

Advent Wreath Lighting

Dec. 18th

4th Sunday in Advent

Jimmy Diggs: Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

Jimmy Diggs & Congregation (*Unison*): How does this happen?

Jimmy Diggs: God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

Jimmy Diggs & Congregation (*Unison*): Purify us, O God, by your daily visitation, so that when your Son Jesus Christ comes, he will find in us a mansion prepared for himself. We thank you for this time of waiting. We thank you that our time of waiting for Jesus is almost over. May we await the Light of the World with joyful anticipation, through Christ our Lord.

Jimmy Diggs: A reading from the prophet Micah: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Therefore, will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel. And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; and they shall abide for now, shall he be great unto the ends of the earth. And this man shall be the peace..." (**Micah 5:2-5a**).

Jimmy Diggs & Congregation (*Unison*): We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Each Sunday during Advent, we have begun in the dark, and then we have lit candles. Today, we light the candles of HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE.

**Deacon Family Member (Lighting of the Candles)
(Lighting the 1 Pink Candle AND 3 Purple Candles) ...**

Jimmy Diggs: Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of Jesus. Now, at the end of Advent, all four candles burn bright with the hope of God who will come to us.

Jimmy Diggs & Congregation (*Unison*): Our time of waiting is almost over. Blessed are we who, with Mary and Elizabeth, believe there will be a fulfillment of God's promise to us. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus. When he comes to us, may we be ready to help him scatter the proud, bring down the powerful, lift up the lowly. May God fill the hungry with good things. May all of God's people know fullness, justice, peace and love when the Light shines its brightness over our world, when the Word becomes flesh and dwells among us.

Jimmy Diggs: Closing Prayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH MEMBERS:

We have examined the books, accounts, and records supporting the Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022, and the related Notes to the Financial Statements. Our examination included procedures designed to determine all receipts and disbursements pertaining to the Fellowship Hall Building Extension. We reviewed contractors submitted invoices and disbursements related to those invoices. Our finding was that all expenditures were approved by the appropriate church committees and/or members as were either required or needed for construction. Tommy Ashe, Church Treasurer, addressed clarification on two matters questioned: 1) Cost of Grading & Seeding of drain field at \$5,296.59 to Hudgins Nursery. He explained that grading and seeding was needed since a new septic system was required. Five bids were sent out and only Hudgins responded so that bid was accepted, work completed as proposed and invoice was paid accordingly. 2) Interest on the church notes was not included in the cost of construction. The expenditure on church notes was made from the funds that were transferred back to Church Note Reserve as approved by the membership when the Budget was revised due to project coming in under budget.

Our examination was not an audit performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, which require certain levels of technical training, proficiency, and independence. However, we believe the procedures we performed were sufficient to support our conclusions.

We conclude that the financial statements referred to above accurately present the Balance Sheet of Gloucester Point Baptist Church as of June 30, 2022, and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance, and that the information in the Notes to the Financial Statements is accurate. In addition, in our opinion, all funds were received, deposited, and disbursed accurately and appropriately. We are happy to report that the New Fellowship Hall Expansion was completed significantly under budget, in a timely manner, as proposed and all records appear in order.

Submitted and signed by the Audit Committee,

Jamie Moore, Chairperson
Judy Cahoon, Committee Member
Sharon Warren, Committee Member