

Presbyterian Church of Seffner



1906 South Lenna Avenue

Seffner, FL

813-689-4412

www.seffnerpres.org

WELCOME

This morning as we join in worship, our hope for you is that you will find renewed life, health and strength in God. We are glad that you have heard God's call to come and worship, and that you have chosen to do so with this congregation. If you do not have a church home in this area, we invite you to join with us as we seek to serve Christ and live as His disciples. You may be received into church membership by profession of faith, letter of transfer, or reaffirmation of faith. If you are interested in uniting with this church, please contact the church office or any elder.

Session Members

Nancy Mason - '20 - Worship
Matt Shick - '20 - Stewardship
Patty MacEwen - '21 - Admin.
Carol Shick - '22 - Worship

Cindy Doyle - '20 - Christian Ed.
Carina Brushwood - '21 - Cong. Care
Bob Friskney - '22 - Fellowship
Deborah Thatcher - '22- Mission

Cammie Williams - Clerk of Session

Our Mission Statement

To provide opportunities for people to
discover God's love,
seek God's purpose,
and do God's will.

Our Vision Statement

Glorifying God with
mind, body, and soul.

Pastor: The Rev. Loli Reiter

Ministers: The Congregation

*"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts
of him who called you out of darkness into
his marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:9*

Music Director: Logan Sorey

Organist: Sheila Donohue

Worship Leader: TJ Childs

Youth Leader: Lauren Sorey

Nursery: Laura DeLeury

1906 S. Lenna Avenue, P.O. Box 545

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kara@seffnerpres.org

seffnerpres.org

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2020, 11:00 A.M.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

"The Angel Gabriel"

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

**Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains.**

Glory on high. (Repeat)

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.**

Glory on high. (Repeat)

OPENING PRAYER

"It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"

**It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
From heaven's all gracious King":
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.**

**And ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! For glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on, By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth his ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.**

"Peace Before Us"

**Peace before us Peace behind us
Peace under our feet Peace within us
Peace over us Let all around us be peace**

**Love before us Love behind us
Love under our feet Love within us
Love over us Let all around us be love**

**Light before us Light behind us
Light under our feet Light within us
Light over us Let all around us be light**

**Christ before us Christ behind us
Christ under our feet Christ over us
Christ over us Let all around us be Christ**

Hallelujah

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, in Jesus You became “God with us”,
but sometimes You feel so far away. In our hurt, in our doubt,
in our fear, we lash out against neighbor, against loved ones, and against
You. Forgive us, Lord. Let your face shine upon us and our intentions. In
your hands, shape our words and our actions to bring about Your justice
and Your peace.**

We pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARSON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

“The Candle of PEACE”

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:1-8

Mark 1:1-8

SERMON “Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together...” Isaiah 40:5

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Simple Gifts”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostle’s Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offering - "Moments of Peace"

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

"Go, Tell It On The Mountain"

**Go, tell it on the mountain. Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching Over silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.**

**The shepherds feared and trembled When lo Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.**

**Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.**

BENEDICTION

"Forever Young"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE THIS WEEK

Temple Keeper: Mark Williams (on or before 12/6)
Ushers: Cammie Williams, Carrie Childs, Dewey Walklin
Greeters: Janet Holzman, Chris Spangler

AS WE BEGIN TO COME BACK TO OUR CHURCH FACILITIES, we ask that **everyone be diligent about following the safety protocols** that have been set after much prayer and research. When we are on church property, let us remember to **wear our masks**. Wearing masks truly is an act of **care for our neighbors and church family**. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we learn new ways of being together. And thank you for your commitment to doing all we can to keep each other as safe as possible. May God continue to bless you and yours!

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND CHURCH IN PERSON - we need to make sure we can accommodate you as safely as possible; therefore, we ask that you **let us know each Thursday by 2 pm**, just email kara@seffnerpres.org with your name and the number of people to attend with you. We will continue to stream our service on Facebook Live. Prayerfully consider what will be the safest option for you and your family.

THANK YOU FOR TURNING IN YOUR PLEDGES... to continue God's work through our ministries! There is still time to turn in a pledge! You can **1) email it to treasurer@seffnerpres.org**, **2) mail it to the church at P.O. Box 545, Seffner, FL 33583**, or **3) Drop it by the church Tuesday-Thursday between 9am and 12 noon**. And thank you for your faithful giving in tithes and offering God Bless!

DONATIONS FOR 2020 - The last day we can accept donations for 2020 is **December 30th**.

SILENT AUCTION to benefit Meals on Wheels Program, begins **will close on Sunday, December 13th**. Bid sheets and baskets will be in the entryway of the Fellowship Hall. Please look for pictures and details in your email. Bid by text for those not able to worship in person (**Deb Thatcher 813 240-1751**).

HELP BRING CHRISTMAS TO A FEW BETH-EL FAMILIES. If you would like to purchase one or more of these items, gift wrap them and have them to the church by **December 10**. Call **Carrie Childs, 813-695-4581**, she will provide additional details.

COMMITTEES - Committees should meet by **Monday, December 7th**. All committee reports should be sent to kara@seffnerpres.org by Monday morning, December 14th in order to prepare the Session packets, for **Session gathering on Tuesday, December 15th**.

BIKE ASSEMBLY - **Saturday, December 12th at 8 am** on breezeway around the court yard of the church.

CHRISTMAS WREATH YOUTH FUNDRAISER Visit LynchCreekFundraising.com/c/249233 to check out the product line of items available for purchase. 15% of the proceeds will go to the Youth! Wreaths, Centerpieces, Garland and more.

OUR CHRISTMAS CANTATA, "CANDLES AND CAROLS", will be performed LIVE on **Sunday, December 20th**. That Sunday we invite EVERYONE TO WORSHIP FROM HOME, and then bring your cookies. Instead of a JOY LUNCHEON we will have a JOY COOKIE EXCHANGE!

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS - Would you like to dedicate a poinsettia for a loved one? Email the information to kara@seffner.pres.org or fill out **form provided**. You may **leave the form in the offering plate**, if you are attending worship in person. If you **email the information, provide your name and phone number, the person you wish to honor or memorialize, how many flowers you would like to order.** **THE POINSETTIAS** will be part of the worship service on **December 20th and Christmas Eve, December 24th**. They may be picked up after the worship service Christmas Eve. Remaining poinsettias will be placed outside around the court yard to be picked up at your convenience.



If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone, fill out the information below. (Please print clearly.)

Your name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Quantity ____ X \$7.00 ea. = ____ check ____ cash ____

Make check payable to Presbyterian Church of Seffner. In the **memo** portion of the check write **poinsettias**.

Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 13th. You may place form and payment in offering plate or mail payment to the church P.O. Box 545, Seffner, FL. 33583.

JOY COOKIE EXCHANGE AND SWAP - On **Sunday, December 20th**, anyone participating in the cookie exchange and swap, may **drop off their cookies (4-5 cookies per baggie)** at the church between **12:15 and 12:30pm**. We will allow enough time to have the participants enter the hall to gather their exchanged cookies once all the cookies have arrived!

BLUE CHRISTMAS PRAYER SPACE - **Monday, December 21st** is the longest night of the year. We welcome you to the sanctuary to take some quiet, personal time to pray. With all that is going on in the world today, let us lift up a prayer and light a candle to remind the world that Christ is with us in the darkness and that he is the light that will dispel it. **Sanctuary open from 7 to 9pm**. Safety protocols will be followed and it will be live streamed.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - Because God is with us, we see the potential of students of color who will become our leaders and we seek to come alongside them, to encourage them, and to be with them. 50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Because God is with us, we see church workers who have critical financial needs and we come alongside them, to assist them - we are with them. 50% of your gifts provide assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. Thank you for your gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering - for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - **5:00pm AND 7pm** with communion.

OFFICES CLOSED - **Monday, December 28th-Friday, January 1st** church office is closed.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 6, 2020 Second Sunday of Advent

11:00 am Worship Service Online Live and in-Person
12:30 pm Zoom Sunday School

Monday, December 7, 2020

7:00 pm Committees

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

7:00 pm Session Gathering

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

8:30 am Meals on Wheels
4:30pm Staff Zoom Meeting
6:00 pm Youth Meeting
6:15 pm Bells Meet in Sanctuary
7:30 pm Choir Meets in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 12, 2012

8:00 am Bike Assembly

Sunday, December 13, 2020 Third Sunday of Advent

11:00 am Worship Service Online Live and in-Person, Bike Dedication
12:30 pm Zoom Sunday School

A HOPEFUL LOOK AHEAD

- Dec. 6** 2nd Sunday of Advent, Deadline for Christmas Gifts for Bethel Families
7 Committees Meet
9 Meals on Wheels, Youth Meeting, Bell Choir Meets in Sanctuary,
Chancel Choir Meets in Fellowship Hall
12 Bike Assembly
13 3rd Sunday of Advent
15 Session Gathering in Fellowship Hall
16 Meals on Wheels, Youth Meeting, Bell Choir Meets in Sanctuary,
Chancel Choir Meets in Fellowship Hall
20 Cantata, Joy Cookie Exchange
21 Blue Christmas Service
23 Meals on Wheels, No Youth, No Bells, No Choir
24 Christmas Eve Worship Services 5pm and 7pm Communion
25 Merry Christmas!
27 1st Sunday of Christmas
28-Jan. 1 Office Closed, Happy New Year!

PRAISES and CONCERNS

Pray at all times in the Spirit...Ephesians 6:18a

Our ministry is to pray for our members who are hospitalized, ill, home bound, attending college, and in the military; and to also encourage others to send cards, make a phone call or visit if possible. If you do not have a directory or need an address not listed, please contact the church office, we will be happy to help.

Betty Lou and John Harp

Karen Martin	Robert Lavazza	George Kosan
Tammy Wooster	Terry Cooney	Bob Stetler Jim Barfield
Bonnie & John Taylor	Rob Bargo	Joy Lavazza
Beverley Field	Anne Wheeler	Charles Brandt Bill Worth

Healthcare Workers: Mazen Al-Alawi, Waleska Alvarado, Jenny Carswell, Lexi Crawford, Allie Abrams Downey, Maggie Hehn, Patricia Hudson, Kristen Doyle, Cheryl High Sawyer, Joelle Vlahakis

College: Kai Abe, Elizabeth Banks, Michaela Brushwood, Danh Cooney, Michael Hawkins, Christian Jaimungal, Rachel Kosan, Peter Lapham, Elias Mayfield, Alex Messina, Amber Todd, Jenny Todd

Military: Jeff Mason Jr., Diego Rincon, Justin Ernul, Wyatt Harris, Michael Paynter, Sherryn Ramkarran, Aaron Sampson