

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Plainsong/D. Coates

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PASSING the PEACE**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Leader: During Advent, God's light illuminates a weary world. For any who have grown weary of waiting:

People: God speaks, "Peace, be still."

Leader: For any who are anxious about the worries of tomorrow:

People: God speaks, "Peace, be still."

Leader: For any whose lips have been silenced:

People: God speaks, "Peace, be still."

Advent Candle Lighting by

(after the candle is lit 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: Dar Bevelhymer

Leader: Come to worship where the table will be wide.

People: And the welcome will be wide.

Leader: And the arms will open wide to gather us in.

People: And our hearts will open wide to receive.

All: We come to worship our God of abundance and grace.

***HYMN #82**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: We often come as children who do not trust that there is enough. We often come hindered and bound. Let us come unhindered and free. Let us confess our sin that limits us.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Gracious Lord, we come hoping that our aching will be met by Your gracious care. We come Gracious Lord, hoping that our aching will be met with compassion and love. Help us to open our hands to the feast without shame or want. Help us to turn toward each other without fear. Comfort us so we will give up our appetite for despair and will taste and know Your delight. Hear now our silent prayer.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)**

Leader: In all our sin, we are forgiven! Hallelujah!

People: God had made us the bread for a hungry world.

Leader: And we will become drink for those who thirst.

People: And the blessed will become the blessing.

All: And everywhere there shall be the feast. Thanks be to God!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 113

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM

Carol of the Advent

E. Farjeon/P. Dietterich

GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:30-44

SERMON

Receive Abundance

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**

[from A Brief Statement of Faith]

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engage us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

JOYS AND CONCERNS & PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory

Angelus

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

*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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving with Lord's Prayer

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN #97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Aberystwyth

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE HYMN #105 *People, Look East (vs 2)*

*Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower my flourish.
People, look east: Love, the Rose, is on the way.*

*POSTLUDE

The Wexford Carol

English Carol/M. Hayes

Ushers:

IN OUR PRAYERS: Daisy Boyer & family, Abby Lineberry, Bonnie Stearns, Lee Liebetreu's family, Ann Titus, Stewart & Pam Orr, 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

www.mlp.org



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First Presbyterian Church

A More Light Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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Receive Abundance

December 5, 2021

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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

1. Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are. Traveler, what a wondrous sight: see that glory beaming star. Watchman, does its beautiful ray news of joy or hope foretell? Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.
2. Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends. Traveler, blessedness and light, peace, and truth its course portends. Watchman, will its beams along gild the spot that gave them birth? Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
3. Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn. Traveler, shadows take their flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn. Watchman, you may go your way; hasten to your quiet home. Traveler, we rejoice today, for Emmanuel has come!

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People, Look East; TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928, alt.; MUSIC: French folk melody; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928; Text ©1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd., Music Harm @1928 Oxford University Press; Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE # A-718132. All rights reserved.

Angels We Have Heard on High; TEXT: French carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1860, alt.; MUSIC: French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937; Music©1937, ren. 1965 H. Augustine Smith Jr., (admin Fleming H. Revell Company, a div. of Baker Publishing Group); Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE # A-718132. All rights reserved.

Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow; Text: Thomas Ken 1695, 1709, alt.; Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE # A-718132. All rights reserved.

Week of December 5 thru December 12

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service – 2nd Sunday of Advent
	11:00 a.m.	Refreshments following in the Fellowship Hall
		Mission Meeting in the Green Lounge (it will be quick)
	11:15 a.m.	Advent Festival/Wreath making in Fellowship Hall
MONDAY		OFFICE IS CLOSED EVERY MONDAY
TUESDAY	1:00 p.m.	Tuesday Book Group in the Green Lounge
	6:00 p.m.	La Conexion in Youth Lounge
	6:30 p.m.	La Conexion Board Meeting in the Library
	8:00 p.m.	A.A. in the Fellowship Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sorting Clothes in the Deacons' Shop
	12:00 p.m.	BULLETIN DEADLINE EVERY WEDS.
	5:30 p.m.	Lectionary Bible Study via Zoom
THURSDAY	9:30 a.m.	Deacons' Shop is open to the public (masks required)
	5:30 p.m.	Worship Meeting in person in pastor's office
	6:00 p.m.	La Conexion in Youth Lounge
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal resumes (must be vaccinated)
SATURDAY	8:30 a.m.	Deacons' Christmas Ministry at WC Senior Center
	7:00 p.m.	Voices of Harmony Christmas Concert in sanctuary
SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship w/Baptism
	11:00 a.m.	Congregational Meeting (brief) in sanctuary
	11:30 a.m.	Caroling to our homebound

Nursery Care is provided during the worship service. 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.**



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 3rd Sunday of Advent! We will examine Matthew 11:2-11.** If you'd like to join in this discussion, please contact church office or David.



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!



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is called for Sunday, December 12th right after worship for the purpose of electing officers. 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. Those being nominated and to be voted on by the congregation:

Class of 2024

Elders: Joan Callecod, Carolyn Lane, Gale Swanka
Deacon: Scotty Huntington, Doretta Schmidt
Trustee: Sue Clark, Mike Evans

Class of 2023

Deacon: Nancy Hess

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Christmas is not Christmas without **Christmas Caroling (December 12th)**. 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.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held here at the church on Dec. 12th at 8 p.m. in the Youth Lounge.



BLUE CHRISTMAS— The Blue Christmas Service is held around the time of the longest day of the year (Winter Solstice) which is December 21st. 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.

Christmas Pageant (4th Sunday of Advent) – come, Sunday morning, **Dec. 19th** to the 10 a.m. service prepared to participate in the re-telling of the Christmas Story in song, readings, and costumes.



Christmas Pageant

The Tech Team/Media Ministry committee will meet **Wednesday at 7 p.m.** What we'll call ourselves is the 1st item on the agenda. If you have ideas about the outreach of our media mission, please come and share. If you like to share your experience on the receiving end of our media outreach, we'd like to hear that too. Contact C. Corky Dunsmore for more information: cdunsmore@woh.rr.com or (419) 345-8415.