

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Second Lord's Day in Advent (A)

BALDWIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
201 KNOEDLER ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15236

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Walkup, Pastor
Mrs. Grace Shearer, Organist & Choir Director
Mr. Tom Yousko, Liturgist
Rev. Dr. James K. Smith, Sr., Pastor Emeritus

11.00 A.M.

December 8, 2019

HUMANKIND CRIES OUT FOR PEACE

(Please be seated in silence)

First Organ Prelude

Announcements

Second Organ Prelude

Call to Worship

(Isaiah 57; abridged)

Leader: *It shall be said, "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people's way." For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy" I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite. For I will not*

continually accuse, nor will I always be angry for then the spirits would grow faint before me, even the souls that I have made. Because of their wicked covetousness I was angry; I struck them, I hid and was angry; but they kept turning back to their own ways. I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will lead them and repay them with comfort, creating for their mourners the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and the near says the LORD; and I will heal them.

***Hymn**

INSERT

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

***Advent Candle Lighting**

Minister: Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ. Today we light the second candle of Advent, the candle of Peace.

(Light Candle)

We yearn for a peaceful world where nations come together, where war is a memory, and we eat at one table. On this day, we remember the faithful God who comes to restore all creation to its intended harmony and give to us his peace, which passes all understanding.

***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**

Leader

The One who inhabits eternity and whose name is Holy dwells also with those who are contrite and humble of spirit. Let us therefore return to our God who will abundantly pardon.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

Holy God, 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. Merciful One, our only hope of doing your will is that you should come and help us do it. Grant to us your peace and 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**

Minister

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!

***Gloria Patri**

#546

***The Peace**

Offertory

“”

***Organ Response**

#552

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Doxology**

#544

***Hymn**

#483

"O God of Love, O King of Peace"

HIS LIGHT GRANTS US VISION

Prayer for 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. 640**

Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading **Pew Bible pg. 163**

Romans 15:4-13

Gospel Reading **Pew Bible pg. 2**

Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon **Rev. Walkup**

"Peace Like a River"

Affirmation of Faith **Apostles' Creed**

Hymnal pg. 12; using "Holy Spirit"

Prayer for Peace

WE BEAR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OTHERS

***Hymn** **#160**

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

***Charge & Blessing** **Minister**

***Postlude**

****Please Stand if Able***

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

WORSHIP TEAM NEXT WEEK: Jeri Stoehr, Rose Marie Neill, Vince Wisbar

Bible Readings



- SUNDAY:** "Power Over Fear" 2 Timothy 1:6-14
MONDAY: "Give Thanks" Psalm 103:1-5
TUESDAY: "Praying For Guidance" Philippians 4:4-9
WEDNESDAY: "Everyone Invited" Matthew 22:1-10
THURSDAY: "God Waits" Psalm 63:1-8
FRIDAY: "A Way Through" Mathew 6:25-34
SATURDAY: "Bearing Fruit" John 15:1-8
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"Jesus said, "I am the vine;*

Please continue to pray for our sick and shut-ins. Pray for Jay Torrance, Dorothy Williams, Mary Ellen Shenkle, Brenda Torrance, George Briggs, Cheryl Harriet, Jean Beyer, Lora Schmitt, Shirley Hahn, Lynne Smith, Sarah Harriett, Vince Wisbar and Eloise Berglund.



There will be a **Deacon's meeting after Worship Service** today.

There will be a **Session meeting on Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00 PM.**

**PER
CAPITA**

So far **48%** of our membership has paid their **Per Capita**. The apportionment due for each member is **\$34.00**. If you have not paid your Per Capita, there is still time. The due date has been extended to December 31st. We hope that you prayerfully consider paying your apportionment. The more members that contribute, the less money we have to take from our **General Fund**. Thank you.



If you have **favorite hymns** that you would like **Grace Shearer** to play at a **church service** , write the hymns on the form provided on the hall table and place in the office. **Thank you.**

PLEASE NOTE:

The **South Hills Community Band** had to change the date of their **Christmas Concert**. The new date is **Monday, December 23rd at 7:00 PM**. Come and relax and enjoy the sounds of Christmas. Hope to see you there!



The **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be on **Tuesday, December 24th at 7:30 PM**. Be here by **7:15 PM** to hear **Grace Shearer** perform her beautiful medley of **Holy Christmas** music.



The **Corporation Meeting** to nominate/elect officers for the **Class of 2022** is rescheduled to take place following regular worship on **December 15, 2019**.

Bible Study



There will be no **Bible Study** on either **Christmas** or **New Year's Days**.



The **holidays** are fast approaching and we are now collecting non-perishable items for the food pantry hosted here at **Baldwin UP Church** by **SHIM**. Lists of Items needed are on the hall table. **Thank you for your generosity.**



Once again this **Christmas** we will decorate our sanctuary with **poinsettias from Terry Florist, Caste Village**. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to take home or to give to a shut-in the price is **\$10.00**. Forms are enclosed with the bulletin the deadline for ordering is **December 15th**.