

The Service for the Lord's Day  
*First Sunday in Advent*

November 30, 2008

**GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

Welcome, Announcements, and Presentation of Songbooks Sue Lynn Johnson

\*Hymn 206 "The Bond of Love"

\*Responsive Call to Worship

Gracious God, shake us awake, for we await you.

**We wait for signs of hope.**

Shaping God, awaken the earth and come, for we await you.

**We wait for signs of peace.**

Surprising God, tear open the heavens and come, for we await you.

**We wait for signs of joy.**

Mysterious God, enliven our hearts as we worship you in wonder and trust.

**We wait for signs of love, on this day and in this season.**

\*Prayer of the Day

Eternal God,

you taught us that the night is far spent

and the day is at hand.

Keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom,

and make us strong in faith,

so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth,

we may joyfully give him praise;

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

\*Hymn 26

"We Bow Down"

67

"We Will Glorify"

Meditation on "Here I Am, Lord"

Caleb Sherrod

Call to Confession Hymn 2 "Change My Heart, O God"

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of light, once again we approach the season  
of Advent unprepared.**

**We are not alert to your coming;  
we are too busy with preparations of  
our own design. We are exhausted  
by trying to do everything ourselves,  
and cannot keep awake to watch for you.**

**Like your people of old, we do  
not call upon your name, except to blame you.**

**Yet, you are our maker,  
and we are all the work of your hand.**

**Forgive us and restore us.**

**Illumine our lives, that we may be witnesses to your faithfulness. Amen**

Assurance of Pardon

Advent is about a new beginning. We are no longer satisfied with the old but long  
for the new light that overcomes darkness. Hear the good news.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

*Lighting of the Advent Candle*

Jim and Wanda Pinkerton

\*Response Hymn 114

"Emmanuel"

\*Hymn 31

"Isn't He?"

A Moment for Thanks

"Organ Donation and Transplantation"

Jill McMaster

**THE WORD**

Anthem

"Come and Behold Him"

\*Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

Sermon

Don Morris

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Marc Sherrod

Introduction to the Offering

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus.  
It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Offering

Medley of Christmas Carols

\*Offertory Response Hymn 196 "We Are An Offering"

### THE SENDING FORTH

\*Hymn 113

"He is Exalted"

\*Charge

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response Hymn 67 "We Will Glorify"

vs. 1 & 4

*\*All who are able please stand.*

Our deepest gratitude to the Praise Team who selected and led the music for today's 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special Service; Lauren Rowan Shell, Claire Clark, Elizabeth Rose, Julie Bunch, Sheila Crabtree (piano) and Nathan Shell (percussion)



*The flowers in the altar are given by Jill McMaster in honor of Donor Sabbath*

Services of Ecumenical Worship

# Kingston United Methodist Church

and

# Bethel Presbyterian Church

~ two communities of faith coming together,  
for fellowship, study and service . . .  
seeking God's peace, justice and love ~



TO OUR GUESTS: We extend a warm welcome from Kingston United Methodist and Bethel Presbyterian Churches. We have covenanted together for 2008 to share in worship, fellowship, study and service. We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders (Green for Methodist – Blue for Presbyterian), adding your address and phone number and please note if you would like to receive a church newsletter or a pastoral call. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us" rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."; prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks, please put those in the offering plates and both churches will be notified of your request. We are glad you are with us.  
Please worship with us again!

### Kingston United Methodist Church

Rev. Donald Morris - Pastor  
Rev. Sue Lynn Johnson - Congregational Care  
Regina Little - Program Director  
Wayne Duggin – Music Ministry

### Bethel Presbyterian Church

Rev. Marc Sherrod - Pastor  
Debbie Hyder – Parish Nurse  
Laura Walker – Music Ministry  
Marilyn Gaffin – Music Ministry