

Joy

With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

—LUKE 1:46

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
Third 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 16, 2018

WE GATHER IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

(Please be seated in silence)

First Organ Prelude

Madlock

"Come OH Savior Of The World"

Announcements

Second Organ Prelude

"OH Come OH Come Emanuel"

Call to Worship

Antiphonal

Leader: Come and see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Soon God's salvation will come,

People: *And renew us with love.*

Leader: Be strong and do not fear. Walk in the Holy Way, the Highway of our God where every barrier to the truth is removed.

People: *The Way of everlasting joy*

Leader: For the glory of God shall be revealed and all

flesh shall see it together. A woman shall conceive and bear a son, and call his name Emmanuel:

People: ***“God with us.”***

***Hymn**

INSERT

“Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth”

***Advent Candle Lighting**

Reader: A voice says *“Cry out!”* Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings. See the LORD God comes with might. It will be said on that day, lo, this is our God; we have waited for him that he might save us. And he will destroy the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Minister: Today we light the third candle, the candle of joy. As we light this candle, may God grant that our hearts be filled with such joy as cannot be contained, but which must be shared. Let the Good News ring out that the Holy One of Israel, God Almighty, has claimed us for his very own children.

(Light a pink candle.)

Verse 3, "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: Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you, now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to save us, so that wars and violence shall end, and your children may live in peace, honoring one another with justice and love; through Jesus Christ, who lives in power with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

HIS LIGHT DISPELS OUR DARKNESS

***Call to Confession**

Leader

Let us confess our sins, not as frightened servants but as children of the household of God.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

Gracious God, how often have our own agendas blinded us to the needs of others? How often have we spoken harshly to our brothers and sisters or withheld love from our enemies? How often have we

surrendered to fear and self-protection? You O Lord know how many times we have made lame excuses for not living in the reality of your Kingdom. Pour out upon us the fire of your Spirit and purge us of selfishness and deceit, so that, purified, we may find our peace in you and you may delight in us. We ask this through him who is the Light of All, and who taught us to pray, saying: "Our Father.....Amen."

***Silent Prayer**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Minister

Rejoice! The LORD is near and has taken away the judgments against you.

Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri**

#546

***The Peace**

The Offertory

Hughes

"In Heaven Above"

***Organ Response**

#552

***The Prayer of Dedication**

***The Doxology**

#544

***Hymn**

INSERT

"On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry"

HIS LIGHT GRANTS US VISION

Prayer for Illumination

Unison

O Christ who comes, not only as the sweet babe in a manger, but also as the Messiah of justice, baptizing with Spirit and fire, may we hear the words of your prophet. Let John's passionate voice melt our hardened hearts and speak through us of the certainty of your coming in power, even if not always in the ways we imagine. Amen.

First Reading

Pew Bible pg. 877

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Second Reading

Pew Bible pg. 198

Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel Reading

Pew Bible pg. 60

Luke 3:7-18

Sermon

Rev. Walkup

"Vipers, and Stones, and Axes, Oh My!"

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Hymnal pg. 12; using "Holy Spirit"

Prayer of the People

WE BEAR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OTHERS

***Hymn**

165

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

***Charge & Blessing**

Minister

***Response**

78

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

***Postlude**

Benton

"Gloria"

****Please Stand if Able***

WORSHIP TEAM TODAY: Rose Marie Neill, Karen McKain, Darlene Degenhardt

WORSHIP TEAM NEXT WEEK: Sean Frey, Colleen Frey, Craig Frey

Bible Readings

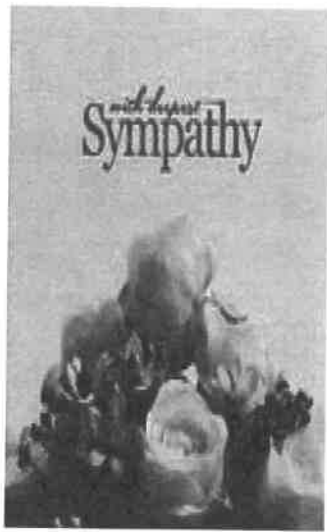


- SUNDAY:** "He Will Come!" Isaiah 40:1-5
- MONDAY:** "In Joy And In Sorrow" Matthew 6:25-34
- TUESDAY:** "Trust In God" 1 Samuel 17:32-50
- WEDNESDAY:** "Above The Clamor" Luke 5:12-16
- THURSDAY:** "Obstacle Or Opportunity?" James 1:1-5
- FRIDAY:** "Standing Firm" 1 Peter 4:12-19
- SATURDAY:** "Listening Between The Lines" Palm 125:1-4

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2 (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, Eloise Berglund, Dave Martin, Brenda Torrance and Rose Marie Neill.

Please pray for Sarah Harriett's daughter who is scheduled for breast cancer surgery.



Our **deepest sympathy** to **Sarah Harriett** and **family** on the passing of **Sarah's** husband this **past September**. Please pray for the **Harriett family**.



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**.



The **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be **Monday, December 24th at 7:30 PM**. Please note that **Grace Shearer** will perform her medley of Christmas music starting at **7:15 PM**.



The **Christmas Brunch** is today after **Worship Service**.



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**.



The **annual Congregational Meeting** for the **ordination/installation of officers** will be **Sunday January 20, 2019**. All end of the year reports are due in the office by **January 10, 2019**. You can email the report to **margiebupc@verizon.net**.



The office will be closed on **December 24, 25, 31** and **January 1**.