

In response to God's love and grace, through Jesus Christ,
we commit to learning, proclaiming, and living the love of God.



**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Second Sunday of Advent



The Order of Worship for December 8, 2024
10:00 am Worship Service

HOPE LOVE JOY PEACE

* *Please stand as able*

Centering Thought

"The word advent means "expectation." What advent can do for us is create a sense of hope." - Louie Giglio

Welcome and Brief Announcements

The Prelude

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

arr. Susan E. Geschke

GPC Bell Choir

*The Call to Worship

Leader: We come to prepare the way;

People: The way for Christ –

Leader: the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ –

People: to enter our world, to enter our hearts.

Leader: We cry out together in the wilderness:

People: The kingdom of heaven has come near.

Leader: We come to be part of the light–

People: the light that shines in the darkness.

*Hymn #106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy and loving God, we have dwelt in darkness and preferred it to the light; we have been proud of our accomplishments and despaired over our failings. Smooth down the mountains of our pride, and lift up the valleys of our doubts. Open a path in the wilderness of our lives that we might find our way to you.

(Silent prayer)

*The Assurance of Peace

Leader: friends! Believe the Good News! By the merits of Jesus, we are forgiven and restored in God's everlasting love and favor.

All: Thanks be to God!

*The Gloria #583 *Gloria, Gloria!*

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lighting of the Second Candle of Advent

Reader: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer. We light this candle in hope... We light this candle for peace...

Hear God's promise of peace from Isaiah 11:1-10:

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. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. 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. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of

the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Let us pray:

All: Faithful God, you are at work to restore all of creation in its intended harmony. Give us your shalom that we may be reconciled to all enemies in the peace that passes all understanding through Christ Jesus our Lord. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

Carol: #104 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

The Children's Time with Their Pastor

The Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

The First Scripture Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

Anthem *Blessed Is the Lord*

Dan Forrest

*The Gospel Reading

Luke 3:1-6

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks Be to God!

The Message

*Response to the Word: **The Apostles Creed**

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The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer Unison)

*The Doxology #606

The Dedication of our Offerings

*Antiphon #88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (verses 3 & 4)

*The Blessing

The Postlude *Emmanuel (with O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)*

Michael W. Smith, traditional, arr. Lloyd Larson
Brenda Slick, *piano*

O Antiphons

The beloved carol "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is based on the "O Antiphons" that were sung at vespers during the week before Christmas. Their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne (768-814). Set to an ancient plainchant, both text and tune are the fruits of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

Please join us for Coffee &
Fellowship in the Social
Room after Worship.

All Are Welcome!

*Hosted by
Erin Herrmann*



Greencastle Presbyterian Church

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:30 PM – Family Friendly Worship Service

6:45 PM – Musical Prelude

7:00 PM – Candlelight Worship Service with Communion

PRAYER CONCERNS

June Marshall	Rowan Stotler
Nancy McIntyre	Vasilija Milanovic
Patti Sechrist	Jane Everetts
Alan Shope	Sandra Meadows
Tim Walck	Frank & Tracey Toston
Mary Lou Riddle	Bill Horst
Steven Bishop	Colin Rinker
Mindy Grosh	Archer Hohl
Michael Paylor	Leona Cain
Linda Pittman	Mary Steel
Rachael, Christopher & Anna Lee Massieu	Sally Snyder
Mary Buhl	Chelsea White
Cullen Gaston	George Price
Bob & Sandy Seidel	Tim Reed
The Gagne family	Lynne Leap
Bill & Kathy Kendall	Gail Guyton
Aaron Frick	Skylar Sites
Ray Spitz	Cheryl Luger
Sue Angle	Marvin & Nancy Rice
Rev. Bill Beck	Jon Davis
Caroline Robinson	David Myers
Dian Bishop	Liz McCarty
Dan Patton	Dot Wilson
The Hammond family	Cameron Kingsley
Bethany Yeager	Becky Sucke
Penny Mohler	Virginia Vallillo
Cathy Thomas	Frank Marconi
Dominic Frampton	Robin Wingert
Sue Lum	Kenny Reed

Please pray for the family of **Tiffanie Robinson** who went to be with our Lord on November 25, 2024. *Gracious God, by your mercy, grant her the sure joy of your salvation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Good and gracious God, we surrender all worries and concerns to you, knowing that we are your beloved children. Our faith requires we rest in your infinite mercies.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Saturday 12/7	9:00 am	Fall Clean-up at Moss Spring
Sunday 12/8	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	10:00 am	Worship / Coffee & Fellowship
	5:00 pm	Advent Potluck
	7:00 pm	Penn State Mont Alto Chorale
Monday 12/9	6:30 pm	Old Home Week Committee Mtg.
Tuesday 12/10	6:30 pm	Mission/Outreach Committee Mtg.
Wednesday 12/11	9:00 am	Wednesday Prayer Circle
	9:00 am	Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
	7:00 pm	Ladies AA Meeting
Friday 12/13	5:30 pm	Heritage Christmas in the Square
Sunday 12/15	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	10:00 am	Worship / Coffee & Fellowship
	2:00 pm	Dementia Caregivers Meeting
	5:45 pm	Caroling, Cocoa & Cookies
	6:00 pm	Youth Group

PREPARE THE WAY ISAIAH 40 THE PERFECT GIFT QUESTIONS?

The prophet Isaiah gives those listening to him a very particular task to prepare the way for the coming Messiah, the person we know as Jesus. Isaiah proclaims that to prepare the way is to make highways easily navigable, fill in valleys, flatten hills, level the ground, make the earth smooth. Then, and only then, will God's glory be revealed, and this will cause all humanity to see that God has spoken to us. Your gifts to the **Christmas Joy Offering** combine with gifts from thousands of congregations throughout our denomination to do our part to repair the world and to ensure our siblings have the tools they need to flourish. Your gifts prepare the way for the God we know in Jesus Christ, the child whose birth we celebrate.

2025 PER CAPITA for the Carlisle Presbytery churches is \$34.04.

HERITAGE CHRISTMAS Come join the Mission/Outreach Committee on the square for Greencastle Heritage Christmas Friday night. They will be passing out hot cider & popcorn.

OLD HOME WEEK COMMITTEE Our organizational meeting will be held on Monday, December 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the Social Room. Everyone is welcome! Even if you haven't signed up, please join us!

OLD HOME WEEK IS COMING.....August 2-9, 2025!



GREENCASTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SERVING THE CHURCH

- Preaching..... Rev. Dr. Robert Cook
- Liturgist Sheila Gates
- MusiciansDr. J. Frederick Davison, Brenda Slick
- Acolyte
- Sunday School & Nursery..... Keri Papa, Ed Wine
- Audio/Video Tech.....
- Closer..... Paul Sauder

BELL CHOIR

Mary Ann Ackerman, Fred Davison, Patti Divelbiss,
Brian Keck, Kelly Kerstetter, Barry Leap,
Liam Papa, Dorthalee Wilson

CHANCEL CHOIR

Randall Ackerman, Margery Benson, Bobbi Biesecker, Becky Fic,
Barb Grane, Donna Grosh, Brian Keck, Barry Leap, Patsy Lee,
JoAnne Lewis, Tom Thomas, Rebecca Wertime, Dot Wilson