

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Second Lord's Day in Advent

**BALDWIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
201 KNOEDLER ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15236**

Dr. Robert E. Walkup, Pastor
Mrs. Grace Shearer, Organist & Choir Director

11.00 A.M.

December 10, 2017

WE GATHER IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

(Please be seated in silence)

First Organ Prelude

Bach

"Sheep May Safely Graze"

Announcements

Second Organ Prelude

Smith

"He Is Lord"

The Call to Worship

(Advent Kyrie)

Antiphonal

Leader: O Lord, have mercy and come to us.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

People: Come quickly to deliver us.

Leader: O Immanuel, our King and our Lawgiver, the

anointed of the nations and their Savior:

People: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Leader: Give us peace and strength in our days.

People: Come, Christ Jesus.

THE BODY IS CALLED TOGETHER BY THE SPIRIT

*Hymn

INSERT

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

*Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: Listen to the Prophet Isaiah: *“A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD*

as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. (Isaiah 11:1-2, 5-10)

Reader 2: *Today we light the second candle, the candle of God's shalom, as we await the Bringer of Peace. As we light this candle, let us listen to that still, small voice at the center of each of us which calls our spirits to rest in the grace of God.*

(Light a purple candle.)

Sing Verse 2, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymnal #147

***Prayer of the Day**

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you

L: Let us pray.

Leader: God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. Keep our conduct blameless, keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near; your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

HIS LIGHT DISPELS OUR DARKNESS

***Call to Confession**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

O promised Christ, we are a sinful people full of good intentions, but weak in keeping promises, and plagued by the capacity to deceive and be deceived. We have made peace with that which does not endure or satisfy, and are ever more ready to criticize than to create. Our craving for security and comfort sedates our consciences, shrinks our souls and turns us away from your Kingdom. Holy One, our only hope of doing your will is that you should come and help us do it. Grant to us your peace and the quiet courage to be visible signs of your hope in the world, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, as we pray, saying: "Our Father..... Amen."

***Silent Prayer**

***Assurance of Pardon**

The Lord does not accuse for he has seen our ways, and became one of us, so that we could see the face of love, hear the voice of peace, be touched by the hand of grace, and know the heart of mercy.

Thanks be to God!

The Gloria Patri #546

The Peace

Offertory Stairs

“Advent Prayers”

***Organ Response #552**

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Doxology #544**

***Hymn INSERT**

“On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry”

HIS LIGHT GRANTS US VISION

Prayer of Illumination Unison

O God, Author and Giver of true blessedness, guide us now so that we may continually love what you command and desire what it brings. Help us to be a quiet people that we might now receive your perfect peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading Pew Bible pg. 667

Isaiah 40:1-11

Second Reading Pew Bible pg. 238

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel Reading Pew Bible pg. 34

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

Dr. Walkup

“In the Beginning”

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles’ Creed

Hymnal pg. 12; using “Holy Spirit”

Prayer of the People

WE BEAR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OTHERS

***Hymn**

INSERT

“Comfort, Comfort, Now My People”

***Charge & Blessing**

***The Recessional**

Walters

“Night Is Flying”

****Please Stand if Able***

WORSHIP TEAM TODAY: Sean Frey, Colleen Frey, Craig Frey

WORSHIP TEAM NEXT WEEK: Jean Lindberg, Diane McGreevy, Vince Wisbar

Bible Readings



SUNDAY: “Second Sunday Of Advent” John 1:1-14
MONDAY: “A Widow And A Willy Wagtail” Luke 18:1-8
TUESDAY: “Viewpoints” Isaiah 61:8-11
WEDNESDAY: “Like Thomas” Matthew 14:22-33
THURSDAY: “Nobody Special” 1 Corinthians 1:26-29
FRIDAY: “Joy In The Journey” Ecclesiastes 5:13-20
SATURDAY: “Emotions Of The Season” Luke 2:1-20
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *“Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give e up. Luke 18:1 (NIV)*

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Please continue to pray for our sick and shut-ins. Also pray for Jay Torrance, Jean & Charles Leuthold, Dorothy Williams, Dorothy Dyer, Norman Coliane, Patty Kulpa, Bob Knight, Charlotte Maegle, Ken Stoehr, Tom Shearer and Dennis Auth.



If you have paid your Per Capita, thank you. We are extending the due date until the end of December 2017. The cost is \$30.00 per member. So far 43 people have paid their Per Capita. Hopefully, we can get 100 percent this year.



The Living Stones free dinner is today at 4:30 PM at Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.



Newsletter articles are due by **December 20th** for the **January/February/March** newsletter. If you have an article to submit, email Margie at margiebupc@verizon.net. Thank you.



Thank you to the **Deacons and Ladies Group** for their donations to the **Roof fund**.



The **Deacons** meeting will be today after **Worship Service**.

The Session meeting will be **Tuesday, December 12th** at **7:00 PM**. Minutes of last month's meeting are on the hall table for the Elder's review.



Feeding the Community

During the holiday season, we will be **collecting non perishable food** for the food pantry. There will be a **box by the hall table**. Thank you.

Once again this **Christmas**, we will decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias from **Terry's Florist, Caste Village**. We will list in the bulletin on Christmas Eve your name and name(s) of the person(s) you would like to remember or honor. Enclosed with the bulletin is a registration for ordering. The deadline for ordering poinsettias is **today, December 10, 2017**.



The Deacons will host a free Christmas brunch for the congregation immediately following Worship service Sunday, December 17. The menu consists of scrambled eggs, hash browns, French toast, orange juice and coffee. Hope you will join us and also receive a hand-made angle ornament. The deadline for reservations



There will be a choir practice on Thursday, December 21st at 7:00 PM at Fellowship Hall for the Christmas Eve- Candlelight service.