

ORDER OF WORSHIP

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

Eleven O'Clock

Greeters: Elizabeth Price and Lori Gast
Liturgist: Bryan Booth

PRELUDE:

- I. *Ukrainian Bell Carol* - M. Leontovitch, arr. Lani Smith
- II. *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* - CRANHAM, arr. Charity Boyles

CHIMING THE HOUR

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS **Psalm 118 says: This is the Day that the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! Good morning and welcome. It is so nice to see all of you here this morning. Please remember to sign the attendance registers located in each pew. It is time for announcements, and I have the first one. We are going to do sing Christmas Carols in lieu of a sermon. Does anybody else have an announcement they would like to make?**

Please stand, in body or spirit, and join me in our Call to Worship and remain standing through the response

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Responsively)

Leader: **We live in the hope of a bright future.**

People: **We look for the birth of a Savior.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

***PRAISE CHORUS:**

Hymn No. 106 "*Prepare the Way, O Zion*" vs 1 BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

Please bow your heads for our Opening Prayer

***OPENING PRAYER** **God of hope, You call us home from the exiles of selfish oppression to the freedom of justice, the balm of healing, and the joy of sharing. Make us strong to join You in Your holy work, as friends of strangers and victims, companions of those whom others shun, and as the happiness of those whose hearts are broken. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Our first hymn today is

***HYMN No. 82**

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

***CALL TO CONFESSION** **If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God Who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.**

Let us pray...

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Omniscient God, who knows the secrets of our hearts, know the depth of our repentance. Forgive us when we fail to be the people You have instructed us to be. Guide us with Your hand as we struggle with the temptations of this world. We ask in Jesus' name. (Please wait about 20 seconds and then say) Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Brothers and sisters in Christ, believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE:**

Hymn No. 71 *"Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me"* (Refrain only) FIRST SONG
Surely it is God who saves me, I will trust and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and God will be my Savior.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Bryan Booth and Barry Krueger

(Congregation sings)

As we light the Advent Candle
with the light of *Joy* burning bright,
faithfully we wait for His coming;
faithfully it shines through the night.
In our humble hearts a fire burns as well;
hear the prayers these flames would tell.

Pat Nash would you please come up here now

A MINUTE FOR MISSION

Pat Nash

Please bow your heads for our Prayer of Illumination

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Open our ears that we may hear Your voice through all the noise of our commercial world. Give us the certain knowledge that, as You have in all ages past, You still rule in glory. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON From Isaiah 12:2-6 (Please read responsively)

Leader: **Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation.**

People: **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

Leader: **And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known His deeds among the nations; proclaim that His name is exalted.**

People: **Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

People: **Thanks be to God!**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Our New Testament Lesson comes from Philippians 4:4-7, you may follow along in your Pew Bibles on Page 198

Our choir will now sing the Anthem:

ANTHEM: *Light of the World* - David Lantz, III

GOSPEL LESSON Our Gospel Lesson comes from Luke 3:7-18, you may follow along in your Pew Bibles on Page 60

SERMON TIME HYMNS

HYMN No. 133	<i>“O Come, All Ye Faithful”</i>	ADESTE FIDELES
HYMN No. 147	<i>“The First Nowell”</i>	THE FIRST NOWELL
HYMN No. 123	<i>“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”</i>	CAROL
HYMN No. 119	<i>“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”</i>	MENDELSSOHN

Those who are able, please stand and join me in Affirmation of Faith as it is printed in your bulletin.

***AFFIRMATION** The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

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

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 581 *“Glory Be to the Father”* GLORIA PATRI

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.**

You may be seated. It is now time for our Prayer Concerns and Celebrations. Does anybody have anything they would like to share?

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY Prayer concerns and celebrations

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

It is now time to give to God a portion of what He has given to us

OFFERTORY: *Still, Still Still* - Traditional, German, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Handbell Solo by Heidi Yuhanna

Our last Hymn today is:

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 606 *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

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

Our last Hymn today is:

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Merciful God of peace, Your word, spoken by the prophets, restores Your people's life and hope. Fill our hearts with the joy of Your saving grace, that we may hold fast to Your great goodness, in our lives proclaim Your justice in all the world. Amen.

Let us come to God with our prayer of Thanksgiving

***HYMN No. 145**

“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

***BENEDICTION**

A Joyful Benediction

Be people of joy.

Let joy live in your heart and share the joy of Christ with all you meet.

Share joy by seeing the good in each other.

Share joy by remembering good times and hoping for good times to come.

Share joy by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share joy.

As you go out into the wonder of God’s creations, share joy, peace, and hope with those you meet.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE:**

Hymn No. 79

“Light Dawns on a Weary World” vs 1

TEMPLE OF PEACE

Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people’s dignity.

Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** **May the Peace of Christ be with you!**

***POSTLUDE:** *Sing We Now of Christmas* - French Carol, arr. Gordon Young

***Those who are able may stand.**

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*Please join us for our Annual Cookie Exchange
following the Worship Service*

POINTSETTIAS

QTY DONOR

IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF

1 Barry Krueger

1 Barry Krueger

Anne E. Krueger

Timothy R. Krueger

1	Bryan Booth Krueger	Wayne Earl Booth Jr.
2	Pat Nash	Celebrating Jesus' birth
2	Irmagene Mitchell	In memory of loved ones
		In honor of the choir
2	Joan Christy	In celebration of this church
3	Elizabeth Price	In celebration of the life of Byron Price
2	Joe And Lorrinda Alexander	In memory of Joe and Lois Alexander
		In memory of I.D. and Willie Fewell
2	Julie Ciuro	In memory of family
1	Chika Kanu	In celebration of our families
2	Bill and Lori Gast	In celebration of our families

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CLOTHES FOR THE NEEDY

Fall is here and our thoughts are with the homeless. We are collecting clothing for the needy. Especially needed are men's clothing, and socks in dark colors in all sizes. Please bring these items to the church and place them in the laundry basket located in the opportunity corner.

Thank you, Faith in Action

THE ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree this year will be the same as last year: that is, envelopes will be put out for you to put your contribution in toward a gift from the Presbyterian gift catalog. You may put the envelope in the collection plate when it is passed. If you want credit on your statement for it, you should include your name on the envelope. Or you may simply write a check and note "Angel Tree" in the memo space.

A reminder also that we will be collecting funds for the Christmas Joy Offering. More on this later.

Thank you very much for your continued generosity. The Faith in Action Committee.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

06:00 PM Cub Pack 789 Tigers

07:00 PM Boy Scouts 109

THURSDAY

10:00 AM Art Group

NEXT SUNDAY – 4th Sunday in Advent

09:15 AM Choir Practice

10:30 AM Bible Study

11:00 AM Worship Service

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Leaders

Our Presbytery, our church, our Session

Our Troops

Millie Allen

Tom Price needs continued prayers

Continued prayers for Bill and Nina Swaney

Bill's father, Bill Gast

Sue Fitch

Continued prayers for Joan's nephew, Ryan McNeil

Makia and Mireille Epie

Joe and Lorrinda Alexander

Joan's sister Shirley Gearheart and her kids

Irmagene Mitchell

Steve Rangel

Bob Drury

Bruce Allen

Prayers for those who are unable to go to church, but would love to

Joe's friend, Kevin Kimsy – he had a stroke and has other medical problems

Pray for Russia – Christians can't share Christ in public

Travel mercies for Gene Knox as he travels on his 89 day cruise

Karla Krueger, she has M.S. and is very sick

Lorrinda Alexander's hip replacement surgery is scheduled on December 19th

Mireille's co-workers

Fires in California

Carolyn Douglas – recovering from knee surgery

Travel mercies for Janet and Julie

Pat Nash has glaucoma

Sonia Wills husband has to have heart surgery

Jennifer Swan had kidney surgery, and is in a lot of pain

Nancy's granddaughter is being deployed for 4 months to an unknown location

Kathy Poyner and her family

Howard and Cathy McCreary and family

CELEBRATIONS

Janet and Julie are having a wonderful time

Jeff and April Alexander adopted a boy, his name is Jace