

Welcome to West Side Christian Church

~ November 23, 2008 ~

Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister

Becky Barclay, Minister of Music

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

**GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Amazing Grace" arr.Lasky

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Elder, Kitty Baker

Elder: Come, God is seeking to gather us together.
Like a shepherd searching for lost sheep, God calls us.

**ALL: Something or someone has summoned us here.
Dare we believe that God knows and welcomes us?**

Elder: God reaches out to rescue all who have strayed.
Scattered, weak, and injured ones are drawn to God.

**ALL: We come, in need of healing, seeking a blessing.
Our faith draws us here, in spite of our doubts.**

Elder: Come, above all else, to worship and give thanks.
Make a joyful noise to the Creator of all worlds.

**ALL: God's steadfast love becomes real to us here.
We are reminded of God's immeasurable greatness.**

WORSHIP HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" CH. 718

*UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: We come with gladness, loving God, drawn by our need and by a desire to praise you and give thanks. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we may be full of hope. Enlarge the circle of our concern that we may see the stranger as next of kin, the hungry person as part of our own family, the one who is sick as a whole individual deserving of our care. Grant us the presence of Christ that we may learn more fully to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We ask these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray saying, *"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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen."*

*GLORIA PATRI

CH, 35

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

MORNING PRAYER

Rev. Brown

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Debbie Tibbits

OFFERTORY

"Hymnus"

von Fielitz

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: God of steadfast love, receive these expressions of our thanks, in the form of offerings and pledges, for the glorious inheritance entrusted to us. We hereby enlist ourselves and our resources toward the realization of your eternal purpose for all humanity. May this congregation become more and more a source of hope for each of us and for all we meet? Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

CH, 46

COMMUNION HYMN

"Spirit of God"

CH, 265

The Lord's Table is open for all who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Christ has set the Table before us. It is by His invitation we are fed. You may eat of the bread as it is passed and drink of the cup at the conclusion of the Words of Institution.

PRAYER FOR THE BREAD

Elder, Kitty Baker

PRAYER FOR THE CUP

Elder, Bob Nutting

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Brown

ANTHEM

"Thanksgiving"

Beck

SERMON TEXT

Matthew 25:31-46

SERMON

"Sharing Our Vision: Seeing Jesus"

Rev. Brown

*HYMN OF INVITATION

"Now Thank We All Our God"

CH, 715

During the singing of the Hymn of Invitation, we invite anyone desiring to become a Christian or wishing to unite with this congregation, please come forward.

*BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

"In Thee Is Gladness"

J. S. Bach

*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

***At the conclusion of the announcements, children ages 3-8 are dismissed to "Worship & Wonder", following a prayer with Rev. Brown.*

DIACONATE SERVING TODAY

Bill Lofits, Diane Loftis, Kelly Terry, Stephen Milam

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Cecil Dillon, Davenport Family, Lois & Don Nelson, Alyssa Hale, Heather Wilson, Masil Jones, Mary Wyatt, Linda Booth, Jordan Lahy, Melissa & Ed Davidson, Dottie Redmon, Terry Tucker, Robin Thomas, Patrick Petty, John Milam, Janice Deweese, Doug Tatum, Lorraine Shea, Marleen Whitehurst, Betty McCrickard, Brenda Lohse, Cavanaugh Family, Sandy Phillips.

SHUT-INS

Rev. Glenn Weaver, Ruth Blackman, Sylvia Dickens, Sandy Cotton, Dennis Davenport, Roland Thornton, Al Hemby, Esther Daniel.

THE WEEK AHEAD AT WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Today, November 23rd: 9:00 am - Coffee Fellowship
 9:45 am - Church School
 11:00 am - Sunday Worship
 3:45 pm - Chi-Rho

Mon., November 24th: 9:00 am - Preschool & Kindergarten
 7:00 pm - Prayer Group

Tue., November 25th: 9:00 am - Preschool & Kindergarten
 6:30 pm - Invitation Team

Wed., November 26th: 9:00 am - Preschool & Kindergarten
 9:00 am - Prayer Group
 9:00 am - FC In Use
 7:15 pm - Choir Rehearsal
 7:30 pm - OBCCM Thanksgiving Service (Portsmouth UCC)

Thurs., November 27th: Office & School Closed
 9:00 am - FC In Use

Fri., November 28th: Office & School Closed

Sat., November 29th: 9:30 am - Decorating Church
 12:00 pm - FC In Use

Sun., November 30th: 9:00 am - Coffee Fellowship
 9:45 am - Church School
 11:00 am - Sunday Worship

Offering for November 16, 2008

AMOUNT NEEDED WEEKLY TO MEET BUDGET EXPENSES: \$ 3,418.00

Received for Budget:	\$ 3,017.00
General Building Fund:	75.00
Memorial Fund: (In memory of Nora Davenport)	55.00
Scholarship Fund: (In memory of Nora Davenport & Thomas Thornton)	185.00
Thanksgiving Offering:	278.00
Other: (Coffee, Donuts, CMF, Flowers)	103.30
TOTAL for November 16, 2008.....	<u>\$ 3,713.30</u>

~ November 23, 2008 ~

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Today's chancel flowers are given in memory of Thomas Thornton, given by his family.

COVENANT CARDS – Today is Stewardship Sunday. Please place your covenant cards in the offering plate for dedication.

OBCC THANKSGIVING SERVICE - The Olive Branch Cooperative Christian Ministries Thanksgiving Service will on Wednesday, November 26th, 7:30 PM at Portsmouth United Church of Christ. Rev. Nathan Brown will be speaking and a food offering will be received during the service.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY CLOSINGS- West Side Christian Church and Preschool will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

ADVENT DECORATING - Join us on Saturday, November 29th at 9:30 AM as we decorate the church in celebration of the Christmas season. Lunch will be provided. Volunteers are still needed to decorate areas of the church. Please sign up in the gathering area today.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - Orders for Christmas Poinsettias are being taken through Sunday, November 30th. The cost is \$13.75 each. This year we have ordered Red flowers with a red satin bow attached. Please turn in your dedication along with the money to Jennifer Larson or to the church office. Order forms are available on the tables in both hallways of the building.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS - Church Women United in Portsmouth is sponsoring Operation Santa Claus on Friday, December 5th at 11:00 AM, Ebenezer Baptist Church on Effingham Street, Portsmouth. A coffee reception will begin at 10:30 AM. More details can be found in the December newsletter.

LIVE NATIVITY - On Sunday, December 21st at 6:30 PM & 7:30 PM, we will perform a live nativity on the front lawn here at West Side. Volunteers are needed to fill several spots. Please sign up in the gathering area.

CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTIES - The following classes have posted the dates of their Christmas parties. Disciple Class – December 6th, Ruth Class - December 13th, and Fellowship Class – December 20th.

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