

CELEBRATING THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 11, 2022



PASTOR CARL MCCORMACK
PSALM 146:1-10;
JAMES 5:7-11;
MATTHEW 11:2-11

Park Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
3520 JFK Blvd. North Little Rock AR
501-753-9533; parkhillpres@gmail.com
Visit our website at parkhillpres.org

Chiming of the Hour	Russ Mathis
Welcome & Announcements	Carleton Philbrick
Welcome from our Pastor	Carl McCormack
Prelude	"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Bell Choir
Lighting the Advent Candle	Mike, Betty Brown & Payton Powell
Please stand as we pray together.	

*Opening Prayer

O Lord, our redeemer, you lead us from languishing in sorrow's shadows into laughter's joy over your abundant grace. Thank you that you are coming for us to lead us home along the Way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Opening Song of Advent #610 "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Call To Confession

Carleton Philbrick

Prayer of Confession

Holy Lord, as we wait and watch, we look for signs of your coming. You enter our world to bring your unconditional love, and then you call us to love you, to love our neighbors, and to even love our enemies. We confess that often love is not in our hearts and we lack courage to show love in our actions. We need your mercy; we long for the coming of your Light. We wait, but we also pray: "Come quickly, Lord." (a time of silent prayers)

Assurance of Pardon (from John 3:17) Pastor Carl McCormack
Friends, believe and proclaim the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri #581

*Passing the "Peace of Christ"

Prayer for Illumination Carleton Philbrick (Congregation)
Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word, and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading Psalm 146:1-10 Carleton Philbrick
Praise the LORD, O my soul! ²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. ³Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. ⁴When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. ⁵Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, ⁶who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; ⁷who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; ⁸the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. ⁹The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

Second Scripture Reading James 5:7-11 Carleton Philbrick
⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.^[b] ⁹Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

¹¹Indeed, we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the outcome that the Lord brought about, for the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Special Music by Chancel Choir “*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*”
Video

Gospel Reading Matthew 11:2-11 Pastor Carl McCormack
²When John heard in prison what the Messiah^[a] was doing, he sent word by his^[b] disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What, then, did you go out to see? Someone^[c] dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet?^[d] Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is

greater than he.

The gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Rev. Carl McCormack

*Affirmation of faith

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

*Song of Affirmation #716 *"God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"*

Prayers of the People & 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

Stewardship Moment

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology #609

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song of Praise #772 *"Live into Hope"*

Charge & Benediction

Postlude Br. Andee Book, OPA

Those serving in worship:
Pastor Carl McCormack
Carleton Philbrick as Liturgist
Mike, Betty Brown & Peyton Powell, lighting the 3rd Advent Candle
Cindy Witherspoon Allen as Greeter
Debbie & Howdy Frisby as Ushers
Br. Andee Book, OPA as Guest Organist
Tamara Boggs as Audio/Visual technician
Kay Johnston as Administrative Assistant

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sun. 12/11**
9:45am Celebrating 3rd Sunday of Advent
Fellowship Sunday School
11am Worship online & in-sanctuary Pastor Carl
- Mon. 12/12**
10:30am Rev. Carol Clark Lecture on Christmas Angels
Parlor
7pm Arkansas Scottish Dance Society — Steen Hall
- Tues. 12/13**
11:30am PW Christmas Potluck Luncheon— Steen Hall
6pm Woodworkers—Potluck—Steen Hall
- Wed. 12/14**
4:30pm Bell Choir
- Thurs. 12/15**
9am AR Food Bank
- Fri. 12/16**
6pm Renown Music Program—Steen Hall
- Sat. 12/17**
Steen Hall Unavailable (Setting up for 18th Luncheon)
- Sun. 12/18**
9:45am Celebrating 4th Sunday of Advent
Fellowship Sunday School
11am Worship online & in-sanctuary Pastor Carl & Brief
Congregational Meeting
12:15pm Christmas Potluck Luncheon (with Santa as special
guest)

PRAYER NOTES

Recent: Bill and Pat Bond; Jane Doty's Family; Jack & Ann McCollum;

Continued prayers for: Ron Barrick; Claire Caldwell; Ed Caldwell; Pat Clark; Wendell Phillips; LaVonne Smith; Ken & Dianne Taylor; Jesse Macom-Teague;

Continued prayers for friends of the church: Brandi Johnston; Amber & Ronnie Mize (Liz & Phil Terrell) Jack Osborn (brother of a friend and friend of Jane Doty); Jack was recently diagnosed with throat cancer. He will be undergoing aggressive and ongoing treatments. Nathan Phillips (Gail & Wendell Phillips)

Prayers for those in home confinement: Ann Cother; Bunn Falls (Johnson County Health & Rehab, Clarksville); LeMoyne Jones (AR State Veterans Home); Willette Lollar (Presbyterian Village); Steve Pollard (VA Hospital); David Rennie;

Continued prayers for those in grief: Please pray for the anniversaries of all those who have passed.

*Please contact the church office if you need someone placed on or off of the prayer notes. Thank you.