

Second Sunday in Advent

December 5, 2021

9:30 A.M.

Prelude

Reflection

From: "We Gather," a PCUSA Worship resource

"The news is out!! The messenger is coming! He will bring with him the covenant in which we delight. The valley shall be filled, mountains and hills made low; the crooked shall be made straight, the rough places smooth. Ah, but who can endure the day of his coming? For he will sit in judgment to purify the people until that which they offer is pleasing to God."

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Song

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

398

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope and Peace

Reader 1: 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.

Reader 2: 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.

Reader 1: We light this candle in hope.

Reader 2: We light this candle for peace.

Unison: 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. Amen.

Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for you have looked favorably upon your people.

People: You have raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David.

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us

People: To give light to those who sit in darkness and guide our feet into the way of peace.

Leader: Let us worship God!

Hymn

Prepare the Way, O Zion

13

Prayer of Confession

All: God of abounding grace, have mercy upon us. Our valleys are deep when we are encompassed with care. Our mountains are high when our burdens are heavy. We grope in the maze of our tangled alliances and reap the pain of bad choices and ignorant gambles. You promised that all flesh shall see your salvation. Show us the straight path and the smooth way that lead to your righteousness, through Jesus Christ, who is the way.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Paul prays "that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God." Friends, in Christ live in the assurance of righteousness to the glory of God.

Gloria Patri

Leader: Let us pass the peace of God.

(Children in PreK through 5th Grade are dismissed to the Shine Program)

Hymn

More Love to Thee, O Christ

359

Scripture Readings*Malachi 3:1-4*
*Matthew 3:1-6***Anthem***Advent Promise*
Chancel Choir

Douglas Wagner

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 world thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Prepare a way, make straight the path, proclaim so all may know.
The valleys shall be lifted up, and all the hills made low.

Awake, for the morn is breaking forth. We wait for the coming light
To comfort sorrow, banish pain, and pierce the dying night.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Scripture Reading*Luke 3:1-6***Sermon***"Free"*

Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.

Good News Creed

All: This is the Good News which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; that He was buried; that He was raised on the third day; and that He appeared to the women, and that He appeared to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe He is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

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

Offering Please place your offering in the plates at the exit doors,
mail your gifts to the church, or click the WPC website 'Give' button

Doxology and Blessing of the Offering

Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* # 8

Benediction**Postlude****LECTIONARY PASSAGES**Today, December 5thNext Sunday, December 12thOld Testament *Malachi 3:1-4**Zephaniah 3:14-20*New Testament *Philippians 1:3-11**Isaiah 12:2-6*Gospel *Luke 1:68-79; 3:1-6**Philippians 4:4-7**Luke 3:7-18*

* * * * *

MEMORY VERSE

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.*

*Isaiah 60:1***WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

550 Webster Road, Webster, New York 14580

585-265-9700 www.websterpres.org

Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.



There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.
There's a sweet expression on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise:
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

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.

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.

More Love to Thee, O Christ

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea: More love O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest.
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise.
This still its prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

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.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
The savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether in person or by Live Streaming.
2. SUNDAY SERVICES continue to be live-streamed.
You can watch them live at 9:30 or later at your leisure using:
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/>
or **YouTube** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
3. SERVICE GUIDELINES FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP –
Masks are required in the church building.
ALL ARE WELCOME. No reservations needed.
4. ADULT ED. - Join us following the worship service:
Today - Bible Project DVD study of “*Hope*” and “*Peace*” in the Social Room.
Next Sunday - Andy Stanley’s DVD on a new look at the Christmas Story, “Light of the World: It’s Personal”, in the Social Room.
5. ANGEL TREE UNWRAPPED GIFTS need to be brought to the church today, or you can call Laura Oliver (703-2567) if that is a problem.
6. CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS FOR GRACE HOUSE men are now being collected until Tuesday December 14. \$10 gift cards for fast food restaurants such as McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy’s, Dunkin Donuts, Tim Hortons, and stores such as Walmart, Target, Dollar Tree and Dollar General are appreciated. Most of the men use buses for transportation so restaurants and stores in the city are preferred. Please put the gift cards in the offering plate or give them to Janet or Georgia in the church office or to Brad Adams.
7. ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are available to enrich your Advent Season. *The Fullness of Time* by Henri Nouwen can be used by all, and for our families with young children, *Season’s Greetings: Welcoming Christ Through the Traditions of Christmas* can also be used. Booklets are located in the Narthex or on the bench outside the north entrance.
8. THE CURRENT HEART & HAND PROJECT is fleece hats and scarves for homeless people. If you would like to help, there are easy straight stitch hat kits on the table in the hallway outside the Sanctuary. For fringing scarves, please call Tina McNeary 413-7809. We are anxious for them to receive these items soon.
9. THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING to benefit emergency financial assistance to active and retired pastors and church workers, and to provide scholarship and other aid to Presbyterian-related colleges that primarily service students of color, will again be an opportunity to give beginning next Sunday and extend through January 2nd.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sunday, December 5

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Live-streamed
- 10:30 A.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel
- 10:45 A.M. Bible Project DVD on *Hope* and *Peace* in the Social Room
- 4:00 P.M. Youth “Guinness World Records” in the Social Room

Monday, December 6

- 1:00 P.M. Glory Bells to Holy Trinity
- 6:30 P.M. Session in Room 9/10 and on Zoom
- 7:00 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social and Basement Rooms

Tuesday, December 7

- 9:30 A.M. Women’s Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- 5:30 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 650 in the Memorial Room

Wednesday, December 8

- 6:30 A.M. Men’s Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 1:00 P.M. Naomi Circle in the Memorial Room
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

Thursday, December 9

- 6:30 A.M. Men’s Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells to Atria
- 10:00 A.M. King Circle at the Home of Barb Coleman
- 6:30 P.M. Youth Committee in the Youth Room

Friday, December 10

- 9:00 A.M. Father’s Night Out in the Social Room

Saturday, December 11

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom
- ROC Ringers Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 12

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Live-streamed
- 10:30 A.M. Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary
Church of God by Faith in the Chapel
- 10:45 A.M. Andy Stanley Christmas Story DVD in the Social Room
- 4:00 P.M. Youth Games in the Social Room
- 5:30 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 617 in Room 9/10