

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 OFFERTORY**

*Ciaconi Adagio*

Johann Michael Nicolai

**\*THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(Hymn 592)

**\* THE HYMN 48**

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

*Hymn to the Virgin (excerpt)*

Benjamin Britten

Tami Giusto, soloist

Of one that is so fair and bright, *Velut maris stella [as the star of the sea]*, Brighter than the day is light, *Parens et puella [parent and daughter]*: I cry to thee, thou see to me, Lady, pray thy Son for me, *Tam pia [how holy]*, That I may come to thee. *Maria!*

**\* THE POSTLUDE**

*Noel: When the Savior Christ Was Born*

F. Dandrieu



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2013

11 a.m. Worship

Baron Mullis, Pastor

Drew Stockstill, Minister of Young Adults & Adult Education

Robert Bolyard, Interim Choirmaster

1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

TEL 404.876.7396; FAX 404.876.2494; Preschool 404.685.8758

EMAIL [office@morningsidepc.org](mailto:office@morningsidepc.org); WEB [morningsidepc.org](http://morningsidepc.org)

Thank you for making sure your cell phone is off during the worship hour.

**THE GATHERING**

Drew Stockstill

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**THE PRELUDE***Pastoralle; Resonet in Laudibus*

Gottfried Finger

Robert Bolyard, Chrissy Spencer, and Susan Whaley, violas da gamba

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Jern Family

**\* Unison Prayer:**

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in the hope of our Savior's coming even as we look forward with longing to his return. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord of all time and space. Amen.

**\* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 49** *Once in Royal David's City*

**THE CALL TO CONFESSION****THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, it is so easy to confuse our understanding of morality with true righteousness. Where you have called us to greater good than merely adhering to social convention, we have sometimes settled for the easy way. But we know that you demand of us a thinking, living faith. We know that you sent not an idol for us, but a Savior. We know that he gave not rules, but a challenge to follow him. Still, it is sometimes easier to make rules into idols. So forgive us we pray, and lead us in right paths for his name's sake, for it is in the strong and merciful name of Jesus that we pray. Amen.

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE** *(for examination of conscience and personal prayers of confession)*

*\* (The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when the congregation is invited to stand as they are able.)*

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord;

People: **"I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,"**

Leader: He also adds,

People: **"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."**

Leader: Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

People: **Our sins are forgiven. All thanks be to God.** - Hebrews 10:16-18

**\* THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

(Hymn 9)

**O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**\* THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Children ages 3-10 are invited to leave after the **Peace of Christ** for special classes. Threes, fours & fives are in Room 011; K-1<sup>st</sup> grade in Room 003; 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Room 001; 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade are in Room 005).*

**THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

*(Visitors and members are invited to sign the blue friendship register pad and pass it down the pew.)*

**THE FIRST LESSON**

Romans 1:1-7

Sarah Mercer Chatel

(page 142 in the pew Bible, NT)

**THE ANTHEM***Conditor alme siderum*

anon/Dufay/Praetorius

Creator of the stars of night, Thy people's everlasting light, Jesu, Redeemer, save us all, and hear Thy servants when they call...

**THE SECOND LESSON**

Matthew 1:18-25

(page 1 in the pew Bible, NT)

**THE SERMON***"Righteousness"*

Baron Mullis

**\*THE HYMN 36***In the Bleak Midwinter*

Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. Should you find that your child grows restless, there is child care available. Infants/toddlers are cared for in the Nursery in Room 105, two year olds in Room 012.

**ELDER ON CALL:** Van Jensen 404.991.8817 (Dec. 22, 23, 25-28); Leslie Prince 770.377.0027 (Dec. 24)

**DEACON ON CALL:** Faye McKay Clegg 404.325.2622

**USHERS:** Monirah and Gary Womack, Carolyn and Peter Cobb

**GREETERS:** Sanda and Bill Means, Curt Barrett, Michael Perez

**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION HOSTS:** Lib and Rich Boggs

**COUNTERS:** Randy Parrish, Debbie Fox

**INFANT VOLUNTEERS:** Robin and William Hackney

**2s VOLUNTEERS:** Julie and Nathan Zook

**3s, 4s, & 5s VOLUNTEER:** Ibbly Bailey

**K-1st GRADE VOLUNTEER:** Amanda Lewis

**2nd-3rd GRADE VOLUNTEER:** Suzanne Macpherson

**4th-5th GRADE VOLUNTEER:** Ward Howell

**FELLOWSHIP:** Jill Klotz, Natalie Batchelor, Lib Boggs, Austin Davis, Katie Davis, Julie Green, Phyllis Grimes, Guerry and Michelle Mashburn, Megan Mashburn, Mardee Rightmyer

*Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*  
- Philippians 4:6-7

### **Keep in your prayers...**

Judy Brooks (Sandy Jones' friend)

The family and friends of Grier Christenbury

Jean Clark (Sue Ballay's sister)

Jackie Cleveland

Tarrance Eatman

Kristi Ferrick (Sandy Jones' friend)

Brenda Fishpaw

Ann Herndon (Will's mother)

Finley Holaway

Friends and relatives of Linda Johnson: Kaitlin

Andry, Ron and Ann Reggio, Peggy Johnson

Smith, Warren Johnson, Sr., and Sharon Foote

Gayle Jones (Jill Klotz's mother)

Holly Klotz

Jan McMahan

Meghan Pauls and Alex Page

Anne and Nate Reid

Emil Sanders

John Vytal (Katie Watts' father)

Katrina Weis

*Please submit prayer requests using the prayer cards in the pew racks.*

### **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY**

Welcome to worship at Morningside Presbyterian Church. Please complete the information in the Friendship Pad at the end of the pews and pass the pads down and back again during the **Concerns** portion of worship. Worship notebooks and books for children are located in the library. Nursery for infants and toddlers is in Room 105; 2 year olds are in Room 012. Children ages 3-10 are invited to leave after the **Passing of the Peace** for special classes: Threes and fours - Room 011; K-1st grade - Room 003; 2nd-3rd grade - Room 001; 4th-5th grade - are in Room 005.

### **LAY READER**

In keeping with the Presbyterian tenet of the priesthood of all believers, Morningside members participate regularly in worship leadership. This Sunday's lay reader is Sarah Mercer Chatel.

### **SERVICE MUSIC**

Today we welcome guest musicians Chrissy Spencer and Susan Whaley, who will join Robert in playing trios on the viola da gamba, an instrument that may look similar to the cello, but is really more akin to a lute that is held between the legs (*gamba* in italian) and played with a bow; like a guitar it has six strings, is tuned in fourths and thirds, and has frets. The viol flourished in Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries, and was popular among amateur musicians, who would play both music idiomatic to the instrument as well as adapting choral pieces - indeed the viol has a well-earned reputation of blending well with voices. If you're curious, come up for a closer look after the service and they would love to show you their instruments! Finger's "Pastoralle" uses a 14th-century Christmas carol as its base in its various sections to paint a multifaceted "outdoorsy" scene. "Conditor alme siderum" is a 7th-century text used in Vespers

during Advent - this morning's arrangement is a combination of the original chant and various composers' settings. A "Ciacconi," or chaconne, is a piece built over a repeating bass line - here Nicolai uses four descending notes and constructs a number of phrases on top of them in each section. The response is the first section of "A Hymn to the Virgin" by Benjamin Britten (fitting for the end of this year, his centennial) originally written for antiphonal choirs, we have adapted it for choir and viol consort with soloist. Britten highlights the macaronic nature of this medieval text by having one choir singing the English words and the other choir (in our case: the soloist) the Latin.

### **YOUTH GROUP**

No Youth Group tonight on December 29. Don't forget that summer trip registrations are due by January 5.

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office will be closed Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25 and Thursday, December 26 in observance of Christmas.

### **☐Christmas Eve Worship for Families December 24, 4 p.m.**

Children and grown-ups of all ages are welcome to attend! (A nursery is provided for any little ones.)

### **☐Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols December 24, 8 p.m.**

Experience one of Atlanta's great Christmas Eve traditions as our Chancel Choir, choir alumni and guest instrumentalists combine in offering an evening rich with variety, drama, and the beauty of our candlelit sanctuary (child care provided).

## SEASON OF SERVICE

Early next year Morningside is having its first Season of Service, a month of challenging you and your friends to participate in the wide variety of mission work MPC is involved with. Find time to check out a new outreach or bring an old friend or new member with you as you help out your regular one - meet the *Plus 1* challenge! MPC hopes you will get connected while helping those in need. Stay tuned for details of our February event.

## VOLUNTEER ON MLK JR. WEEKEND

Join us for the annual MLK Work Day on January 18 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. doing light repair and yard work to help seniors stay in their homes. Sign up in the hallway or contact Lloyd Prince [lloydprince@comcast.net](mailto:lloydprince@comcast.net) or Jack Klotz [jacksklotz@gmail.com](mailto:jacksklotz@gmail.com) for more information.

## GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Some Morningsiders choose to fulfill their annual pledge or make special gifts to Morningside through the gift of stock or other securities. We are always happy to accept such gifts; we ask only that you notify MPC Treasurer Randy Parrish when you initiate a transfer of securities so that we can make sure you receive proper credit for your gift. Should you have questions or wish to make a gift of securities, contact him at [randyparrish@bellsouth.net](mailto:randyparrish@bellsouth.net), 770.690.4745.

## THEOLOGY ON TAP

Our next meeting of Morningside's men's group, Theology on Tap, will be hosted by Alan Bremer on Tuesday, January 7, at 7 p.m. (785 Cumberland Road, Atlanta, 30306). RSVP to [office@morningsidepc.org](mailto:office@morningsidepc.org).

## ONE GRAY HAIR

One Gray Hair will meet Wednesday, January 8 at noon for lunch and a program in Fellowship

Hall. Our speaker for January is Officer Reddick, an Atlanta police officer and member of the Morningside/Lenox Park Security Patrol. Officer Reddick will talk with us about crime prevention and ways to keep safe. Please come with your questions on these important topics! RSVP to the Brownlees at [rsbrownlee1046@att.net](mailto:rsbrownlee1046@att.net).

## VOLUNTEER AT WOMEN'S SHELTER

Morningside will provide volunteers at Shearith Israel's Women's Shelter again this year as part of our mission outreach program. Volunteers serve from 6 to 8 p.m. warming up the dinner meal (provided by others) and serving as the women arrive from their daily work or job searches. Kitchen cleanup follows. Volunteer dates are: January 8-12 and February 5-9 (men are welcome). If you can help, contact Phyllis Grimes at [grimes2230@bellsouth.net](mailto:grimes2230@bellsouth.net) or sign up on the mission bulletin board.

### Giving/Attendance Update

WORSHIP COUNT 12/15/13 — 265  
NEEDED WEEKLY—\$15,577  
RECEIVED —\$28,425  
NEEDED YEAR TO DATE —\$778,846  
RECEIVED YEAR TO DATE —\$727,847

### Pledge Update as of 12/15/13

Pledged amount needed: \$790,000  
Pledges received: \$675,000  
Number of current pledges: 158  
Balance of pledges needed: \$115,000

In case of an emergency or urgent pastoral need, please call **BARON MULLIS** 404.876.7396 x11, 404.398.3118 or **DREW STOCKSTILL** 404.876.7396 x 14, 229.224.5557. You may also contact the elder or deacon on call listed on the back of this section.

## Christian Education at Morningside

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TO RESUME JANUARY 5

Though there will be child care and children's worship on Sunday, December 29 starting at 10:45 a.m., there will be no adult or children's Sunday School during the 9:45 hour. Coffee and Conversation will welcome folks at 10:30. See you in worship!

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

This Sunday, December 22 the preschool class will review the Nativity Story. Elementary classes will read Luke 2:8-20 in which the angels appear to the shepherds with the wonderful news of Jesus' birth.

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## This Week at Morningside

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### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation  
9:45 a.m. Church School  
11 a.m. Worship  
12 noon Fellowship

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

*MPP Winter Break*  
3-5 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

*MPP & Church Office Closed*  
4 p.m. Family Friendly Service  
8 p.m. Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

*Merry Christmas*  
*MPP & Church Office Closed*

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

*MPP & Church Office Closed*  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Group

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

*MPP Winter Break*

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

9 a.m. AA Meeting

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

10:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation  
11 a.m. Worship  
12 noon Fellowship