursing home residents & shut-ins:** Dr. John Adams, Martha Baker, Joe Berryhill, Ken Bramlett, Evelyn Culpepper, Elsa Davis, Bob & Jody Nelson, Laverne Parks, Laverne Roberts



look/after

Care for Widows and Pastors in Need

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to **look after**..."

James 1:27

Support the Ministerial Relief Fund
pcarbi.org/lookafter

“

Words can never express our appreciation and gratitude for all you have done for us. **We would have literally been on the streets if it wasn't for the support you have given to us.** God bless you a hundredfold.

- WIDOW OF RETIRED PASTOR

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Ways to Donate:



Online
pcarbi.org/give



Your Church Offering:
Participate in your church offering.



Mail:
PCA Ministerial Relief
PO Box 896761
Charlotte, NC 28289-6761

look/after

We see you. We acknowledge the decades you've spent praying for and serving the church. We want to make sure you are properly honored and cared for through every season of ministry.

This season, PCA churches around the country will collect donations to look after widows, retired ministers, and PCA church servants in distress. These funds are administered through the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund to provide financial assistance and support to our faithful servants, many of whom live near or below the poverty line. Your gifts help pay for basic needs like groceries, housing, and medical expenses.

Help us look after those who have faithfully served Christ's church. Visit pcarbi.org/lookafter and give to this special offering for PCA Ministerial Relief.