

**THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM
Second Lord's Day in Advent (C)**

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

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

11.00 A.M.

December 9, 2018

WE GATHER IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
(Please be seated in silence)

First Organ Prelude **Handel**
"He Thou Feed His Flock"

Announcements

Second Organ Prelude **Handel**
"Hark The Glad Song"

Call to Worship **Antiphonal**

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

People: *He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,*

Leader: As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

People: *Thus, he has shown his mercy promised to our ancestors,*

Leader: and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear;

People: *in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.*

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death,

Unison: *to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

*Hymn

39

“Come, Ye People, Rise and Sing”

*Advent Candle Lighting

Reader: 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.

Minister: Today we light the second candle, the candle of God's *shalom*. We light it knowing full well that such a peace is elusive, and is almost completely absent in some parts of the world. As we light this candle O Lord, let us listen to what you are saying, for you are speaking *shalom* to your faithful people, and to those who turn their hearts to you. In you, mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

(Light a purple candle.)

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 all peoples, your servant John came baptizing and calling for repentance. Help us to hear his voice of judgment, so that we may also rejoice in his word of promise. Keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us that we may be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace. *Amen.*

HIS LIGHT DISPELS OUR DARKNESS

***Call to Confession**

Leader

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**

Minister

Jesus Christ, the only Son of our Heavenly Father, comes so that we might see the face of Love and know Peace.

Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri**

#546

***The Peace**

The Offertory

“The Pastoral Scene”

Mozart

***Organ Response**

#552

***The Prayer of Dedication**

***The Doxology**

#544

***Hymn**

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

INSERT

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

Micah 3:1-4

Pew Bible pg. 889

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

Pew Bible pg. 196

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:1-6

Pew Bible pg. 60

Sermon

Rev. Walkup

“Hopes and Fears”

Invitation to Discipleship

Peter said:

*“Repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ
so that your sins may be forgiven;
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For the promise is for you, for your children,
and for all who are far away,
everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.”*

(Acts of the Apostles 2:38-39)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Sophia Madeline Steffl

(Born August 27, 2018)

Daughter of

Nicole and Robert Steffl

Sponsors:

Nicole McCarty

and

Robert Ross

**Presentation
Affirmations**

Profession of Faith **Apostles' Creed**
Hymnal pg. 12; using "Holy Spirit"

Thanksgiving Over Water

The Baptism

Welcome

The Peace

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of the People

WE BEAR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OTHERS

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

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

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

***Response** **# 78**

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"
(Verses 1&2)

***Postlude** **Walther**

"Awake! Awake!"

****Please Stand if Able***

WORSHIP TEAM TODAY: Bob David, Dorothy Fisher, Cheryl David

WORSHIP TEAM NEXT WEEK: Rose Marie Neill, Karen McKain, Darlene Degenhardt

Bible Readings



- SUNDAY:** "A Piece Of Christmas" Luke 2:8-20
MONDAY: "Sharing What I have" Matthew 25:34-40
TUESDAY: "God Is God" Psalm 13:1-6
WEDNESDAY: "The Glory Of The Lowly" Exodus 39:32-43
THURSDAY: "Worth It" Matthew 4:18-22
FRIDAY: "A New Oportunity" Luke 6:43-45

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Ask and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds. Matthew 7:7-8 (NRSV)

Please continue to pray for our sick and shut-ins. Also pray for Jay Torrance, Charles Leuthold, Dorothy Williams, Norman Coliane, Bob Knight, Charlotte Maegle, Tom Shearer, Mary Ellen Shenkle, Sherri Rodgers, Eliose Berglund, Dave Martin and Brenda Torrance.

Please keep Rose Marie Neill in your prayers and thoughts. She was admitted to Mercy Hospital last Monday with pneumonia.



Congratulations to Nicole and Robert Steffl on the baptism of their daughter, ***Sophia Madeline Steffl*** born August 27,2018.

We have extended the 2018 Per Capita due date until December 31st. If you have not paid your Per Capita, please prayerfully consider in doing so. The apportionment due for each member is \$34.00. 37% of the membership has paid their Per Capita so far. Thank you.



Once again this **Christmas**, we will decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias. **If you would like to purchase one to remember or honor a loved one, enclosed with the bulletin is a form to complete and return and place on the offering plate. Today is the last day to order poinsettias. Thank you.**



There will be a **Deacons' meeting on Sunday, December 9th after Worship Service.**

There will be a **Session meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 7:00 PM.** Copies of last month's meeting are on the hall table for the **Elder's review.**



We are collecting **non-perishable food items** for **SHIM's Food Pantry** during the holidays which is held at Baldwin UP Church and also for **Baldwin-Whitehall Food 4 Kids Program.** A list of items needed is on the hall table. **Thank you for your generosity in feeding the hungry.**



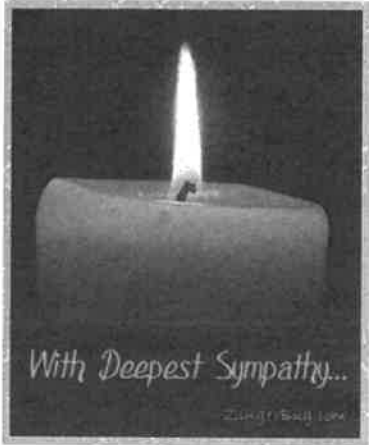
Stop down in the library and browse through the many items that were left over from our flea markets. You might find a treasure. Everyone is welcome.



There is no **Bible Study** on Wednesday **December , 26, 2018.**



Living Stones' free dinner is today at 4:30 PM at Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to share a delicious meal and fellowship.



Following a season of declining health, the Rev. Dr. Bruce E. Bryce, Pastor Emeritus of the Whitehall United Presbyterian Church, passed away on Tuesday, November 27. Family visitation and a memorial service of witness to the resurrection will be held on Saturday, December 15, from 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM at the **Baldwin Community United Methodist Church, 5001 Baptist Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236**. Condolences may be sent to **Anne and the family at 700 Bower Hill Road, Apt 7109, Pittsburgh 15243**. The family requests that any memorial gifts go to **Family Hospice and Palliative Care, 50 Moffett Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15243**.



The Deacons will be sponsoring a **Christmas Brunch** scheduled for **Sunday, December 16** after **Worship Service**. The menu is **baked scrambled eggs, French toast casserole, hash browns, bacon, orange juice and coffee**. The **Deacons** are preparing and serving the food with **no cost to the congregation**. Please complete the **Christmas brunch** sign-up form enclosed in the bulletin and place on the offering plate. **Hope to see you there!**



The **newsletter articles for Jan/Feb/March 2019** are due in the office by **Wednesday, December 12th**. You can email Margie at **margiebupc@verizon.net**.