

# **Greencastle Presbyterian Church**

**10:00 am Worship Service**

**1st Sunday of Advent**

**The Order of Worship for December 3, 2023**



**irritable; instead of amazed, we are indifferent; and in the place of anticipation, we are fearful. In our unbelief, we have become impoverished. Pardon and free us from these sins that plague us, for we pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

\*The Assurance of Pardon and Peace

Leader: Friends! Believe the Good News! In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*The Gloria Patri #583 *Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo*

The Lighting of the First Candle of Advent

Racheal Marconi and Chris Bowman

The Children's Time

The Prayer for Illumination

**Calm us now, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. Amen.**

The First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Solo *The Yearning*

Craig Courtney

Fred Davison, *baritone* Brenda Slick, *piano*

\*The Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

**All: thanks be to God!**

The Message ***Patience Brings Hope***

Pastor Bob Cook

Response to the Word

Hymn #357 *The Days Are Surely Coming*

Joys, Cares and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer

The Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: The God of glory be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts in thanksgiving.

**People: We lift them towards God.**

Pastor: Let us offer our thanks to God.

**People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right that we give you our thanks and praise, O God, creator of all things, visible and invisible. You revealed your glory in the wonders of your creation and in the way you lovingly formed people - male and female - in your image and entrusted them with the ongoing task of revealing your glory in the world.

When they failed and turned from your ways you did not abandon them but spoke tenderly to them through the prophets such as Isaiah. You shaped the conviction in Isaiah's mind that the crushed and broken of the world were invited to shelter close to your heart and be comforted, like lambs by a shepherd; that the oppressed of the world would be liberated by your gracious and loving acts towards them.

Did Isaiah catch a glimpse of a light penetrating every nook and cranny of the world until no more darkness was left? A light which shaped itself into a star. A light which startled shepherds and led the wise to a child lying in the straw of a manger and warmed by the breath of wondering animals. The child in whom the light of your glory is eternally revealed. And so, with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name saying:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he whose coming we await with joy. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Blessed are you O God, and forever blessed are the people of this world since you chose to break into our history in the person of Jesus Christ. He made your extravagant love so visible in and through all he said and did, especially on the night when he washed his disciples' feet and sat down at a table to share the meal with them. On that night - the night of his betrayal - he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,

*"This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying,

*"This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for everyone. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."*

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the life of Christ and that we may make that life visible through serving as he served, comforting as he comforted, and loving as he loved. This we pray in his name. Amen

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

The Giving of the Bread and the Cup

The Prayer After Holy Communion (Unison)

**Lord Jesus, we thank you for coming to us through the sacrament of this holy supper. May your presence in our lives give us patience and peace in this holy season. and**

**make us eager for your return when you will bring all the faithful into your heavenly kingdom; where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\*The Doxology #606

\*The Dedication of Our Offerings

\*Hymn #88 (Verses 1 & 2) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

\*The Blessing

The Postlude *Sing We Now of Christmas*

traditional French Carol, arr. M. Hayes

Brenda Slick, *piano*



### **SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY**

Preaching..... Rev. Dr. Robert Cook  
Liturgist.....Jenn Robertson  
Musicians..... Dr. J. Frederick Davison, Brenda Slick  
Advent Candle .....Racheal Marconi, Chris Bowman  
Communion Servers ..... Dottie Davison, Chris Johnston,  
Paul Sauder, Louise Kemper  
Sunday School Teachers ..... Keri Papa, Beth Taylor  
Video / Audio Tech ..... Ami Myers  
Closer .....Paul Sauder

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Marna Yingling

Becky Hess

June Marshall

Nancy McIntyre

Herb Layton

Bernice Walck

Patti Sechrist

Alan Shope

Tim Walck

Mary Lou Riddle

Steven Bishop

Mindy Grosh

Michael Paylor

Linda Pittman

Rachael, Christopher

& Anna Lee Massieu

Mary Buhl

Kim Hay

Cullen Gaston

Bob & Sandy Seidel

The Gagne family

Bill & Kathy Kendall

Dan Amato

Aaron Frick

Ray Spitz

Sue Angle

Rev. Bill Beck

Caroline Robinson

Dian Bishop

Dan Patton

Vasilija Milanovic

Tracey Hammond

and family

Bethany Yeager

Penny Mohler

Andi Hess Wingert

Dot Wilson

Cathy Thomas

Dominic Frampton

Bill Horst

Bobbi Biesecker

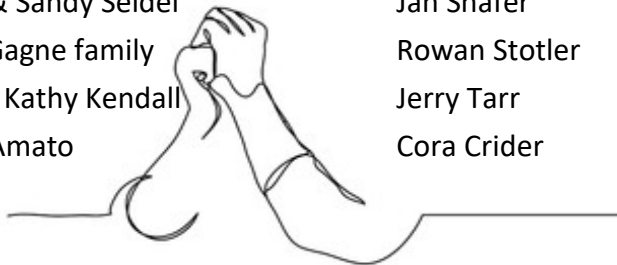
Sue Lum

Jan Shafer

Rowan Stotler

Jerry Tarr

Cora Crider



*Good and gracious God, we surrender all worries and concerns to You. Knowing that You are in control and that all will work out for the good. Help us to trust You more each day. Amen.*

# **GPC Annual Advent Potluck Dinner**

**Sunday, December 3 at 5:00 pm  
in the social room**

**HOLIDAY CONCERT *Comfort & Joy* at 7:00 pm  
the Mont Alto Chorale will be our guests**

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
featuring Penn State Berkey Creamery**

**Please plan to join us as  
we begin the season of Advent  
with delicious food, fellowship,  
and terrific holiday music.**



**PENN STATE MONT ALTO CHORALE**

# **Comfort & Joy**

**DECEMBER • 3 • 2023 | 7:00 P.M. | GREENCASTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER • 5 • 2023 | 7:00 P.M. | EMMANUEL CHAPEL • MONT ALTO CAMPUS**

