

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!

The Order of Worship
A Service of Lessons and Carols
December 14, 2008
3rd Sunday of Advent

THE PRELUDE **"Hymn Improvisation on Forest Green"** (English Melody)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

TRINITY CHIMES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP **The King of Glory Comes**
(Israeli song, arr.

B.

Pulkingham)

OPENING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning.

Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel

foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people.

Let us

rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is

being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord

and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all peoples and all things into

the glory of God's eternal kingdom.

But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, for those who have

not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who

walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the church in this

place and everywhere, that it may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. (*A moment of silence for prayer*).

These prayers and praises we humbly offer to God. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Janet and
Monroe Stone

The First Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-6, 8

To God's people in exile in a faraway land, the prophet Isaiah announces good news: God is coming back, and bringing the exiles home.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE
(Danish)

Three-fold Amen

The Second Lesson

Jeremiah 23:5-6

The prophet Jeremiah offers hope for a righteous branch, a just king who is yet to come.

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**
No. 211

The Third Lesson

Zechariah 9:9-10

To a nation grown weary of war and weapons, God promises a king who will establish a reign of peace.

CHORAL CAROL **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** (arr.
Bill Sherrill)

The Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Covered Dish Lunch next Sunday following the morning service. Please come join us and bring your favorite dish.

Newsletter Deadline will be next Saturday, December 20th. We would like to get everything in on time because the office will be closed on December 25th and 26th.

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	Kevin Baker
Trustee	Patti Taylor
Stewardship	Pat Teat
Altar Guild	Mary Penland
Nursery	Laura Gould
Ushers:	Eddie Hughes, Jim Humphreys Ronnie Hunter, Corky Holman

For Your Information (and inspiration)!

Attendance – Sunday December 7th:

Sunday School –54 Worship –119

Financial Report for December 7th:

Received for Budget \$5,692.27

Wednesday Night Supper

December 17

Beef Tips, Rice, Rolls
Black-eyed Peas, Slaw
Banana Pudding
Tea, Water Coffee

Happy Birthday

December 14 Scott Beasley
December 15 Laura Brown
Barbara Durham
Diane Greer

December 17 Susan Leonard-Ray

December 19 Anne-Marie Failor

December 20 Jim Humphreys

Happy Anniversary

December 19 Martha & Benson McWhite

Congratulations to Margaret & Andy Watts (parents of Patti Taylor) on their 57th Wedding Anniversary which was on December 8th.

Reminder: If you would like the youth to deliver Christmas Cards for you, please put them on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Cost per card will be 25 cents.