

# *First Sunday of Advent*

## **Celebration of Worship**

November 29, 2020

9:30 A.M.

### ***Thought for Reflection***

“Real transformation requires real honesty. If you want to move forward – get real with yourself.”

*Bryant McGill*

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Meditation**

*2 Corinthians 3:18*

*“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

### **Ringling of the Bell**

### **Call To Worship**

Leader: In these difficult and challenging times, we go searching for a sign, any sign.

**People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.**

Leader: We hope that the Human One is on the way, gathering the faithful from the four winds into a place of peace. We need a sign, any sign.

**People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.**

Leader: Nature once offered signs to depend on. The fig tree put out tender leaves, and we knew summer was near. But climate today is hurting and unpredictable. We need a sign, any sign.

**People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.**

Leader: So together we search for a sign of the One who is coming – coming with a song for our weary souls.

**People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.**

Leader: Come, let us worship!

### **Invocation**

**People: Come into our midst, Almighty God. Come with surprising answers to our heartfelt prayer. Come. Shake us up. Help us find you at work in our lives, showing the way to make all things new. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**

### **Lighting of the First Advent Candle - Hope**

**Leader: In a world where so many despair, God lights a candle of hope in our hearts. We wait together for a Savior who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord. Hear the word of the Lord:**

**People:** By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, God of our salvation; You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

### **Opening Hymn** *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

#2

### **Prayer of Confession**

Leader: This has been a year to lament – Grief and loss; Crisis when social structures have failed the common good; Complicity when age-old prejudices found new and cruel expression.

**People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: This has been a year to wake up – To read the “signs of the times;” To wake up to painful truths, and give them voice; To ponder the changes needed for a just world for all.

**People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: This has been a year to call God into our midst. Show us your face! Encourage us in the face of brutal realities; Empower us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with you, in the way in which you make all things new.

**People: Restore us, O God: let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Moment of Silence

### **Assurance of Grace**

Leader: God is faithful, and gives us grace in Christ Jesus. In this fellowship we can count on being enriched – In speech, in knowledge, in every spiritual gift. Let us give thanks. In Christ, we are forgiven and sent forth to work for God’s reign among us.

### **Gloria Patri**



## **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King;  
Born to reign in us forever, now they gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father; and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;  
World without end, Amen, Amen.

## **Change My Heart, O God**

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.  
You are the Potter, I am the clay;  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true;  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

## **Prepare The Way**

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is Christ that came In God's most holy name.

Christ brings God's rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.  
O blest is Christ that came In God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace,  
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.  
O blest is Christ that came In God's most holy name

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

### **Sunday, November 29**

9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on Zoom  
10:15 A.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel

### **Monday, November 30**

7:00 P.M. Mission Committee in Room 9/10  
Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social/Memorial Room

### **Tuesday, December 1**

10:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study on Zoom  
5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10

### **Wednesday, December 2**

6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant  
7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

### **Thursday, December 3**

3:00 P.M. Small Group on Zoom  
6:00 P.M. Bell Rehearsal in the Sanctuary  
7:00 P.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom

### **Friday, December 4**

10:00 A.M. Book Study on Zoom

### **Saturday, December 5**

9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom

### **Sunday, December 6**

9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on Zoom  
10:15 A.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel  
4:00 P.M. Youth Fellowship in the Social Room

## **WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Webster, New York 14580  
585-265-9700

[www.websterpres.org](http://www.websterpres.org)

Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether by Zoom or in person. Those choosing to attend in person are reminded to make a reservation to attend by calling the church office and speaking to Georgia, or by emailing the church office by noon on Saturday.
2. SUNDAY SERVICES will continue to be live-streamed.  
You can watch them live at 9:30 using:  
Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/200521841>The password is **worship**.  
or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/>  
Or you can watch them later at your leisure using:  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/>  
or YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
3. THE ADVENT SERIES *GRACE* begins today at 10:30 in the Sanctuary and on Zoom. Max Lucado's book, *Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine*, is available for \$8 in the church office or by contacting Connie Rice. Join us for an in-depth discussion of what Grace means to each of us in our walk with God, and what Grace means to disciples of Jesus.  
Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/200521841>The password is worship.
4. JOIN US as WPC prepares to participate in the 2020 Webster Parade of Light REIMAGINED! This will be a DRIVE-THRU parade for the community. As an exhibitor we will be assigned a space to set up a pre-lit nativity scene along the 1 ½ miles of holiday magic near the Webster Parks and Recreation Center on San Jose Drive. If you plan to attend, please register at:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-webster-holiday-parade-of-lights-guests-tickets-127079737917>  
If you would like to help us prepare for WPC's participation, please email [wpcsession1@gmail.com](mailto:wpcsession1@gmail.com). We're looking for volunteers to dress in costume and take a shift at the display between 5-8 p.m.
5. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Women's Bible Study will begin the Advent Season by looking at the topic "Emmanuel." Join us this Tuesday morning at 10:00 to prepare and open your hearts to the true reason for this joyful season. The Zoom link is:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85736775467?pwd=cTVkcUcvTGRQTXRQdEdlY0NuVzhmdz09> Password: bible
6. UPDATE ON STATED SUPPLY PASTOR SEARCH - A recommended Stated Supply Pastor candidate was presented and approved by Session on Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The Personnel Committee is in discussion with the candidate to finalize Terms of Call, and then the candidate needs to be approved by the Committee on Ministry on December 8<sup>th</sup>.
7. GIFT CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS FOR GRACE HOUSE: Grace House has requested that, due to COVID, we only donate unwrapped \$10 gift cards this year for the men and their children. Cards for fast food places such as McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy's and stores such as Wal-Mart, Target, TJ Maxx and Marshalls are appropriate. Please bring your donations to the church office on a Sunday or Tuesday/ Wednesday/Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or mail them to the office. Or you can call or text Brad Adams (698-3229) to have them picked up. Gift cards will be collected through Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.
8. THE ANGEL TREE, sponsored by the Deacons to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center is again happening, though with a different format. Our contributions over the last several years have been greatly appreciated. In the interest of keeping this as contact-free and safe as possible, we are going virtual this year! Instead of a Christmas tree in the Narthex with gift tags, there is a wish list set up on Amazon. You can scroll through and choose an item to order. When you proceed to check out, be sure to choose "Laura Oliver's Gift Registry Address" in the shipping options to have it sent directly to Laura Oliver's home.  
[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/A24YBQ17OOQX?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/A24YBQ17OOQX?ref=wl_share)  
OR you can log in to Amazon and search for the "Williamson Come-Unity Center Angel Tree" list on Amazon.  
If you choose to have the gift shipped to your home, or if you purchase a gift elsewhere, please bring your unwrapped gift to church on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. We will be there during service to collect gifts, and again later that day from 4-6 pm. If these times don't work for you, or if you prefer us to pick up from you, please contact Amy Vallone at 766-0417 or [aevallone@yahoo.com](mailto:aevallone@yahoo.com).
9. CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS to decorate the church can be ordered by either going to the church website and clicking on the "Give" button and selecting "Poinsettia Fund", or by sending a check directly to the church office with a note that it is for Poinsettias and who you would like to donate "in memory of honor of." Plants may be taken home after the 5:00 Christmas Eve Service or after the December 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday service. Those remaining will be donated to WPC Friends at Home. A donation of \$15 is requested, and orders will be taken until December 15<sup>th</sup>.
10. UPPER ROOMS for November/December are available for pick-up from the bench outside the north entrance to the church.