



Hope

Nothing is impossible for God.

LUKE 1:37

**THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
First 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

Walther

"Wahe Auahe"

Announcements

Second Organ Prelude

Smith

"He Is Lord"

Call to Worship

(Isaiah 52:7,8,10, adapted)

Antiphonal

Leader: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet
of the messenger who announces peace,

People: Who brings good news,

Leader: Who announces salvation, who says to Zion
"Your God reigns."

People: Listen! Prophets lift up their voices;

Leader: Together they sing for joy,

People: *For the LORD has comforted his people.*

Unison: *And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

***Hymn**

INSERT

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

***Advent Candle Lighting**

Reader: Hear the words of the Prophet Isaiah:
Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: *“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”*

Minister: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of the prophets who dared to speak of an unexpected liberator of the people....a child who would come as the vulnerable incarnation of the Holiest of Holies. We give thanks for the prophets who have given us a new name for God, and showed us a future we never anticipated.

(Light a purple candle.)

Verse 1, "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: Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as Lord of lords and King of kings, to whom be glory always.
Amen.

HIS LIGHT DISPELS OUR DARKNESS

***Call to Confession**

Leader

The God of all the prophets is ever with us, ready to bless us and brings to us the offer of forgiveness and healing. Let us therefore relinquish the cares of this world so that we may travel lightly the journey of life we are embarked upon.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

Almighty God, you urge us to be watchful for the signs and heralds of your coming in glory. Yet we find it easier to avert our eyes from the truth of our

history. How many prophets of your light have we ignored because they were not what we were looking for? God of all the ages, who has heard the cries of your children humbly seeking forgiveness, hear the thoughts of our hearts. Examine our motives, and forgive us our faults. Grant us the wisdom and strength to be ready for our Redeemer as he draws near to embrace us. Hear the prayer that we raise in the words of our Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, saying: "Our Father....Amen."

***Silent Prayer**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Minister

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri**

#546

***The Peace**

The Offertory

Mozart

"Pastoral Scene"

***Organ Response**

#552

***The Prayer of Dedication**

***The Doxology**

#544

***Hymn**

#152

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

HIS LIGHT GRANTS US VISION

Prayer for Illumination

Unison

Ever-present God, your words are a solid foundation that will never falter. Free our hearts from the worries that weigh us down, and keep us alert so that we may more clearly hear your Word to us in Jesus Christ, and be strengthened for service in his Name. Amen

First Reading

Pew Bible pg. 738

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading

Pew Bible pg. 203

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel Reading

Pew Bible pg. 85

Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

Rev. Walkup

"Wake-Up Call"

THE RESPONSE OF LOVE

A Canticle to the Lamb

You are worthy, O Lord our God,
To receive glory and honor and power,
For you created all things,
And by your will they were created and have their being
You are worthy, O Christ, for you were slain,

And by your blood have ransomed us for God,
From every tribe and people and nation,
A royal house of priests to our God.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might,
honor, and glory and blessing.
To the one seated upon the throne,
And to Christ the Lamb,
Be honor and glory and might,
Forever and ever.

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Responsive

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L: Give thanks to God, for he is good.

P: His love is everlasting.

The Great Litany Response

Minister Unison

***P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

***Blessed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord.***

Hosanna in the

highest.

**Intercessory Prayers
Concluding Petition**

Minister

L: Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

P: Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

L: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

P: have mercy on us.

L: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

P: have mercy on us.

L: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

P: Grant us peace.

L: Lord have mercy on us.

P: Christ have mercy on us.

L: Lord, have mercy on us.

(Kyrie eleison)

Response

Antiphonal

L: Great is the Mystery of faith:

P: Christ has died, bringing us your justice;

L: Christ is risen, offering us your love.

P: Christ will come again, that God may be all in all.

The Words of Institution

The Sacrament of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer After Communion

WE BEAR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OTHERS

***Hymn**

#151

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

***Charge & Blessing**

Minister

***Response**

78

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

***Postlude**

Livingstone

"Call Upon the Lord"

****Please Stand if Able***

**WORSHIP & COMMUNION TEAM TODAY: Nancy Brown, Jerri
Stoehr, Giness Mumba**

WORSHIP & TEAM NEXT WEEK: Bob David, Dorothy Fisher, Cheryl David

Bible Readings



SUNDAY: "Keep It Simple" Isaiah 9:1-71-7

MONDAY: "Another Way" Exodus 15:1-6

TUESDAY: "Chemistry Class" Psalm 19:1-6

WEDNESDAY: "Our Gifts" 1 Chronicles 29:14-18

THURSDAY: "Sweet Place" John 16:15-33

FRIDAY: "Rejoicing In A Barren Field" Habakkuk 3:17-19

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

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.



Today is Holy Communion Sunday. If you are receiving Holy Communion today, please complete the Communion registration card on the back of the bulletin and place on the offering plate. Thank you.

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 by December 9th.**



*Sounds
of The
Season*

The **South Hills Community Band** will perform their **Christmas Concert** on **Monday, December 3rd at 7:00 PM** in **Fellowship Hall**. Come and enjoy **Christmas music, "Sounds of the Season."** Refreshments will be served.



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.**



The flowers on the **Worship Table** today, are placed there to the **Glory of God** by **Diane, Steve and Davis** in honor of their **mother and grandmother, Dorothy Usowski** for her **90th birthday**. **Happy Birthday Dorothy!**



We are collecting **non-perishable food items** for **SHIM's Food Pantry** 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.



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.