

Welcome to Southminster

Christ's love is here for YOU!

Prayer Requests:

Edie and O. B. Chaffee, Mildred Cunard, Dot Dodgen, Golda Fuller, Dennis Grimm, Helen James, Mike Kerns, Bill and Lottie Kershaw, the Kibaara family, Beverly Larsen, Earl Lavender, Chris LaVine, Pete Logan, Florence Mandi, Bill Pearce, Eugene Shaffer, Tom Shaffer, SPC Stewardship Committee, Eleanor and Archie Shelor, Ricky Tanner, Patrick Wiley, Becky Willingham and the new Elders elect.

Cherokee Presbytery Prayer Calendar, December 16

Synod of South Atlantic Staff: Rev. Reg Parsons, Rev. Herman Pride, Mardee Rightmyer, Jackie Davis, and Yolanda Bengo

This Week's Calendar:

Today	Dec. 16	9:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday school
		11:00 a.m.	Worship
		12 Noon	Stewardship Committee meeting
		12:15 p.m.	Lunch Bunch @ Viva Mexico
Tuesday	Dec. 18	7:30 p.m.	Link Council meeting
Wednesday	Dec. 19	7:00 p.m.	Stated Session meeting
		6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Thursday	Dec. 20	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
		7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT—During worship this morning, the Christmas Pageant will be presented by our children under the direction of Pat Mukora, Director of Christian Education.

TODAY'S NURSERY ATTENDANT – Ashley Vaughn

Southminster Presbyterian Church



Welcome! There's a place for YOU at Southminster!

The Reverend Peter M. Paulsen, Minister

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Southminster Presbyterian Church

December 16, 2007, 11:00 a.m. – Third Sunday of Advent

Gathering

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Please use the time before the service begins to review the announcements in the bulletin and to quietly prepare your heart for the worship of God.

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

GREETINGS, WELCOME, AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE Alfred Mandi, Esther Hegngi and Family

*HYMN No. 1 (verses 1, 2 and 3) “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the season of holy waiting.

People: We wait for the time when the desert will bloom abundantly.

Leader: We watch for the day when all God’s people will come together with singing.

People: We wait while the dawning light appears on the horizon.

All: Come let us walk in the light of God!

*HYMN No. 464 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, Righteous Judge, have mercy upon us. We have been proud in the thoughts of our hearts; you would be right to scatter us. We have grasped at worldly power; you could surely choose to bring us down. We have allowed the rich to prosper and the poor to wither away. Have mercy on us, Lord! Remind us of your grace in ages past. Humble us, that we may find our strength in you.

Kindle in us love for all you love, that we may join you in your work of mercy, redemption, and joy. Hear us now, O Lord, as we continue to pray silently...

(Please use these moments of silence to offer your personal prayer of confession.) Amen

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE I Timothy 1:15

Leader: Speak what you know.

People: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Leader: Believe that Good News and go forth to live in peace.

*GLORIA PATRI (unison) Hymn 579

* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of peace with those near you.

The Word

*HYMN No. 457 (verses 1 and 2) “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

DISMISSAL SONG “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

Children ages three years through fifth grade are dismissed to Sunday school.

ANTHEM “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

GOSPEL READING Matthew 11:2-11 Pew Bible, page 11

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON “Faith Confirmed In Experience!” Rev. Paulsen

Response to the Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Second Helvetic Confession - 1561)
True repentance is conversion to God. And this is true repentance, namely, a sincere turning to God, and all good, and earnest turning away from the devil and all evil.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (unison) Hymn 592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CALL TO PRAYER SONG

*All your anxiety, all your care, Bring to the Mercy Seat and leave it there,
Never a burden He doth not bear, Never a friend like Jesus.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD’S PRAYER (traditional) Hymnal page 16

Sending

*HYMN No. 20 (verses 1 and 2) “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymn 20 (verse 3)

POSTLUDE

Assisting in Worship: Pam Hudson – Church Musician; Jean Shelor – Pulpit Assistant
Helen James – Children’s Time; Dave Markle – Song Leader

*All who are able, please stand.