

Second Sunday of Advent

Celebration of Worship

December 6, 2020

9:30 A.M.

Thought for Reflection

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Silent Meditation Thomas Merton quoting the Desert Father Ammonas

“...I have shown you the power of silence, how thoroughly it heals and how fully pleasing it is to God....It is by silence that the Saints grew, that it was because of silence that the power of God dwelt in them, because of silence that the mysteries of God were known to them.”

Ringing of the Bell

Call To Worship

Leader: Let us hear what God will speak - tender words for a burdened people:

People: Comfort, comfort, my people! The days of sorrow are ending!

Leader: Let us hear what God will speak - encouraging words for an anxious people.

People: Prepare a way for the Holy One; through deserts of despair build a highway for our God!

Leader: Let us hear what God will speak - words of vision for a weary people.

People: Steadfast love and faithfulness, righteousness and peace will meet!

Leader: Come, let us worship!

Invocation

People: God, 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 Second Advent Candle - Peace

Leader: O Holy One, we light this second candle, a candle offering comfort to weary spirits after a year of pain and loss. Let its glow remind us of your tender care and warm our lives in the Light of Peace. Let it guide us to your presence in our midst, leading us to your Justice and Joy in the service of Love.

People: God be with us in the Light of Peace.

Opening Hymn

On Jordan's Banks

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Prayer of Confession

Leader: This year past has been riddled with crises and losses: Covid-19, natural disasters of fire and hurricane, exposure of societal injustices rooted in racist and sexist structures, painful political reckonings.

In this moment we are called to examine our hearts for our role in the last year: to name what traditionally have been called Sins of Commission – that is, what we may have done to contribute to the pain and chaos of these days; Sins of Omission – that is, what we may have left undone which contributed to the pain, or failed to help alleviate suffering.

(Silent time to examine our hearts)

Assurance of Grace

Leader: Comfort, comfort, my people, says the God of Justice and Compassion. You are forgiven your sin and showered with grace to change your life and to work toward the Kingdom of the One who is to Come: New heavens and new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Gloria Patri

Children's Time

Dr. Jody Collinge

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

Music Offering

My Hope Is in You
Vocal Ensemble

Schram

Scripture Reading *II Peter 3:8-15a*

Sermon *Holy Living*
Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

Offering Mail in your gifts or click the WPC website 'Give' button

Doxology

Blessing the Offering

Closing Hymn *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* # 11

Benediction

Postlude

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MEMORY VERSE

*"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body you were called to peace."
Colossians 3:15*

LECTIONARY PASSAGES

	<u>Today, December 6th</u>	<u>Next Sunday, December 13th</u>
Old Testament	<i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i>	<i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</i>
Psalm	<i>Psalms 85: 1-2, 8-13</i>	<i>Psalms 126</i>
New Testament	<i>2Peter 3:8-15a</i>	<i>I Thessalonians 5:16-24</i>
Gospel	<i>Mark 1: 1-8</i>	<i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i> <i>Luke 1:46b-55</i>

WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

550 Webster Road
Webster, New York 14580
585-265-9700

www.websterpres.org

Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.



On Jordan's Banks

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God
within,

And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail You as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge, and our great reward;
O let Your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to You, eternal son, Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

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.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

O Lord, how shall I meet You, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet You, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly all that may please You best.

Love caused your incarnation; Love brought you down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace
In love all loves excelling our lost and fallen race.

A glorious crown You give me; A treasure safe on high
That will not fail nor leave me as earthly riches fly.
My heart shall bloom forever for You with praises new,
And from your name shall never withhold the honor due.

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. FROM THE STATED SUPPLY PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE - Pastor Phil Davis was offered and accepted Terms of Call to be our Stated Supply Pastor officially starting on 1/1/2021. This was unanimously approved by the Presbytery of Genesee Valley Committee on Ministry on Tuesday (12/1). Praise God! We are extremely pleased and blessed to have Pastor Phil join WPC staff in this new role.
3. SUNDAY SERVICES 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>
4. THE ADVENT SERIES *GRACE* continues 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.
5. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Women's Bible Study continues the Advent Season by looking at the topic "His Birth at Bethlehem." Join the group 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. 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., mail them to the church office, or call or text Brad Adams (698-3229) to have them picked up. Gift cards will be collected through December 13th.

7. 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 to the church office with a note that it is for Poinsettias and who you would like to donate "in memory or honor of." Plants may be taken home after the 5:00 Christmas Eve Service or after the December 27th 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 15th.
8. THE PCUSA CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is being accepted this month. The Joy Offering distributes gifts to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. You may make your donation using the envelopes in the Sanctuary, by mailing a check to the church, or by visiting the "Give" button on the church Web site.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

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

Monday, December 7

- 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting on Zoom
- Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social/Memorial Room

Tuesday, December 8

- 10:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study on Zoom
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- 7:00 P.M. Adult Ed. Committee on Zoom
- 7:15 P.M. Trustees Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, December 9

- 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 10

- 7:30 P.M. Bible Study on Zoom
- 10:00 A.M. King Circle in Room 9/10
- 11:00 A.M. Staff Meeting in Room 9/10
- 6:00 P.M. Bell Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:30 P.M. Youth Committee in the Youth Room
- 7:00 P.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom

Friday, December 11

- 10:00 A.M. Book Study on Zoom

Saturday, December 12

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom
- 1:00 P.M. Girl Scout Event in the Parking Lot