

SECOND SUNDAY OF DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

DECEMBER 7, 2025

WELCOME

We welcome you to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church!
If you are worshipping with us for the first time, WELCOME.
If you are worshipping again, WELCOME BACK.
Worship is much more joyful when we add our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving. If you need anything, just ask one of the ushers or greeters. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon,
Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!

Again welcome...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the Community Announcements in the back section of the bulletin. Please note that all the congregation responses are printed in **Bold and Italics**.

We leave all that which might be a distraction from worship at the doors this day and we prepare our hearts for worship. Peace be with you. *Amen*.

PRELUDE

The Dark Before The Dawn

Peterson/CCLI #7050361

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. *Amen*.

We turn to the doors of the sanctuary.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.

We confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God, we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.

† you are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

H_{YMN}

Good, Good Father

Barrett/CCLI #7036612

Verse 1

I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think you're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
and You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone
You're a Good, Good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am

Verse 2

I've seen many searching for answers
Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers
Only You provide
Because You know just what we need
Before we say a word
You're a Good, Good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, It's who I am,
It's who I am

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Verse 3

Love so undeniable I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still, As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still, Into love, love, love
You're a Good, Good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *And also with you.*



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

ISAIAH 11:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear,
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy

on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of God preparing us for the light to come. *We wait.*

PSALM 72:1-7,18-19

We read responsively.

¹ Give the kings your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

² that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸ Blessed are you, Lord God, the God of Israel;

you alone do wondrous deeds!

¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

ROMANS 15:4-13

A reading from Romans.

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name";

¹⁰ and again he says,

"Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people";

11 and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

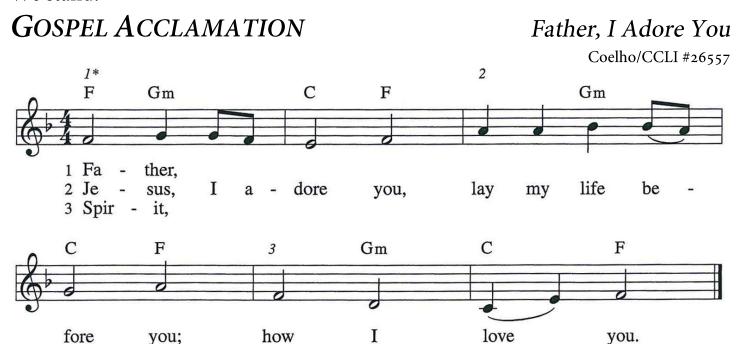
12 and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope."

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of God preparing us for the light to come. *We wait.*

We stand.



HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:8-10,12-14
The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

⁸Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to

them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, ^[c] praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

hope, peace

CHILDREN'S SERMON

angels

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Please pray with me the prayer of preparation.

Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.

SERMON angels

We stand.

H_{YMN}

It Came Upon Midnight Clear

Sears/CCLI #31078



- 1 It came up on the mid night clear, that glo rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un furled,
- 3 And you, be neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has-t'ning on, by proph-ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold: and still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world. who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow: when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gra-cious king."

A - bove its sad and low-ly plains they bend on hov-'ring wing, look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift - ly on the wing; when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



hear the an -The world in sol - emn still-ness lay sing. to gels o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an gels sing. be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels oh, rest sing! all the world give back the song which now the an and sing.

APOSTLE'S CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

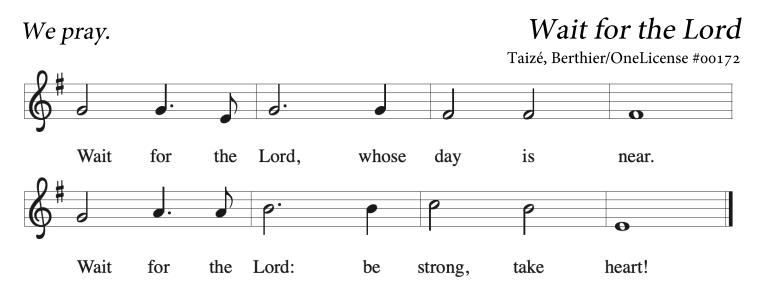
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.



Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. *Amen*.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

We sit.

OFFERING

We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may contribute any time by visiting www.WeAreMtHermon.org and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship. Friendship pads have returned to the pews. Please take a moment to sign the forms so that we may get to know our neighbors and we will also have a record of your communing.

OFFERING

Deliver Us

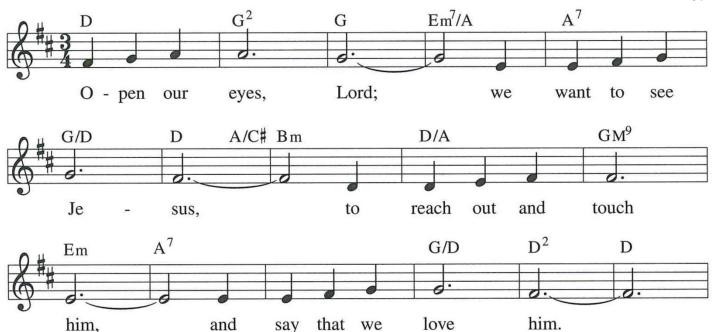
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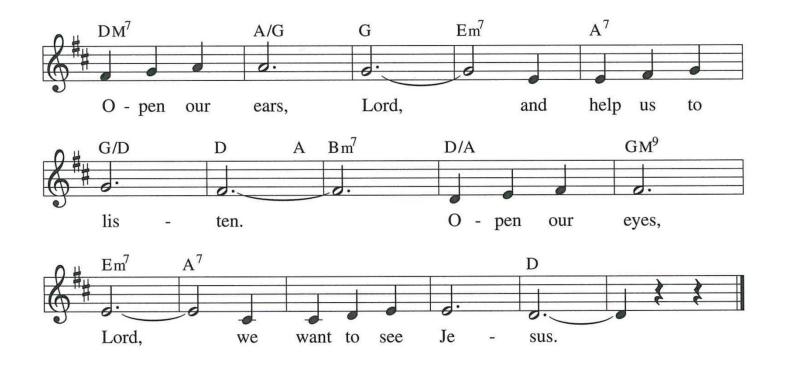
We stand.

OFFERTORY

Open Our Eyes, Lord

Cull/CCLI #1572





OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Nourishing God,

you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

THE MEAL

Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened the way to everlasting life.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life; Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for the promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

We proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. *Come, Lord Jesus.*

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. Make your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. *Come*, *Holy Spirit*.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. *Amen*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those

who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

We sit.

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

COMMUNION

Please come forward using the side aisles to receive communion. You will receive the bread and then you may dip in the first chalice of wine, or in the second challis of grape juice. You may then return to your pews using the center aisle. Please return to your pews for a time of quiet prayer and meditation. If this is the first Sunday of the month, we also offer communion at the rail. On this Sunday, you may continue through the side doors, and an usher will guide you to the altar to receive communion.

MUSIC Medley
Price

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. *Amen*.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray together.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. *Amen*.

Wesley/CCLI #31999

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set they people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thing own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.

SENDING

While I'm Waiting

Waller/CCLI#4926900

I'm waiting,
I'm waiting on You Lord, And I am hopeful,
I'm waiting on You Lord, Though it is painful,
But patiently I will wait
And I will move ahead bold and confident
Taking every step in obedience

While I'm waiting
I will serve You while I'm waiting
I will worship while I'm waiting
I will not faint I'll be running the race, even while I wait

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We follow the light of Christ into the world.

We are God's people on a mission.

We have gathered. We have been fed.

Now, we go out to make a difference in the world. Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesdays in Advent

Anticipation

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mitchell Stevens & Earl Sease's December 12th birthdays by Al, Laura, and Alyssa Stevens.

Wednesday's Advent Worship
We will be using the Holden Evening
Prayer service. December 10th and 17th
worship and meal will be in the
fellowship hall. All meals will be provided

by the youth; your donation helps with their ministry.

CORRECTION from Newsletter: The Children's Nativity Practice will be held on Sunday December 21st during the Sunday School hour. If your child would like to participate in Christmas Eve but cannot attend practice on the 21st, please reach out to Pastor Gina or Mary Koon to hold their spot.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

11/30/2025

9:00 worship 85 + live stream 152 = 237 Sunday School = 10

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$4,875.00
Building Fund	Received	\$480.00
Building Improvement	Received	\$370.00

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of *Preston & Kay Bryant* by Earl & Mary Frances Sease.

In memory of *Mary Duffie*, Alyson Price's mother by Carl & Myra Kinard, Earl & Mary Frances Sease.

In memory of *Carolyn Shumpert*, sister of Jan Schofield & Andrea Bowers by Earl & Mary Frances Seaese.



Shock and Claus

Saturday December 13th at 9:00 am at Cracker Barrell on Bush River Road. Each participant brings \$100. The cost of your meal will be paid out of the money collected and the remainder will be given to the server as a generous tip.

Please contact Frankie or Melanie Jackson if you would like to attend or if you have any questions.

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday	
Ushers:	David Marsh	Jamie Addison	
	Frank Bouknight	Herb Bucknam	
Crucifer:	Chanler Coppens	Sydney Bucknam	
Acolyte:	Dylan Whitaker	Sam Koon	
Lector:	Dylan Whitaker	Danny Scott	
Communion Assts:	Chanler Coppens	Sydney Bucknam	
	Cheri Coppens Dylan Whitaker	Sam Koon	
	Ronnie Fulmer Connor Eargle	Danny Scott	
	Daryl Leigh Anthony	Jenny Scott	
	Debbie Fulmer	Danni Martin	
Audio:	Marie Gardner	Arron Kinard	
Video:	Marie Gardner	Quentin Kinard	
Flowers:	Stevens	Seases	

SERVING IN DECEMBER

COUNCIL REP: Jennifer Miller

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Frances Sease, Diane Boulware

TABULATORS: Diane Boulware, Ann Bouknight

MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, Asbury Arms Lauvenia Butts, Lakeside Place Doris Carver, Presby Home Georgianna Gray, home James Hallman, Lakeside Place

Marie Kleckley, Lex Ext Care Gloria Mathias, home Jean Shealy, Lakeside Place Cyndi Thurman, home Linda Waters-Hamilton, home

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Lauren Addy Chris Carroll Debbie Duval Renee Greenbaum Joye Haygood Frankie Jackson Elyse Kinard Doris Maddox Skyler Miller Jim Whitaker Dennis Thurman

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayer

Billy Huckabee, friend of Danny Scott Stetson Cooper, grandson of Dan Cooper Paula Miller, friend of Brittany Allen Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor John Catoe, family of the Ellisors Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn), friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart Iris Wellborn, sister of Earl Sease Mrs. Cruz, teacher of Abbey Carroll Phil Dennis, brother of Lavonne Roof Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family, friends of Debra & Dave Butts Sandra Watson,

aunt of Courtney Bucknam Jaimie Womack,

friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price Cynthia Rabon, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price Blase Rhine,

grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight Jeslyn, friend of Scarlett Bryant Fave McCartha, mother of Debra Butts Robbie Rector, friend Jennifer Miller Bill Geddings, father of Allison Swygert Jane Baxley, cousin of Michelle Gantt Joyce Davis, grandmother of Jaquelyn Hawlik Will & Summer Satcher, friend of Courtney Bucknam Sam Lockridge, friend of Scottie Marsh

Thelma Moyer, mother of Diane Boulware Kaiden Howell,

friend of Jacquelynn Hawlik Randy Stonehill, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Linda Bennett, mother of Beth Jordan Neice of Abbey Carroll's teacher Singley & Parisano families,

friends of Sam & Kathy Cooper Joy Jordan, friend of Michelle Gantt Dorris Layton,

friend of Earl & Mary Frances Sease Jody Harper, friend of Kelli Goff Tressa Oswalt, *Angie Hydrick's sister* Wayne LaBounty, friend of Herb Bucknam Scarlett Redmon, cousin of Kinard Family Joe & Billy Corder, friends of Ryan Price Michael Williams,

son-in-law Georgianna Gray Wayne & Kristen Watkins, friends of Courtney Bucknam

Meredith Thorndike,

goddaughter of Wayne & Charlene Corley Melissa, niece of Ricky & Fran Bouknight Anne Piercy, friend of Kathy Whitaker Addie, granddaughter of Lavonne Roof



www.WeAreMtHermon.com

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Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* Roberta Smith, *Administrative Asst*

803.951.3784 803.240.3143 cell PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President* Sheila Eargle, *Secretary* Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, *Financial Secretary*

Ronnie Fulmer, Vice President Frank Bouknight, Treasurer Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, December 7th

9:00 am Worship

10:30am Sunday School

Angel Tree Gifts due

Tuesday, December 9th

5:00 pm Executive Team

6:30 pm Life Group at The Jacksons'



Wednesday, December 10th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe)

12:05 pm FH: OneBody Worship (bring socks for homeless)

6:30 pm Advent Worship / Advent Meal

Thursday, December 11th

6:00 pm CR: Travel Team

Saturday, December 13th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Koon Family)

9:00 am Shock and Claus

