

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Peace *Michael & Rachel Adkins*

Prelude

Max Jackson

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Noel Rawsthorne

† Call to Worship

Kim Whitman

Leader: Something stirs deep within us -

People: A longing, a hope, a thirst for joy, a hunger for peace;

Leader: A yearning for His blessing.

People: We know deep within that our hopes and fears will be met by angel songs and baby sighs.

Leader: It is Advent – a season of waiting, hoping, yearning.

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel!

† Hymn of Praise

#88 (1,4,7)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel.

That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, Thou root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny.

From depths of hell Thy people save and
give them victory o'er the grave. (Refrain)

O come, Desire of nations,
bind all peoples in one heart and mind.

Bid envy, strife and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

† Call to Confession

† **Prayer of Confession**

O God, You have shown Yourself to us in many ways which speak of love. Yet we struggle to love others. Sometimes we are too proud, sometimes too selfish, sometimes too cold, sometimes too tired. Sometimes we are too hurt to love. Through Your Spirit, teach us to love more fully so that others will experience Your peace that passes understanding.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#104 (3)

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill,
to bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.

In patient expectation we live for that great day
when Your renewed creation Your glory shall display.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Anthem

Chancel Choir

The King Shall Come

Thomas Keesecker

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant
breaks, When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy
awakes. Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.
Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ triumphant rose
And left the lonesome place of death, despite the rage of foes.
Oh, brighter than the glorious morn shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes, and we shall see His
face. The King shall come when morning dawns and light and
beauty brings. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray; come
quickly King of Kings.

Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson

Carli Weston

Philippians 4:4–7 (NRSV)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: The Word of the Lord. P: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 125

#848

Trust in God

Trust in God and you will be sheltered for eternity;
Like a mountain, strong and sure, by God's grace you will endure.

Lift your eyes to see the hills, through the ages standing still;
Wrapped around the city walls: so our God surrounds us all.

In the promised, holy land may the wicked never stand;
But where good and kindness reign, may the peace of God
remain.

† The Gospel Lesson

John 14:18–27 (NRSV)

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have My commandments and keep them are those who love Me, and those who love Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love them and reveal Myself to them.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will reveal Yourself to us and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “Those who love Me will keep My word, and My Father will love them, and We will come to them and make Our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love Me does not keep My words, and the word that you hear is not Mine but is from the Father who sent Me. ²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I

leave with you; My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ! **P: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Bill Pollack

“Welcoming His Peace”

✠ **We Respond to God’s Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.
Traveler, what a wondrous sight: see that glory-beaming star.
Watchman, does its beauteous ray news of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course portends.
Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o’er all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, shadows take their flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn.

Watchman, you may go your way; hasten to your quiet home.
Traveler, we rejoice today for Emmanuel has come!

† **Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering Acknowledgement *Special Offering: Organ Repair Fund*

† Doxology

All praise to You eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won.
Who with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

† Prayer of Dedication

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

† Hymn of Sending (tune: Aurelia)

#378

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

We wait the peaceful kingdom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
in gentleness and friendship without a fear or sigh,
when lion shall be grazing, when snake shall never strike;
a little Child shall lead us both strong and weak alike.

Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start?

We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart.

Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home:
we pray that all creation will one day find shalom.

When wars of desolation and hate come to an end,
when nation meets with nation and calls the other "friend,"
still peace in all its fullness will only have begun:
shalom for all creation begins with justice done.

That little Child shall lead us to walk the chosen way,
to share the peaceful kingdom, to greet God's newborn day.

The Child born in a stable is sent to break our chains,
to bring through word and table the day when justice reigns.

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Healey Willan

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Kelly Hanni* | Liturgist: *Kim Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 83

General Offering: \$1,787.00

Backpacks: \$220.00

Poinsettias: \$50.00

Online Offering: \$725.00

Total Offering: \$2,782.00

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

⇒ **Sunday, December 8**

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

Cookie Exchange, following morning worship

⇒ **Monday, December 9**

Ministry Teams Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

⇒ **Tuesday, December 10**

Session Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

⇒ **Wednesday, December 11**

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

⇒ **Thursday, December 12**

Men's Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m.

Horizons Bible Study, 5:15 p.m.

⇒ **Saturday, December 14**

Ladies Christmas Tea, 2 p.m.

All-Church Christmas Caroling

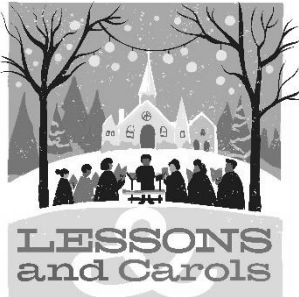
Warm up your voices and join us for a time of caroling Sunday, **December 15 beginning at 3 p.m.** We will meet at the Church, and we will travel in our vehicles to visit our shut-ins at their homes and share the joy of the Christmas songs we love to sing! We will fellowship at the Wheeler's home following the caroling.



Parents' Night Out

Parents, this night is for you. Parents' Night Out is **Friday, December 20, 5:30—8 p.m.** Come, drop off the kids here at Church and then go shopping, out to eat or just go home and rest! We have planned for fun activities for the kids. There will be crafts, snacks and a whole lot of fun. Take advantage of this opportunity as you prepare for Christmas. Questions, see Lee McCloud (606.331.1017).

Lessons and Carols



Join us on **Sunday, December 22** during Morning Worship for a service of scripture and song as the choir presents our annual Lessons and Carols beginning at **10:50 a.m.** This is a service that inspires our hearts to prepare for the birth of Jesus. What a wonderful way to begin Christmas week!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

The tradition continues with another evening of Candle lighting and communion. We will gather **Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30 and 11:30 p.m.** for a time of worship and celebration as we remember the birth of Jesus. Invite your friends and family to join you (and us) on this special night.



2024 Christmas JOY Offering

We will receive the JOY Christmas offering during morning worship all Sundays in December. This offering is collected each year through the PCUSA and is divided between assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks and the Narthex. Thank you for your prayerful response to this special offering this year!

Christmas Card Exchange



Thanks to Kim Whitman and the Membership Ministry Team for this fun idea. You may exchange Christmas cards with your church family by dropping them off in their

church mailbox. Kelly has provided a Christmas card list that is available in the Narthex.

It's Time to Order Your Poinsettia for Christmas

If you would like to order a poinsettia for Christmas in memory or honor of someone, order forms are available in the Narthex or online at fpcaky.org. The cost for each poinsettia is \$15. Please have your order forms in by Sunday, December 15. You may take your poinsettias home following the Christmas Eve service.



Mitten Tree



We are, again, providing a mitten tree during the Advent/Christmas season. All winter donations (mittens, socks, scarves and gloves) will be given to the Ashland Schools Family Resource Center. Thank you for your wonderful response in the past. Let's do even better this year!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending December 5, 2024

Gail Frazier (Nanette)

Trish Hall

Kate Hanni

Dr. Roger Potter

Week ending November 28, 2024

Chris Bush (Heather Shay's cousin)

Allyson Garnes (Pastor Bill & Nanette's great niece)

Kaylee McKnight (John & Kay Ferguson's great niece)

Week ending November 21, 2024

Gunnell Rupert (Dave & Judy Eby's nephew)

Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)

Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.

Ongoing: Pastor Bill; Bill Gesling; Charlie Holbrook; Dr. Matthew Lewis; Kenny McGill; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Kim Whitman; Jan Winans; Ann Wiseman

The Lantern: Carolyn Graber

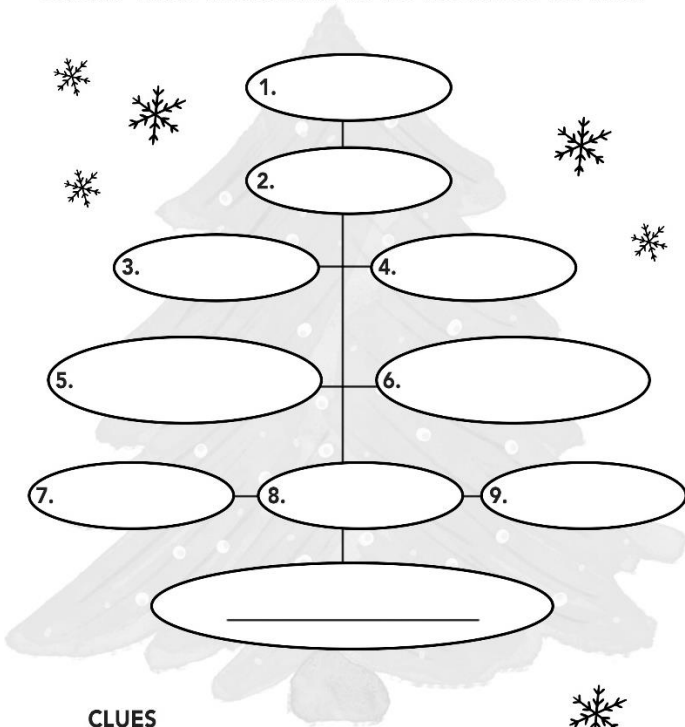
Woodland Oaks: Barry Barbour, Bob Miller

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Kuwait); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

Puzzle!

Write the answer to each clue in the correct circle.

Then jot down the first letter of each answer and unscramble those letters to form a word about this season. Write that answer at the bottom of the tree.



CLUES

1. You trim this at Christmas.
2. One who governs
3. The first word of a popular carol, it means "Listen!"
4. You burn this to make the air sweet.
5. "For unto us is born this day a _____..."
6. She was betrothed to Joseph.
7. Shepherds heard them sing.
8. A Christmas song
9. 'Tis the _____ to be jolly!"

Answers: 1. tree, 2. ruler, 3. hark, 4. incense, 5. Savior, 6. Mary, 7. angels, 8. carol, 9. season, Christmas

STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2025	2026	2027
<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>
<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>
<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>
	*2nd term of service	

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Kim Whitman</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Geri Willis</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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