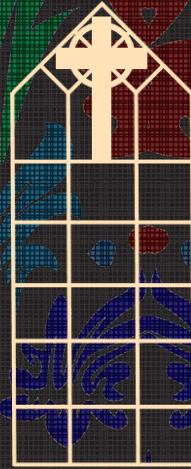




*A  
Festival  
of  
Lessons  
and  
Carols*



*by Hal H. Hopson*

*Third Sunday of Advent  
December 11, 2022*



# Gathering As God's Beloved People

## Gathering Music

*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

Traditional French Melody

*The Birthday of a King*

W. H. Neidlinger

*Salvation Now Is Come to Earth*

J. S. Bach

## Carol Prelude

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel;*

Arr. by Hal H. Hopson

*Angels We Have Heard on High;*

*From a Distant Home; God Walked in Eden's Garden Fair*

## Chiming of the Hour

## Welcome and Announcements

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

Donna Weesner and Carol McGiboney

Today, we light the candle of joy. May its light remind us of all the good news this season brings. May its light remind us of the many sources of joy in our lives, and may that joy not only draw us closer to one another, but closer to God!

Hymn 85

*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

TIF IN VELDELE

*First time - Soloist; **Second time - Soloist and Congregation***

***Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.***

***Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.***

As we light our third Advent candle,

**we pray for hope, peace, and joy.**

Come now, O Child of Mary.

**Come now, O Prince of Joy!**

## Wondering with God's Children





# A Festival of Lessons & Carols

By Hal H. Hopson

## ♣ Carol

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Text by John F. Wade 1711-1786

Translated by Frederick Oakeley 1802-1880

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**Verse 1** *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

**Verse 2** *True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
Lo, He shuns not the virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

**Verse 3** *Choir only*

**Verse 4** *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning.  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

## The First Lesson

*Adam and Eve rebel against God*

Genesis 3:8-15

Charles Ardis

Pew Bible page 3

**Carol**      *God Walked in Eden's Garden Fair*      Original Text by Hal H. Hopson  
Translated by Frederick Oakeley 1802-1880  
Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM  
Original Material by Hal H. Hopson

**The Second Lesson**      *God promises to faithful Abraham*      Pat Harper  
*that his descendants will be a blessing of the earth*  
Genesis 22:15-18      Pew Bible page 18

**Carol**      *The God of Abr'am Praise*      Text by Daniel Ben Judah (14th ct.)  
Translated by Max Landsberg (1845-1927)  
and Newton Mann (1836-1926), alt.  
Tune: LEONI  
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**Verse 1** *The God of Abr'am praise, sing praises to God's name,  
who was and is and is to be, fore'er the same!  
The one eternal God, before what now appears;  
the First, the Last; beyond all thought through timeless years!*

**Verse 2** *God's spirit freely flows, high surging where it will;  
God spoke of old in prophet's word; that word speaks still.  
Established is God's law, and changless it shall stand,  
deep written on the human heart, in ev'ry land.*

**Verse 3** *God has eternal life implanted in the soul;  
God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.  
All praise the living God! All laud that hallowed name,  
who was, and is, and ever shall be still the same!*

**The Third Lesson**      *Christ's birth and rule of peace and justice*      Louly Hay  
*are foretold by Isaiah*  
Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7      Pew Bible page 683

**Carol**      *Comfort, Comfort, O My People*      Text by Johannes Olearius (1611-1684)  
Translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.  
From *the Genevan Psalter* (1562)  
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**The Fourth Lesson**     *The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown*     Adrian and  
Alexander Whisnant  
Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9     Pew Bible page 640

**Carol**     *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*     15th c. German and 9th c. Latin texts  
Tunes: ES IST EIN' ROS' and VENI EMMANUEL  
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**The Fifth Lesson**     *The angel Gabriel announces to Mary*     Betsy Morehouse and  
*that she will be the mother of Jesus*     Yvonne Hill Davenport  
Luke 1:26-35, 38     Pew Bible page 56

**Carol**     *There Is No Rose*     Anonymous Medieval Text  
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**The Sixth Lesson**     *Saint Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus*     Roger Tingler  
Matthew 1:18-23     Pew Bible page 1

**Carol**     *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*     Medieval Latin Text  
Translated and Paraphrased by  
John Mason Neale (1818-1868)  
Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO  
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**Verse 1**     ***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!***

**Verse 2**     *Choir Only*

**Verse 3**     ***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!***

**The Seventh Lesson**     *The Shepherds go to Bethlehem*     Patrick Carmichael  
Luke 2:8-16     Pew Bible page 58

## Carol

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Tune: GLORIA

Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**Verse 1** *Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

Verse 2 *Choir Only*

Verse 3 *Choir Only*

**Verse 4** *See Him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

## The Eighth Lesson

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus*

Erin Morgan

Matthew 2:1-11

Pew Bible page 2

## Offering Our Gifts

## Offertory Carol

*From a Distant Home*

Traditional Puerto Rican Carol

Text Translated by Walter Ehret (1918-2009)

and George K. Evans (1917-2003)

Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

## The Ninth Lesson

*John unfolds the great mystery  
of the Incarnation*

Neeley Rentz Lane

John 1:1-14

Pew Bible page 91

## An Advent Prayer 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.**

## ♣ Carol

*Joy to the World*

Text by Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Tune: ANTIOCH

Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**Verse 1** *Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

**Verse 2** *Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*Verse 3* *Choir Only*

**Verse 4** *He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness,  
and wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
and wonders, wonders, of His love.*

## ♣ Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Dan Miller



## Many Thanks

Many thanks to our Chancel Choir, Carillon Bell Choir, and lesson readers for their heartfelt preparation to provide a beautiful and meaningful Festival of Lessons and Carols service.

With special thanks to our guest musicians:

Andrew Uhe, 1st violin

Dr. Jian Shang, viola

Jeff Macko, percussion

Yilang Ding, 2nd violin

Karen Bergmann, cello

# Advent Poinsettias

The poinsettias that are decorating the Sanctuary this Advent season were provided through donations in memory and in honor of the following people. Donations above the cost of flowers goes to support Thornwell Home for Children.

<b>In Memory of:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>	<b>In Memory of:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>
✦ Pete & Pat Arnold Steve Bozarth	<i>The Doug Arnold Family</i>	✦ Rev. Frank Colladay Grammie Rentz Papa Burnside	<i>Robert &amp; Neeley Lane</i>
✦ Ben Brooks	<i>Doug &amp; Sherri Bolton</i>	✦ Guy McGiboney	<i>Carol McGiboney</i>
✦ Howard & Madelle Boteler Ray & Edy Moy	<i>Gary &amp; Susan Boteler</i>	✦ J.C. & Helen Moon Billy & Betty Knight	<i>Joe &amp; Cindy Moon</i>
✦ Joann Crews	<i>Tom Crews</i>	✦ Wendell Parker	<i>Jane Parker</i>
✦ Jim & Sandy Elder	<i>The Elder Family</i>	✦ Ezra Lee Patrick Edna Patrick	<i>Jim &amp; Lynda Patrick</i>
✦ Patsy Curry Levi Hill George Johnson Doletha Biggins	<i>Yvonne Hill Davenport</i>	Mary Lou Scarborough Wallace Scarborough Georgia & Calvin Floyd	<i>Wayne, Eleanor, &amp; Stephanie Scarborough</i>
✦ Ursula Kaminski	<i>Leonard, Chrissy, &amp; Alex Kaminski</i>	✦ David Stillerman Hyman & Marguerite Stillerman Arnold & Evelyn Underwood	<i>Jim &amp; Pam Stillerman</i>
✦ Sapie & Mary Morecock Charles & Grace Kennon	<i>Larry &amp; Day Kennon</i>		



**In Memory of:**

✦ James & Vera Knight  
Ken & Rosalie Tabb

*Bob & Darcel Tabb*

✦ Bob Linder  
Bill Cobham

*Alicia Taylor*

✦ Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Tingler  
Dale Tingler

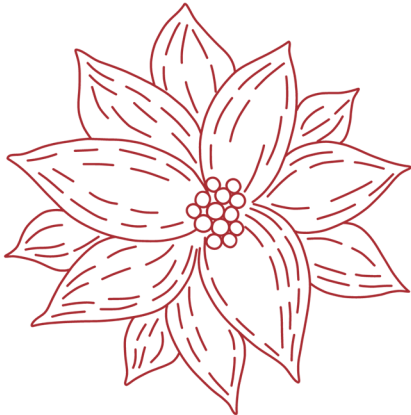
*Roger & Tootles Tingler*

✦ Our parents

*Carolyn & Curtis Watson*

✦ Jack & Barbara Weesner  
Guy McGiboney

*Chris & Donna Weesner*

**In Honor of:**

✦ Patrick & Janet Carmichael

*Doug & Sherri Bolton*

✦ Staff and Leaders at FPC

*Jean Elder*

✦ Curtis & Carolyn Watson

*Paige & Reagan Havens*

**Given by:****In Honor of:****Given by:**

✦ Our mothers, Arnetta Prichard  
& Jean Carol Mundy

*Lonnie & Beth Lamb*

✦ Our church family

*Robert, Neeley, Kately,  
Paisley, & MaryRantz Lane*

✦ Our church staff

*Robert & Neeley Lane*

✦ Our respective families

*Jeff & Julie MacKenzie*

✦ Chris, Donna & Jack Weesner  
Lisa & Dan Phillips  
Emily & Yvonne McBel

*Carol McGiboney*

✦ Milo Moon Stjepanovic

*Joe & Cindy Moon*

✦ Alicia Taylor

*Eleanor Scarborough  
& Miriam Wheeler*

✦ The FPC Covington Worship  
Ministry Team  
The FPC Covington Music Ministry

*Alicia Taylor*

✦ Our children & grandchildren

*Carolyn & Curtis Watson*

✦ Eleanor & Stephanie Scarborough

*Jack & Miriam Wheeler*



## Worship Notes

Musical offerings are an act of worship. If you wish to express thanks to God at the conclusion of a musical offering, feel free to offer a hearty "Amen," a Biblical way of saying "so be it!" and affirming spiritual gifts. Music printed in our bulletin and streamed online is covered by One License #A-728738 authorizing their use.

### Contact Cards

There are Contact Cards in each pew. Visitors are invited to connect with us by filling out a Contact Card and placing it in the offering plate. Members may also choose to fill out a contact card if their contact information has changed.

### Children in Worship

Nursery care is available for children newborn through first grade. Our nursery is located on the lower level. Children are invited to wiggle and giggle in the pews during worship! Included in worship is a time of "Wondering with God's Children" where children are invited to come forward for a message. Afterward, they are invited to remain in worship or go downstairs with the nursery workers for the remainder of the service. Worship Bags are available for children on the rack outside the Sanctuary in the Narthex.

### Serving Today

Tech Team | Dan Walden, Jonny Atkins, Brad Hawley  
Usher Chair | Louly Hay Kapp    Acolyte | Holden Evans



## About the Carols

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade, author of this carol, was hounded out of England in 1745. He was a Roman Catholic layman in Lancashire, but because of persecution arising from the Jacobite rebellion, streams of Catholics fled to France and Portugal, where communities of English-speaking Catholics appeared.

But how could he, a refugee, support himself? In those days, the printing of musical scores was cumbersome and copying them by hand was an art. In the famous Roman Catholic College and Ministry Center in Doury, France, Wade taught music and became renowned as a copyist of musical scores. His work was exquisite.

In 1743, Wade, 32, had produced a copy of a Latin Christmas carol beginning with the phrase *Adeste Fidelis, Laeti triumphantes*. At one time, historians believed he had simply discovered an ancient hymn by an unknown author, but most scholars now believe Wade

himself composed the lyrics. Seven original hand-copied manuscripts of this Latin hymn have been found, all of them bearing Wade's signature.

John Wade passed away on August 16, 1786, at age 75. His obituary honored him for his "beautiful manuscripts" that adorned chapels and homes.

As time passed, English Catholics began returning to Britain, and they carried Wade's Christmas carol with them. More time passed, and one day an Anglican minister named Rev. Frederick Oakeley, who preached at Margaret Street Chapel in London, came across Wade's Latin Christmas carol. Being deeply moved, he translated it into English for Margaret Street Chapel. The first line of Oakeley's translation said: "Ye Faithful, Approach Ye."

Somehow, "Ye Faithful, Approach Ye," didn't catch on, and several years later Oakeley tried again. By this time, Oakeley, too was a Roman Catholic priest, having converted to Catholicism in 1845. Perhaps his grasp of Latin had improved, because as he repeated over and over the Latin phrase *Adeste Fidelis, Lati triumphantes*, he finally came up with the simpler, more vigorous *O Come, All Ye Faithful, joyful and triumphant!*

So two brave Englishmen, Catholics, lovers of Christmas and lovers of carols, living a hundred years apart, writing in two different nations, combined their talents to bid us come, joyful and triumphant, and adore Him born the King of angels. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

## **Joy to the World**

Until Isaac Watts came along, most of the singing in British churches was from the Psalms of David. The church - especially the Church of Scotland - had labored over the Psalms with great effort and scholarship, translating them into poems with rhyme and rhythm suitable for singing. As a young man in Southampton, Isaac had become dissatisfied with the quality of singing, and he keenly felt the limitations of being able to only sing these Psalms. So he "invented" the English hymn.

He did not, however, neglect the Psalms. In 1719, he published a unique hymnal - one in which he had translated, interpreted, and paraphrased the Old Testament Psalms through the eyes of New Testament faith. He called it simply *The Psalms of David Imitated in the Language of the New Testament*. Taking various Psalms, he studied them from the perspective of Jesus and the New Testament, and then formed them into verses for singing.

"I have rather expressed myself as I may suppose David would have done if he lived in the days of Christianity," Watts explained, "And by this means, perhaps, I have sometimes hit upon the true intent of the Spirit of God in those verses father and clearer than David himself could ever discover."

Watt's archenemy, Thomas Bradbury, was greatly critical of Watts' songs, which he called *whims* instead of *hymns*. He accused Watts of thinking he was King David. Watts

replied in a letter, "You tell me that I rival it with David, whether he or I be the sweet psalmist of Israel. I abhor the thought; while yet, at the same time, I am fully persuaded that the Jewish psalm book was never designed to be the only Psalter for the Christian church."

"Joy to the World!" is Isaac Watts' interpretation of Psalm 98, which says: "Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth" (verse 4). As he read Psalm 98, Isaac pondered the real reason for shouting joyfully to the Lord - the Messiah has come to redeem us. The result, despite the now-forgotten criticisms of men like Bradbury, has been a timeless carol that has brightened our Christmases for more than 300 years.



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
COVINGTON, GA

**1169 Clark Street SW, Covington, GA 30014 | [fpccov.org](http://fpccov.org) | 770.786.7321**

### Mission Statement

Covington First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community existing to glorify God by welcoming all of God's children. We celebrate through serving, teaching, praying, eating, crying, singing, and dancing with the Holy Spirit. As works in progress, we seek to respond to God's presence in our church, lives, and community.

### Want to Get Involved?

Reach out to become a more involved member of the church! We always have something happening that we would love for you to be a part of. You could be an integrated member of our church by volunteering with witness team, becoming an usher, joining a book club, singing in the choir or many other activities. Reach out to the office and we'll point you in the right direction!  
Email: [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org) or call: 770-786-7321

### Deacons

Day Kennon (2022)  
Eleanor Scarborough (2023)  
Darcel Tabb (2024)  
Alice Walker (2022)

### Session

**Class of 2022**  
John McCarthy *Clerk of Session*  
Aubrey Evans *Christian Education*  
Stephanie Scarborough *Worship*  
Trista Hooten Wilson *Welcome*

**Class of 2023**  
Stan Hall *Facilities*  
Louly Hay Kapp *Marketing*  
Ed Perkerson *Strategic Planning*  
Bob Tabb *Finance*

**Class of 2024**  
Billy Fortson *Personnel*  
Pat Harper *Worship*  
Curtis Watson *Witness*

### First Presbyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	<i>Senior Pastor</i>	<i>Nursery Staff</i>
Erin Morgan	<i>Associate Pastor</i>	Danielle Schubert
Alicia Taylor	<i>Dir. of Music &amp; Worship Arts</i>	Beverley Beasley
Alice Walker	<i>CAGO, AAGO Organist/ Ambassador Choir</i>	Samantha Boozer
Catherine Laseter	<i>Dir. of Communications &amp; Operations</i>	Laina Lalane
Peni Kehoe	<i>Finance Administrator</i>	Kennedy Lynn
		Amanda Sotolongo
		Kyla White

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

### Illness

- ✦ Hulda, friend of Judy Davis - breast cancer
- ✦ Jody Harris, friend of Chris, Barbara and Alex Martin
- ✦ Dan Walden - knee surgery recovery
- ✦ Richard, friend of Miriam and Jack Wheeler - chemo and radiation
- ✦ Joe Burns, brother of Cathy Dobbs
- ✦ Stephanie Fortson - broken hip
- ✦ Patrick Carmichael
- ✦ Beverly Beasley, friend of Jean Elder - caring for husband who has leukemia
- ✦ Larry Cox, brother-in-law of Randy Layton - cancer
- ✦ Bob Darby, friend of Jeff MacKenzie - leg amputated, kidney problems

- ✦ Bruce Hamilton, brother-in-law of Theodosia Wade - cancer
- ✦ Lonnie Lamb - chemotherapy
- ✦ Gary Lott, brother of Tricia Hinton - recovering at home following two brain surgeries
- ✦ Linea Lott, niece of Tricia Hinton - leukemia treatment
- ✦ Karen Lein Kaasa, sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie - home health care
- ✦ Tony Taylor, brother of Alicia Taylor - gradually gaining strength with physical therapy
- ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining - vision loss
- ✦ Blair Weaver - health issues
- ✦ Joyce Williams, sister of Danny Vining - Alzheimer's

### Military Service

- ✦ Billy Scarborough - Marines
- ✦ Koen Ardis - Navy

### Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Penny Blakeney - Oaks Assisted Living
- ✦ Julia Brubaker - Benton House
- ✦ Jean Elder - Florida with her daughter
- ✦ Dot Fincher - Merryvale
- ✦ Travis Moss - Westbury, Conyers
- ✦ Gene Wallace - Merryvale
- ✦ Louise White - Merryvale

### Prayer Requests

All prayer requests should be sent to:  
[catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org)  
Requests may be removed after three weeks if not updated.

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, some of you may be planning to make donations to the church for **the 2022 tax year** or to fulfill your pledge and giving for the year. If you wish your donations to be credited for this year they must reach the church **no later than December 31st**. Contact our finance administrator, Peni Kehoe, with you questions or to learn about fulfilling your minimum IRA distribution.

**Peni Kehoe:** (770)786-7321, ext. 1011 | [peni@fpccov.org](mailto:peni@fpccov.org)



## Christmas Day

Everyone is invited to join us for a simplified Christmas service with communion on Sunday, December 25th at 11:00am! There will not be childcare available in the nursery but children of all ages are invited to wear their jammies to worship!

You are invited to **"Text to Give"** your offering. Text FPCCOV followed by your donation amount to: 73256  
Or point your camera at the QR code and follow the link to give online.



**Each year during the Christmas Season, we at FPC, Covington, like to show our appreciation and gratitude to our church staff members who give so much of themselves on our behalf throughout the course of each year. We ask for your participation in this effort by making a contribution to the **Staff Love Gift fund** by **December 18th**.**

**Sincerely,**  
**John McCarthy, Clerk of Session**

# The Longest Night

**December 21st**

**5:30pm**

*We will honor our weary hearts in a weary season in a weary world and travel the road of Advent together as honestly as we can on a quest for encouragement, hope, and strength in the places we are currently living - emotionally, spiritually, and physically.*

We are holding you in the light of God's love and peace this Advent Season.



**All of the Angel Tree Angels have been claimed!**  
Remember that the gifts must be returned to the narthex no later than **Tuesday, December 13th** It is very important that the tags be returned attached to the gifts so it can reach its Angel!

**Christmas Eve**  
Saturday, December 24th  
**6:00pm**  
Join us on Christmas Eve as we tell this story to pass along this good news and to continue to thread together the generations with hope.  
Childcare provided

**Christmas Caroling**  
Wednesday, December 14th at 5:00pm  
Meet at the FPC to carol in The Cottage Links at Corrydale

**Sunday, December 11**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
11:00am Worship - Lessons & Carols  
12:00pm Youth Lunch and Caroling

**Monday, December 12**  
8:00am Advent Poetry and Prayer  
5:30pm Women-on-the-Go

**Tuesday, December 13**  
Angel Tree Return Deadline  
12:00pm Lectio Divina  
2:15pm Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, December 14**  
4:00pm Christmas Pageant Practice  
5:00pm Christmas Caroling  
7:00pm Chancel Choir

**Sunday, December 18**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship - Christmas Pageant  
3:00pm Organ and Piano Concert

## organ and piano concert



Featuring  
Alice Walker  
and Becky  
Ramsey  
First United  
Methodist Church  
Sunday,  
December 18th  
**3:00PM**

Repertoire will be Sacred, Classical, and Christmas Selections.