

RELIGIOUS.

Christmas falling on Sunday gives special importance to the religious observance of the day. The plans for appropriate celebration of the great festival occasion have been made with unusual care this season. The various churches will all have exercises of exceptional interest. The service at Elm Park church will be the most elaborate ever held in that church on a similar occasion. Rev. Dr. C. M. Giffin will give a fine address in the morning when special Christmas music will be rendered by the quartette. In the evening a most delightful programme will be given, when the quartette will be assisted by a splendid chorus of sixteen voices. The numbers will include antiphonal singing by a girls' chorus and a chorus of men, stationed at the opposite end of the gallery where a second organ will lead the responsive music. It is expected that a quartette of brass instruments will also assist in the accompaniment. Fred Widmayer will play violin solos, Mrs. F. P. Price and Mrs. J. Alfred Pennington will assist in piano and organ accompaniments. English carols will also be sung. The Christmas choir will consist of the following: Misses Edith James, A. Livia Jones, Margaret Jones, Josephine Medway, Katherine Monzan, Elizabeth F. Rice, Clara Simpson, Elizabeth Thomas, Mary Thomas, Mrs. G. F. Reynolds, Messrs. H. H. Heidemann, Frederic W. Emrich, Henry Evans, Hector James, Willis T. Leonard, Curtis Powell, Abram L. Thomas, Richard J. Thomas, Alfred Wooler.

The Sunday school exercises will be on Tuesday following Christmas, when a cantata will be among the features. In the First Presbyterian church the day will be given up to Christmas festivities. In the morning Dr. McLeod will deliver an appropriate address and the choir will render appropriate music. In the afternoon a unit service of all the Sunday schools connected with the church will be held. In the evening an elaborate song service will be held.

At the Second Presbyterian church a similar plan will be observed, when beautiful music will be given, under the direction of Organist Chance. A unique feature of the Christmas celebration will be the part taken by the children, who will bring gifts for little people less favored than themselves. A most elaborate musical programme will be rendered at the Penn avenue Baptist church, and the pastor, Rev. R. F. Y. Pierce, will give a characteristic sermon. The beautiful service for Christmas will be held in St. Luke's and Grace

Reformed churches, while at the Cathedral this great holiday of the year will be celebrated with all the impressiveness which every accompaniment Christmas tide.

Last Wednesday evening the members of the First Christian church, North Scranton, reluctantly accepted the resignation of Rev. R. R. Bulglin, who has been their pastor for the last eighteen months. During this time Rev. Bulglin has seen the edifice completely remodelled and re-furnished, making it one of the finest church buildings in the North End. About forty new members were added to the rolls. He has also succeeded in organizing a new congregation of disciples of Christ, to which charge he has been called as pastor. Their edifice on Tripp avenue has also been remodelled and re-furnished. Rev. Bulglin began the work in this place with eight members. Today it has about forty. Three months ago a Sunday school was organized with seventeen scholars. At the present time over 100 are enrolled.

In commemoration of the great achievements in our national life during the year just closing, Rev. Robert F. Y. Pierce has arranged a special service at the Penn avenue church for tomorrow evening. The members of the National Guard will be in attendance under the command of Colonel Watson. They will be the first time the new guard have attended church services since their being mustered in. The Grand Army men will be in attendance also, and all the old soldiers now in the city are cordially invited. A special programme has been arranged for this service. The pastor will preach on "Greater America, or the New Era in Our National Life."

In the Second Presbyterian church, under the direction of J. M. Chance, the following music will be rendered: Organ Prelude, Invocation in B Flat, Dubois Anthem, "Crossing the Bar," Words by Tennyson, "Schneckenlied," Miss Black, Miss Landon and Choir, Offertory, Ducl, "There is a Green Hill," Armstrong Organ Postlude, "Salome."

Religious News Notes

Professor F. Hulley, of Keystone academy, will preach in the Waverly Baptist church Sunday morning, Dec. 18, at 10:30. The Rev. Sydney K. Evans, M. A.,

will be ordained to the priesthood at St. Luke's church by the Right Rev. Ethelbert Talbot, D. D., tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock. On Monday the Rev. Mr. Evans will return to Manheim, Pa., where he is rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church.

Rev. E. J. Morris, of Wilkes-Barre, will occupy the pulpit of the Plymouth Congregational church tomorrow at both regular services.

The Rev. Thomas de Gruchy having fully recovered from his recent illness will occupy his own pulpit next Sabbath at both services.

Will J. McConnell, the famous temperance orator, will begin a series of lectures in the Waverly Baptist church Sunday evening, Dec. 18.

At the Baptist ministers' conference on Monday morning Rev. J. R. Ellis, of Blakey, will read a paper on "The Sphinx and the Savior, a voice from Egypt."

The annual meeting of the congregation of the Plymouth Congregational church will be held at the church next Monday evening. It will be a very important meeting as a call will be issued for a pastor.

The Philippine question will be discussed by Rev. Dr. James McLeod at the First Presbyterian church tomorrow evening. The topic will be "What Should Our Christian Nation do with Our New Possessions?" but his thought will be chiefly directed to the Philippine problem.

The Sunday afternoon meeting of the Young Men's Christian association will be held tomorrow at 3:45 in the old rooms at 124 Washington avenue. George E. Davis, who is so well known in Scranton, has been secured for this service. Young men are cordially invited to be present. Music by Association orchestra. Good singing.

Every preparation is made for the conclusion of confirmation exercises next Monday evening in St. David's Episcopal church. A class of twelve candidates will be presented by the rector, Rev. E. J. McHenry. The service will commence promptly at 7:30 o'clock and Rt. Rev. Bishop Ethelbert Talbot, D. D., LL. D., of this diocese, will be in charge.

Tomorrow's Services

Episcopal. St. Luke's Parish—Rev. Rogers Israel, rector; Rev. B. J. Haugland, senior curate; Rev. M. E. Nash, junior curate. Fourth Sunday in Advent. Holy communion, 10:30 a. m., morning prayer, confirmation and ordination services, 7:30 a. m., evening prayer and sermon, 8:15 a. m., Sunday school and Bible classes, 10:30 a. m., St. Mark's, Dunmore—8 a. m., Holy Communion; 9:30 a. m., morning prayer and sermon; 7:30 p. m., Sunday school and Bible classes.

Evangelical Lutheran. Grace Lutheran Church—Corner Madison avenue and Mulberry street. Rev. Foster E. Giff, pastor. Services at 10:30 a. m. and at 7:30 p. m. Morning theme, "The Inheritors of the Earth," evening theme, "Horses and Chariots," one of the series on "Mountain Top Meditation."

Methodist. Elm Park Church—Prayer and praise service at 9:30; preaching at 10:30 a. m., by the pastor, C. M. Giffin, D. D.; Sunday school at 2; and for children at 6:30 p. m. Topic at 7:30 p. m., "A Fine Fruit from the Christmas Tree."

Presbyterian. First Presbyterian Church—Services, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Dr. McLeod will preach. Evening subject: "What Should Our Christian Nation Do with Our New Possessions?"

Baptist. Penn Avenue Baptist Church—Preaching morning at 10:30 and evening at 7:30 by the pastor, Rev. Robert F. Y. Pierce. Morning prayers in the vestry at 9:45. Topic of the morning sermon, "Our Trials, and the Reward of Suffering." Sunday school at 2 o'clock. Young People's meeting at 6:30 p. m. At 7:30 a patriotic service commemorating the struggles and vicissitudes of the grand army of the Republic. Watres and staff members of the National guard will be present, also the members of the Grand Army of the Republic. The service will be in the morning. Topic, "Our Country—It's Dawn, Its Defenders, Its Destiny." At the American Memorial mission, Sunday school at 2:30 and preaching at 7:30.

First Baptist Church—Scranton street. Rev. S. F. Matthews, pastor. The usual preaching service morning and evening by the pastor, Rev. Robert F. Y. Pierce. Will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee. Isaiah xxvi, 3. Theme for evening, "The Treasure House of Strength." Sunday school, 2 p. m., Dr. Reddoe superintendent. Young People's prayer meeting, 6 p. m., Industrial school, 2:30 p. m., Saturday. All are cordially invited to these services.

Green Ridge Baptist Church—Rev. W. J. Ford, pastor. Services at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. In the morning, "The Monarch of Montezuma." In the evening, "Confessing Sin."

North Main Avenue Baptist Church—Rev. W. G. Watkins, pastor. Preaching services at 10:30 and 7:30. School at 2 o'clock. Theme of the morning sermon: "The Funeral Sermon of a Nation." Evening subject, "The Power of the Cross." There will be special music. All are invited.

Jackson Street Baptist Church—Morning prayer meeting at 9:30. Brother Parry, leader; morning service at 10:30, preaching by the pastor, the Rev. Thomas de Gruchy, topic, "God in the Scaffolds of Every Man." Sunday school at 2 p. m., George Nichols, superintendent; evening service at 7 sharp, praise and song service followed by an address on "Science Truly So Called." The public is cordially invited to attend this popular service.

cal and instrumental concert in the chapel. Last course of Men's union. The Second Presbyterian Church—Rev. Charles E. Robinson, D. D., pastor. Services, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The pastor will preach morning and evening. All are welcome at all services.

Summer Avenue Presbyterian Church—Corner of Summer avenue and Price street. Rev. L. R. Foster, M. A., pastor. Regular services at 10:30 a. m. and 6 p. m. The pastor will preach in the evening upon the topic, "Showing Our Manhood." Sunday school at 2 p. m. Christian Endeavor service at 7 p. m.

Washington Street Presbyterian Church—Rev. John P. Moffat, pastor. Services at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Bible school at 12 m. Christian Endeavor society at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7:30 p. m. The pastor will preach morning and evening. In the evening he will give the last of the series on "That Daughter of Ours." The evening music will include "The New Home; the Wife's Duty; the Husband's Duty; the Mother; no True Home Without Children in It; Reasons Why So Many Young Men Chose." All cordially welcome to all of these services.

Taylor Presbyterian Church—Taylor, Pa. Rev. L. R. Foster, M. A., pastor. Regular services at 10:30 a. m. Preaching by the pastor, Sunday school at 11:30 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 7:30 p. m.

Waverly Street Presbyterian Church—Rev. John P. Moffat, pastor. Services at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Bible school at 12 m. Christian Endeavor society at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7:30 p. m. The pastor will preach morning and evening. In the evening he will give the last of the series on "That Daughter of Ours." The evening music will include "The New Home; the Wife's Duty; the Husband's Duty; the Mother; no True Home Without Children in It; Reasons Why So Many Young Men Chose." All cordially welcome to all of these services.

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Shiloh Baptist Church—36 Center street. Preaching, 10:30 a. m.; Sunday school, 2 p. m.; Young People's union, 7 p. m.; evening subject, "No Other Name." All are welcome. Rev. J. H. Bell, pastor.

Miscellaneous. Grace Reformed Episcopal Church—Wyoming avenue, below Mulberry street. Prayer and praise service, 9:30 a. m.; divine worship, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Preaching by the pastor, Morning, "Zanussi's Story," 1 Cor. 1:30. Evening, "Stuntin' in Dunbar," continued, Daniel vii, 11-21. Sabbath school, 12 m. Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, 6:30 p. m. All welcome. All welcome. Thursday evening at 7:45 o'clock the Union Bible class for lesson study. At the close of the lesson study the chart study of the Great Pyramid.

People's Prohibition church—Rev. Dr. Hirt, pastor. There will be regular preaching services on Sunday evening in No. 123 Cooperative hall, North Main avenue, Hyde Park, at 7:30 p. m. and in Moral hall, Breaker street, Green Ridge, at 8:30 p. m. Subject, "Christian Science in Relation to Mother, Mind and Medicine." All welcome.

First Church of Christ (Scientist)—539 Adams avenue. Sunday services: 10:30 a. m. subject, "Is the Universe, Including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?" and 7:30 p. m. subject, "The Captivity of Judah." Wednesday evening meeting at 8 o'clock. All welcome.

Plymouth Congregational Church—Jackson street. Regular services at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Preaching by Rev. E. J. Morris, of Wilkes-Barre. Sunday school at 12 o'clock. Sherman avenue mission school at 2:15 p. m. Christian Endeavor services at 7:30 o'clock. Tuesday evening, United Evangelical Church—Capoune avenue. Rev. C. D. Moore, pastor. Sabbath school, 9:45 a. m.; preaching, 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Keystone League Christian Endeavor, 6:30 p. m.; Junior Christian Endeavor, Monday 7 p. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 p. m. A corollary invitation is extended to the public to attend these services.

All Souls' Universalist Church—Rev. F. W. Whipple, pastor. Morning subject, "Truth and Life." Evening subject, "The Bible to the Time of Abraham." Topic for the Young People's meeting, "Religion a Source of Joy."

Catholic Reformed Church—Corner Monroe avenue and Gibson street. Rev. G. W. Welsh, pastor. 10:30 a. m., morning services; 11:45, Sunday school; 6:45, Christian Endeavor; 7:30 p. m., evening service. Seats free. All welcome.

Tripp Avenue Christian Church, Dunmore. Rev. R. B. Grant, pastor. Bible school, 2:30 p. m.; communion, 2:30 p. m.; preaching, 7:30 p. m.

Christmas Greetings. Could any one think of a more substantial and acceptable gift than one of our Handsome Tailored Overcoats, which have been the envy of our competitors? Perhaps a Suit, Reefer or Ulster. Beautifully finished Overcoats, all-wool, either in black, blue or brown kersey and covert cloths, at \$8.50. If you can spare more money, we can give you still a better quality at \$10.00 and \$12.00, elegantly finished, all wool, either in chevots, Stylish Made Suits, clays or cashmeres, at \$8.50. Any Garment Purchased if Not Satisfactory Will Be Made So or Money Refunded at KRAMER BROS. Don't neglect the Boys, but give them Sensible Gifts. Nothing better than a Nice Top Coat, Stylish Reefer, or one of our pretty Suits. We have them at all prices. Our Hat and Furnishing Departments are the most complete in this City. We have the exclusive agency for the Celebrated Manhattan Shirts. Their holiday patterns are beautiful. Newest styles and shapes in Neckwear. We have them at 25c, formerly sold for 50c. Our Glove Department contains the strongest as well as the Dressiest Styles. Special this week—Fine Dress Kid at 75c. Largest assortment of House Coats and Bath Robes in all colors. Our low prices sell them quickly. Don't buy your Gifts before calling at KRAMER BROS. Popular Clothing House. 325 Lackawanna Ave.

Christmas. Christmas shoppers will find an interesting line of China and Glassware Novelties in our stock, from all parts of the world. Dinner Sets, Chamber Sets, Tea Sets, China Clocks, Fern Dishes, Jardinieres and Pedestals, Tobacco Jars, Pipe Racks, Etc. Call and examine our stock. No trouble to show goods. THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO. 422 Lackawanna Avenue.

THE MOOSIC POWDER CO. Rooms 1 and 2, Com'lth B'ld'g. SCRANTON, PA. Mining and Blasting POWDER Made at Moosic and Bushdale Works. LAFLETT & RAND POWDER CO'S ORANGE GUN POWDER Electric Batteries, Electric Exploders, for exploding bluffs, Safety Fuse and Repauno Chemical Co's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. THE GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL P. H. Durkin, Prop. 214 LACKAWANNA AVENUE, Scranton, Pa. American and European Plan. Public Catering a Specialty. Grand Central Annex, 215 Lackawanna Avenue. Finest Furnished Rooms in the City. Public Catering a Specialty.

C. G. BOLAND & CO., New Republican Building, 231 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, Pa. General Insurance. REPRESENTING OLD AND RELIABLE COMPANIES. Prompt and Satisfactory Adjustment of Losses.

Store Open Evenings Until Christmas. THE LEADER Scranton Store—124-126 Wyoming Ave. A real Christmas carnival—Saturday Every effort is being made to prepare this store for one of the biggest rush days it has ever seen, for such we anticipate today—weather permitting. Additional help has been engaged in all of the most important departments and everything has been done to facilitate business. Having been filled to overflowing since our reopening, we have had ample time to test every portion of our store system, and to be truthful with you—we find nothing lacking anywhere. Plenty of help. No waiting, no delay. Store is decorated today as it never was before, Laurel and holly wherever you may look, and thousands of holly twigs for your own personal adornment, if you so fancy. Ask for them. Holiday dress patterns. One of the most sensible gifts anyone can think of. If the pattern does not suit the receiver there is nothing easier than to exchange it here. Just the thing, if you want a sensible suggestion. Holiday Big sale of ladies' jackets and misses' jackets now, in order to close out our stock while it is still new. We never carry any garments from one season to another. Excellent values here—real worth ranging from \$5 to \$30.00, at \$3.98 to \$19.98. Holiday Biggest assortment of novelties in this city. Albums of every description, musical and otherwise. Toilet, manicure, shaving and jewelry sets. Glove, handkerchief, jewel and collar boxes, from the cheapest to the best. Big choice at from 39c to \$5.98. Holiday We offer here just a few of the suggestions that our immense book department affords. Our stock comprises books that are appropriate for everybody. For instance: Henty books for boys, illustrated, cloth bound...29c Vassar books, the favorite for girls, cloth...35c Henty books, extra holiday edition, illuminated cover...45c All the newest books by favorite authors, copyright editions and special holiday bindings. Religious books and classics of every description. Lebeck & Corin

A Neat Pair of Slippers Flakes the Most Appreciated of Christmas Gifts We have an elegant assortment. Prices From 49c Upward. A beautiful Calendar for 1899 and a "Peter and Patty" picture book given with each sale. These books are just out and will please the little boys and girls immensely. Standard Shoe Store, HANDIEST STORE IN THE CITY 217 LACKA AVE