

“But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;

His mercies never come to an end.”

(Lamentations 3:21-22)



**GIPC Fighter Verse for the week of December 4, 2011.**

For a complete list please see the latest issue of the *GIPC Connection* newsletter, available in the foyer or online ([gipc-pca.org](http://gipc-pca.org)).



**TIDINGS OF JOY!**  
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 6PM**  
GOLDEN ISLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A black rectangular graphic with white text and a white line-art illustration of an angel with wings playing a trumpet. The text is centered and reads: "TIDINGS OF JOY!" in large bold letters, followed by "A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS", "SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 6PM", and "GOLDEN ISLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH".

### **Welcome to Golden Isles Presbyterian Church!**

Golden Isles is a church that is resolved, as the Apostle Paul said, to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. What we mean by that is that we are a community seeking to discover more of just how amazing the love of God is, as we see it in the Gospel. We long to be a congregation of people in awe of the love of God, who then take the Good News of that love to the world around us.

We are glad you are here, and we hope that you will find that there is a place for you at Golden Isles as we worship Christ together.

For those of you with young children we offer Children’s Church – children meet their teacher at the back of the room, during the Offering. Children will be brought back immediately following the service. A nursery is available, which can be found to your left as you exit the sanctuary.

If you are visiting today, please introduce yourself to us by filling in a Visitor Information Card, which you should find in the bulletin. These cards simply help us to know who you are, and how we can best serve you.

**TRUE TO THE BIBLE, THE REFORMED FAITH,  
AND OBEDIENT TO THE GREAT COMMISSION.**

\*those who are able,  
please stand.

## The Lord's Day Morning Worship

### & Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

December 4, 2011 • 10:30 a.m.

### The Second Sunday of Advent

Gather in silent meditation:

“All flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

(Luke 3:6)

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Interlude

#### \*Call to Worship

**Psalm 18:49, 50**

“For this I will praise You, O LORD, among the nations, and sing to Your name. Great salvation He brings to His king, and shows steadfast love to His anointed, to David and His offspring forever.”

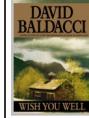
#### \*Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

#### \*Hymn, “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

**No. 195**

The Invocation  
is to acknowledge  
that our worship  
is in vain if it is not  
Spirit-inspired.

## • THIS WEEK •

<b>Tuesday, December 6</b>	 <b>6:00 p.m. The Ladies Book Group, “Beyond the Pages” meets to discuss “Wish You Well,” by David Baldacci.</b> (See the review in the December <i>GIPC Connection</i> .) If you like to read and discuss books, please join us! ( <i>Sue Taylor’s home</i> )
<b>Wednesday, December 7</b>	<b>6:30 p.m. Midweek Prayer Meeting</b> — A light supper is served at 6:30 p.m. followed by Prayer at 7:00 p.m. ( <i>Supper—\$3/person</i> )
<b>Thursday, December 8</b>	<b>6:00 p.m. GIPC Stated Session Meeting</b> ( <i>IPC, Savannah</i> )
<b>Saturday, December 10</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men’s Monthly Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</b> ( <i>Brown home</i> ) <b>2:00-4:00 p.m. Women of GIPC—Christmas Open House &amp; Cookie Exchange</b> ( <i>see announcement below</i> )

## • SERVING TOGETHER\* •

<i>*The sign-up sheets are located at the back of the sanctuary.</i>	<b>December 4</b>	<b>December 11</b>
<b>Greeters</b> (10:15-10:35 a.m., Main Entrance)	Bill & Nancy Wood	
<b>Ushers</b> (10:15-11:40 a.m.)		
<b>Nursery—0-3 yrs.</b> ( <u>AM</u> Worship, 10:20-11:40 a.m.)		
<b>Nursery—0-3 yrs.</b> ( <u>PM</u> Worship, 5:50-7:00 p.m.)		
<b>Children’s Church—4-5 yrs.</b> (Kindergarten Room—during the sermon portion of Morning Worship)	Betty Young-Smith	Connie Reed
<b>Prayer for the Worship Service</b> (10:15 a.m.) Prayer Room— located at the end of the north hallway		
<b>Hospice Meal:</b> On the 2nd Thursday of each month a meal for four people is prepared and delivered to the <i>Hospice of the Golden Isles</i> . A volunteer from Hospice then takes the meal to a family whose loved one is being cared for at home. ( <i>If you have questions, please contact Betty Harrell.</i> )		

## *Christmas Open House & Cookie Exchange*



All women are invited to a **Christmas Open House and Cookie Exchange** on Saturday, December 10th, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Brown home. **The cookie exchange itself will take place around 3:00 p.m.** Ladies bringing cookies should plan on bringing a dozen cookies to swap and a dozen cookies to share. This will be a great time of fellowship and ministry, as we will also bag cookies to take to the homebound. *Questions? Contact Sara.*

· GOLDEN ISLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ·

**Church Staff**

Senior Minister  
TE Alexander S. Brown  
Administrative Assistant  
to the Pastor  
Dorothy Garvin

**Elders**

TE Brannon Bowman (Pastor, Grace Church of the Islands, Savannah)  
RE Gary McArthur (First Presbyterian Church, Pooler)  
RE Dan Reed (Golden Isles Presbyterian Church, St. Simons Island)  
TE Brad Waller (Associate Pastor, Independent Presbyterian Church, Savannah)  
(TE Teaching Elder; RE Ruling Elder)

**Adult Sunday School— Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.**

Join us as we study God's Word together. Our current series is *The Gospel of Grace: Paul's letter to the Galatians*. Led by Mr. Brown.

**Bible Reading Plan**

Bible place-keeper cutouts, based on Robert Murray McCheyne's calendar for daily readings, are available in the *GIPC Connection* monthly newsletter. This system will take you through the Bible in one year, the Psalms and New Testament twice. Copies of the newsletter are available online ([www.gipc-pca.org](http://www.gipc-pca.org)) or in the foyer.



**Fighter Verses**

Fighter Verses are short passages of Scripture selected to equip the believer in the fight of faith. Weekly Verse cut-outs are available in the monthly edition of the *GIPC Connection*.

**World Missions/Faith Promise Financial Update**

GIPC uses the 'Faith Promise' method of giving in order to financially support a number of families involved in U.S. and foreign-based mission work. The Faith Promise funds are maintained as a separate account from tithes and offerings ("General Fund"); all such gifts should be designated for "Faith Promise."

Faith Promise commitments are made each year during the Missions Conference in November. The total amount committed determines the missionary support budget for the following calendar year.

**2011 Faith Promise Commitments: \$30,980—what we are trusting God to provide this year.**

**2011 Faith Promise Balance YTD, through November 30th: \$26,878, or 87%**

**2012 Goal for World Missions Support: \$36,000**

**2012 Faith Promise Commitments received to-date: \$36,950**



Missionary Newsletters are available in the church foyer. Please use these to provide what missionaries say they need the most—*prayer support!*

**General Fund Financial Update—YTD through October 31, 2011:**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Income:	\$144,094	\$144,100
Total Expense:	\$139,269	\$145,320

**\*Confession of Our Faith** (unison)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended into hell<sup>†</sup>.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church<sup>‡</sup>,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**\*The Gloria Patri**

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed**

As we recite this  
3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century  
Christian creed,  
we join our voices  
with centuries of  
Christians who have  
gone before us.

<sup>†</sup>the place of the dead

<sup>‡</sup>the universal church

We read through whole books of the Bible so that we see the whole sweep of Redemptive History as it unfolds throughout Scripture.

**Scripture Reading**

**Titus 3**  
*(ESV Pew Bible, pg. 998)*

**\*Hymn, “Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ”**

**No. 524**

**Prayer of Confession and Intercession**

*Persecuted Church Focus of the Week: Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan*

**Offering**

*Children ages four and five are dismissed to the Kindergarten Room for Children’s Church. The teacher will meet them at the back of the sanctuary.*

**Sermon, “The Good News of God With Us”**

**Text: Matthew 1:18-25**

**Notes:**

**Mr. Alexander S. Brown**

*ESV Pew Bible,  
pg. 807*

Additional information may be found at: [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

**\*Hymn of Response, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**No. 203**

**\*Benediction**

*CCLI #605332*

We recite the Law of God together to remind ourselves of who our Father is, and what He requires of His children. As Christians we do not believe that we earn anything from God by keeping His commandments, but rather we keep His commandments because we are already fully accepted through the work of Jesus Christ.

We read through whole books of the Bible so that we see the whole sweep of Redemptive History as it unfolds throughout Scripture.

## Reading of the Law of God

**Minister:** God spake all these words, saying, I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

**All:**           **Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.**  
                  **Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.**  
                  **Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.**  
                  **Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.**  
                  **Honor thy father and thy mother.**  
                  **Thou shalt not kill.**  
                  **Thou shalt not commit adultery.**  
                  **Thou shalt not steal.**  
                  **Thou shalt not bear false witness.**  
                  **Thou shalt not covet.**

**Hear also the words of our Lord Jesus, how He saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

## Prayer of Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

**Isaiah 53:12b**

“He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many; and makes intercession for the transgressors.”

### \*Hymn of Assurance, “A Debtor to Mercy Alone”

**No. 463**

### Scripture Reading

**I John 1**  
*(ESV Pew Bible, pg. 1021)*

### Intercessory Prayer

## Sermon, “The Trial”

**Mr. Alexander S. Brown**

**Mark: A Confrontation with Christ, Part 67**

**Text: Mark 14:53-65**

**Notes:**

ESV Pew Bible,  
pg. 851

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

**\*Hymn of Preparation, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" No. 193 (st. 1,2)**

**Invitation to the Sacrament and Fencing of the Table**

**The Words of Institution**

**The Prayer of Humble Access and Consecration**

**The Distribution of the Elements**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**\*Hymn of Response, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" No. 193 (st. 3,4)**

**\*Benediction**



*This Week's Fighter Verse—see pg. 12*

*It is our custom to hold each element until all have been served, then all partake together.*

**The Lord's Day Evening Worship**

**December 4, 2011 • 6:00 p.m.**

***The Second Sunday of Advent***

*Gather in silent meditation:*

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

(Isaiah 7:14)

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

**Hebrews 2:9a**

"We see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death."

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**\*Hymn of Adoration, "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"**

**No. 168**

*\*those who are able, please stand*