

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM

**PRELUDE**

*A Song of Thankfulness*

E. Broughton

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

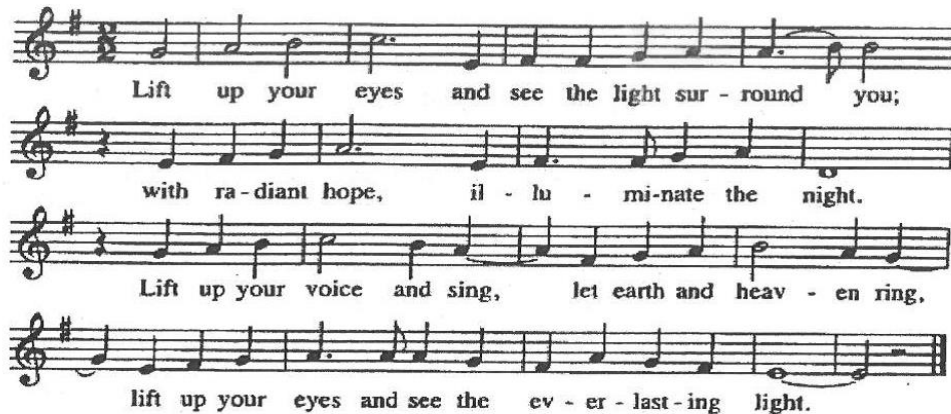
**\*PASSING the PEACE**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Leader: During Advent, God's promise illuminates our hope.  
**People: On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.**  
 Leader: In times of fear, we place our hope in the One who brings peace.  
**People: On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.**  
 Leader: In times of grief, we place our hope in the One who offers comfort.  
**People: On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.**  
 Leader: In times of wondering, we place our hope in the One who speaks truth.  
**People: On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.**

**Advent Candle Lighting by Prudence Adibah family**

(after the candle) is lite the congregation will sing the song below)



Lift up your eyes and see the light sur-round you;  
 with ra-diant hope, il-lu-mi-nate the night.  
 Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heav-en ring,  
 lift up your eyes and see the ev-er-last-ing light.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP(responsively)**

**Liturgist: Chris Williams**

Leader: Show us Your mercy, O Lord. Send us a sign of Your presence and love.  
**People: Grant us Your salvation, Lord, for we are weary and worn.**  
 Leader: The Lord's Truth shall indeed be among us.  
**People: God's Outrageousness comes from heaven to be in our midst.**  
 Leader: And there shall be peace to all who turn to God in their hearts.  
**All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

**\*HYMN #84**

*Creator of the Stars of Night (vs. 1-3)*

Conditor Alme Siderum

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: As we lift our prayers to the Lord, we know that we fail to follow in God's way for us. Join me in honest, humble admission of our sin.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Lord, so often we have been like those of old who waited for You to send a Savior. We have prayed for You to deliver us from our circumstances, but we have not been willing to accept Your leadership in our lives. Forgive us, Lord, for not seeing Your presence around us and for acting at times like Jesus did not die for our sins. Hear our silent confessions.

**\*SILENT CONFESSION**

**\*DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)**

Leader: Scriptures remind us that the Outrageous One is upright and good.  
**People: God instructs us in the way of righteousness and leads us along paths of steadfast love.**  
 Leader: Wait upon God all the day long, abide in the covenant, and rely on the truth  
**People: God is our salvation and worthy of trust!**  
**All: Praise God for through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen!**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 113

*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**ANTHEM**

*The Candle Carol*

K. Lee Scott

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 65:17-19, 25

**SERMON**

*Outrageous*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**

*[from the Confession of Belhar]*

We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER ("debts")**

**OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

**Offertory**

**Haleluhu**

trad. Hebrew/M. Slegers

**\*Doxology (Unison)**

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*HYMN #87**

***Comfort, Comfort Now My People***

Genevan 42

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE HYMN #105 *People, Look East (vs 1)***

*People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.*

*Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.*

*People, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.*

**\*POSTLUDE**

***Sing We Now of Christmas***

trad. French/M. Hayes

**Ushers: Scotty Huntington and Rosemary Apple.**

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Abby Lineberry, Bonnie Stearns, Lee Liebetreu's family, Ann Titus, Stewart & Pam Orr, Mikel Grenier, the PNC, Mary Frances & Bill Moss, Jason Sybert, the LGBTQIA+ Community, all victims of abuse, racial inequalities, all those adversely affected by the Covid-19 and its various strains, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Haiti, Ethiopia, and those picking up and trying to recover from surgery and loss.

**This is a MORE LIGHT Presbyterian Church!**

A "More Light" Presbyterian church welcomes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons to full participation in the life, ministry, and witness of the congregation. We work to expand the inclusiveness of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

*. There are no closed doors here.*

**Christ Welcomes All Here!**

First Presbyterian Church <http://www.bgpresb.org/>

More Light Presbyterians

[www.mlp.org](http://www.mlp.org)

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**STAFF MEMBERS**

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Fernando Hernandez and Monica Garcia, Sextons	
Araya Musselman, Nursery Worker	

Creator of the Stars of Night; TEXT: Latin hymn, 9<sup>th</sup> cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; as in the hymnal 1940, alt.; MUSIC: Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9<sup>th</sup> cent.; harm Alfred V. Fedak, 2011; Text Alt@1940 Church Pension Fund; Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak. Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE # A-718132. All rights reserved.

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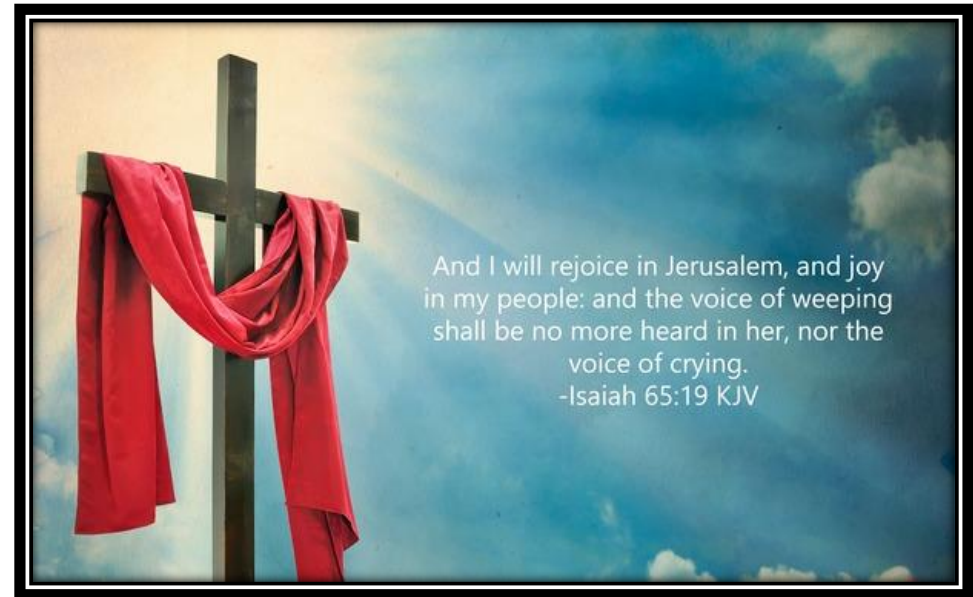
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# First Presbyterian Church

A More Light Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
126 S. Church St., Bowling Green, OH 43402



And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy  
in my people: and the voice of weeping  
shall be no more heard in her, nor the  
voice of crying.  
-Isaiah 65:19 KJV

***Outrageous***

**November 28, 2021**

**Phone: 419-352-5176**

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**Like us on Facebook**

**Webpage: [www.firstpresbyterianbg.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianbg.org)**

## Creator of the Stars of Night (vs. 1-3)

1. Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.
2. When this old word drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright, not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.
3. At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: all things on earth with one accord, like those in heaven, shall call your Lord.

## Comfort, Comfort Now My People

1. "Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God. "Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load. To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them! Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."
2. For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here. O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away. Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.
3. Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain. Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.



Christmas is not Christmas without **Christmas Caroling (December 12<sup>th</sup>)**. Aaron will lead our merry voices to share with our wonderful members who have had a tough time getting out due to Pandemic, or fragility or mobility. Join us right after worship and the fellowship hour.

## Find First Presbyterian Church of BG at these locations:



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## Week of November 28 thru December 5

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship Service – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Refreshments following in the Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>OFFICE IS CLOSED EVERY MONDAY</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Tuesday Book Group in the Green Lounge</b>
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>La Conexion in Youth Lounge</b>
	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>A.A. in the Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Sorting Clothes in the Deacons' Shop</b>
	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>BULLETIN DEADLINE EVERY WEDS.</b>
	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Lectionary Bible Study via Zoom</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Deacons' Shop is open to the public (masks required)</b>
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>La Conexion in Youth Lounge</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Green Team in the Green Lounge</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal resumes (must be vaccinated)</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship w/Communion</b>
	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mission Meeting in the Green Lounge (it will be quick)</b>
	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Advent Workshop in the Fellowship Hall</b>

**Nursery Care is provided during the worship service through the adult Sunday School hour.** Araya Musselman, a sophomore at BGSU, will be taking care of the children and providing a small Sunday School lesson. There will be activities that are provided as well as time to play in the nursery. Snacks will be provided for the children.



**Intergenerational Advent Festival today in the Fellowship Hall.** We will be making Advent Wreaths for families to take home, have activities for children/youth to do and take home. There will be family friendly "finger food" & refreshments. **Room size is limited we will only be able to accept 20 families. We ARE REQUIRING RSVP'S. RSVP's are due to the church office by Sun. 11/21.** Sign-ups will be in the Narthex and at the SW entrance to the Sanctuary. For more information contact

Michelle McDonald, Interim DCE at michelle.mcdonald@my.lpts.edu.

**Join Michelle McDonald & David Montgomery on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. for the Bible Lectionary Series** on the scripture that the sermon will be based on the following Sunday. **THIS WEEK will get ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent! We will examine Mark 6:30-44.** If you'd like to join in this discussion, please contact church office or David.



Youth will be joining in on the Intergenerational Advent event on Dec 5th. Our last meeting for the year will be Dec 12 for our Christmas party. Time TBD, but most likely at our normal time of 3:00-4:30.



**A Note from Session:** Session heard very clearly from the congregation at the gathering after Sunday's service (Nov. 14) with Pastor Jessica Commeret and Carol Burnworth that the lines of communication need to be clearer in general. Members of the Session have taken this concern to heart and plan to keep the congregation informed about relevant discussions and decisions. We are drafting a report on the pastor nomination timeline (among other issues) which will be sent out to all members by email and included in the bulletin in late November. Please note, however, that we do not and cannot speak for the PNC. Be on the look-out for more regular communications from us and do not hesitate to share your questions and concerns with your Session members.



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** is called for Sunday, December 12 right after worship for the purpose of electing officers: 3 Elders for the class of 2024; 2 Deacons for the class of 2024 and 1 Deacon for the class of 2023; and two Trustees for the class of 2024. The nominating committee will present a slate of officers yet nominations from the floor are allowed. If you have a name to nominate, please be sure your nominee agrees to serve if elected.

### Sounds of the Season Holiday Show

The church is honored that the Voices of Harmony will be hosting their Christmas show here in our sanctuary on Saturday, Dec. 11th - 7-9pm. Please join the for an evening of Holiday classics and more as we share the stage with special guests: "The Association" and "Knightlife Acapella" from Van Buren High School!



**BLUE CHRISTMAS**— The Blue Christmas Service is held around the time of the longest day of the year (Winter Solstice) which is December 21<sup>st</sup>. Churches hold these types of services for people who have lost loved ones and have difficulty during this time of year when others are feeling joyful. There are those that are feeling grief; and may even be feeling some guilt for feeling a bit joyful despite the loss of a loved one. Church members and guests come together to remember and pay respects to those who have passed on in a commemorative way that allows them to focus on the life/lives of their loved ones whom they have lost. Our church will be holding this service on Sunday, December 19th at 6 p.m. and will be lighting candles in commemoration of loved ones who have passed away. We welcome all to come to this service who are experiencing any kind of loss or need support during this time of year. Come and reflect the lives of your loved ones and know that we will be praying alongside of you in this service.



**Presbyterian Women are pleased to offer red poinsettias** for sale from Benches Greenhouse to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas and to commemorate and honor the memory of loved ones. The price this year will be \$10/plant. **Checks should be made payable to Presbyterian Women with the word "poinsettias" on the memo line.** They can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office. **The deadline to turn orders in will be Friday, December 3.** Families who purchase flowers may pick them up after the service on December 24<sup>th</sup>, or Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Please fill out your poinsettia order with the following information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Memory or Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Poinsettia plants ordered \_\_\_\_\_