

Welcome to the worshipping community of
Berea Friendship United Methodist Church.

If you are new to our community, you are welcomed by the God who welcomes us all, who in Jesus Christ calls us "friends." You are invited to participate in the service to the degree you are comfortable. An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. You are invited to read aloud those passages that are printed in **bold**. Welcome to this assembly of the people of God!

4th Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2008
10:30 a.m.

THE PRELUDE **A Christmas Reverie**
(Seely)

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

GREETING AND SERVICE NOTES
Bill Sherrill

TRINITY CHIMES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP **People Look East**
(French Carol)

*HYMN – No. 213 **Lift Up Your Heads, Ye
Mighty Gates**

*OPENING PRAYER

God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of your reign, for the sake of Jesus Christ the ruler of all, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Steve &
Debbie Capps

SUNG RESPONSE: No. 206
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, (stanza 1)

FIRST LESSON – pg. 1013, 1589
Luke 1:47-55

Bill Sherrill

CHILDREN'S MOMENT
Matt Greer

GOSPEL LESSON – pg. 1588, 1012
Luke 1:26-38

CHORAL ANTHEM
of King

Glad Tidings of the King

(Praetorius/arr.

Sherrill)

SERMON
Pastor Keith Ray

"Favored by God"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In this season we sing, "O come all ye faithful," but we confess that we are not always faithful in following your will, O God. We could have shown love this past week, but often we kept ourselves busy with other things. We spoke without thinking and hurt someone. We treated the gifts and greetings and meals as chores, leaving out the most important ingredient – caring. We are sorry. Please forgive us, and accept our worship. Amid the bright colors that surround us this season – the red, the green, the gold – send the light of Christ, that all that is good may be revealed more clearly and all that is wrong may be exposed and changed. We pray in the name of Jesus who was born in Bethlehem, who lived and died for our sakes, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

MOMENTS OF SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN – No. 216
E'er Blooming

Lo, How a Rose

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE
(Danish)

Three-fold Amen

OFFERTORY
(Mac-Master)

Pastorale

*DOXOLOGY – No.95

*HYMN – No. 218
Midnight Clear

It Came upon the

*EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION –
No. 251

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

(The congregation is invited to sing)
Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere,
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

*POSTLUDE
(Ferrari)

Christmas Rhapsody

The **Flowers** placed in the sanctuary today are in honor of **Anne-Marie Failor's** 14th birthday and in memory of our grandmother's, Anne Failor and Marie McNeace by **Vickie and Ronald Failor**.

*Those who are able, please stand.

OTHERS TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER Claire Rebecca Philpot, Joe Philpot, Jay and Vera Hunt, Helen Yockey, Carolyn Hunter, Nick Nichols, Bob Donaldson, Libby Wingate, Georgiana Dougherty and her neighbor, (Bobbie Brown), Edith Bynum, and her sons Carl and Jerry, Margaret Rivers, Eunice Looper, Shirley Dickson's friend, (Marvin Lollis), Dub Childs, Mildred Huckaby, Lucy Hughes, Rachel Palmer, Mildred Pollard, Steve Hester's mother, (Elva Hester), Jerry Smith, Benson McWhite, Jake Moorehead, Juanita Sherlin, and Doris Williams.
Margaret Rivers is in The Cottages at Brushy Creek, (Rm. #2- Rose Cottage)

113 Cottage Creek Circle, Greer, SC 29650.

Surgery this week

Ron Failor had surgery on Tuesday and came home on Friday.

Jan Vaughan had surgery on Thursday and came home on Friday.

Congratulations to **Marsha & John Disher** who are the proud grandparents to

Jacob Lanier Disher, born on December 17, 2008, at 7:01 pm. Jacob weighed 6 lb. 8oz. and is 20 inches long. The proud parents are **Brian & Laura Disher** and proud big sister **Madsion**.

Christmas Eve Service Please join us for a candle light service on Wednesday, December 24th, at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Supper There will be no Wednesday Night Supper this week.

Christmas Envelopes We have Christmas envelopes placed in the pews for our missions offering. If you would like to give, please put your envelope in the offering plate.

Bible Study Bible Study Class will resume January 7, 2009. Look forward to seeing you and bring your Bible. For any questions call Bob Helms@ 295-2973.

Covered Dish Lunch Please join us for our covered dish lunch following the morning service.

Staff

Pastor	Dr.Keith Ray II
Music Director	Bill Sherrill
Organist	Sibyl Thomas
Membership Secretary	Pat Teat
Youth Director	Patti Taylor
Treasurer	Marsha Disher
Administrative Assistant	Debbie Capps

THOSE WHO SERVE

Liturgist	Bill Sherrill
Acolyte	Anne-Marie Failor
Trustee	Patti Taylor
Stewardship	Pat Teat
Altar Guild	Mary Penland
Nursery	Patti Taylor and Alex Smith
Ushers:	Steve Capps, Tony Earnest, Corky Holman, Ronnie Hunter

For Your Information (and inspiration)!
Attendance – Sunday December 14th:

Sunday School –61 Worship –138

Financial Report for December 14th :

Received for Budget \$4,669.27

Received to-date for Month \$10,361.54

Happy Birthday

December 22 Diane Vaughan Sentell

December 26 Martha Smith

December 27 Edith Watts

Happy Anniversary

December 27 Ellen & Corky Holman