

# Celebration of Worship

## Second Sunday in Advent

December 14, 2025

9:30 A.M.

*We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing  
the love of God through faith and action, welcoming all.*

### GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Prelude**                      *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"*                      French melody  
   Sally Turner and Abby Crafton                      17<sup>th</sup> century

### Words of Welcome

### Announcements

**Reflection**                      "Joy is the simplest form of gratitude."                      Karl Barth

### Ringling of the Bell

**Introit**                                      *Advent Carol*                                      Laura Kenreich  
   Children & Youth Singers

### Call to Worship

Family: "Rejoice in the Lord always;

**People: Again, we will say, Rejoice."**

Family: The world says, "Worry,"

**People: and we say, "Rejoice."**

Family: The news say, "Fear,"

**People: and we say, "Rejoice."**

Family: The world says, "Be happy,"

**People: and the church says, "Be faithful."**

Family: We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy!

### Sung Response:

He came down that we may have joy;

He came down that we may have joy;

He came down that we may have joy;

Hallelujah forevermore.

Let us pray:

**All:**        **Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten our minds, rekindle our hearts, and empower us to hear God's will and do it. We are often so blind, so deaf, so fearful, so discouraged. Take away our fear and give us the grace to become good disciples and stewards. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.**

### Hymn

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

# 13

### Call to Confession

Leader: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

### Prayer of Confession

**All:** Advent God, you enter into our weary world to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry, to establish equity throughout the earth. Yet, like perplexed prophets and doubting disciples, we scarcely believe that you can right the world. We see suffering and sorrow and sin, and wonder if creation is beyond repair. But you hold out healing, wholeness and hope. You promise to drive out despair and free us from debilitating fear. Broaden our imaginations, that we might conceive of communities where all people thrive and embody your vision of shalom. Expand our hearts, that we might see the extraordinary in our midst and embrace the everlasting joy you bring. Make us prophets of the world you are bringing to birth, that we might prepare a way before you and welcome you with gladness.

### Moment of Silent Reflection and Confession

### Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**All:        Thanks be to God!**

### Sung Response

*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.

### Passing of the Peace (Please remain seated)

One:        With thanksgiving, we rejoice in the reconciliation found in the forgiveness and love of Jesus Christ. Let us therefore be reconciled with our neighbors and share signs of Christ's peace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

### THE WORD

**New Star**

by Sharon Kay Chatwell

A Pageant presented by the children

## RESPONDING IN LOVE

### Sharing Joys and Concerns

#### The Lord's Prayer (Debts/debtors)

#### Invitation to the Offering

Leader: All things in heaven and on earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Please place your offering in the plates at the exit doors, mail your gifts to the church, or click the WPC website "Give" button. Thank you!

#### Sung Response *In the Bleak Midwinter* # 36 – verse 4

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

#### Prayer of Dedication

**All: Thanks be to you, O God, maker of heaven and earth – giver of justice, lover of righteousness, hope of the afflicted, and friend of the poor. Your faithfulness never fails. Take and use these gifts we offer to further your purpose in the world. Amen.**

## MOVING IN GOD'S WAY

#### Hymn *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.

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 good day

When your renewed creation your glory shall display.

#### Charge and Benediction

Leader: Prepare the Way of the Lord! May the God of peace make you holy and the power of the Spirit sustain you until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Alleluia!**

#### Postlude

#### Memory Verse

*"When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger."*

*Luke 2:15-16*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether in person or by live-streaming. You can live-stream at 9:30 or later at your leisure using:  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/> or  
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UczM5thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
2. ADULT ED. will meet in Room 9/10 following the worship service to look at the Bible Project videos on "Joy" and "Love."
3. JOIN US this afternoon in the Sanctuary at 3:00 pm when the Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus will present a holiday concert of "Messiah, Rutter and Violin Virtuosity". Tickets can be purchased at the door.
4. POINSETTIAS - Today is the last day to place an order for flowers to be displayed in the Sanctuary next Sunday and Christmas Eve. Red, white, pink, or red-white plants are \$15 each, payable in cash or with checks made out to PWC when you place your order. Plants may be taken home any time after the 5:00 Christmas Eve service.
5. THANK YOU to all who have given Angel Tree gifts and Gift Cards for men at Grace House. Your generosity has brightened the holiday for many individuals.
6. CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERING: From now until Sunday January 4<sup>th</sup> we are collecting this special annual offering which is used across the USA to provide emergency financial aid to retired and current pastors in need and also to provide scholarship aid to needy students of color attending Presbyterian colleges. Envelopes for your donation are in the chair racks or you can send a check to church.
7. HEART & HAND has Fleece Hat and Neck Warmer kits for sewing on a table across the hall from the church main office. We would love help stitching them for Webster school children's Christmas back packs.
8. A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION has been called by Session next Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, following the worship service for the purpose of electing the class of 2028 Ruling Elders, Deacons and Trustees.
9. ON DECEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> we say "Goodbye" to Pastor Susan. All are invited to stay after the service that day for a reception for her so we can express our gratitude for the service she has provided our church, and to wish her well in her future endeavors. There will be coffee, snacks and a cake provided.

### Lectionary Passages

	<u>December 14<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>December 21<sup>st</sup></u>
Old Testament	<i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i>	<i>Isaiah 7:10-16</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 146:5-10</i>	<i>Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19</i>
New Testament	<i>James 5:7-10</i>	<i>Romans 1:1-7</i>
Gospel	<i>Matthew 11:2-11</i>	<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>

## This Week's Calendar

### Sunday, December 14

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-Streamed
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Bible Project videos on Joy & Love in Room 9/10
- 3:00 P.M. Genesee Valley Orchestra & Choir Concert in the Sanctuary

### Monday, December 15

- 4:00 P.M. Spiritual Nurture Committee on Zoom
- 6:00 P.M. Rachel Circle at the home of Doreen Clark  
Girl Scout Troop 752 in the Memorial Room.
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room

### Tuesday, December 16

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Service Team in the Social Room
- 6:30 P.M. Deacons' Meeting in Room 9/10

### Wednesday, December 17 - January Pathway Deadline

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon in Room 9/10
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room  
ONE in Christ on Zoom

### Thursday, December 18

- 7:30 A.M. Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells to Heathwood
- 3:00 P.M. Book Club in Room 1
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Committee in the Memorial Room
- 7:00 P.M. Stewardship & Finance in Room 9/10

### Friday, December 19

- 9:30 A.M. Flying Club in the Social Room
- 10:00 A.M. Heart & Hand in Room 4
- 10:30 A.M. Books, Friends & Faith Meeting on Zoom

### Saturday, December 20

- 8:30 A.M. Eagle Scout Ceremony in the Sanctuary & Social Room
- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom

### Sunday, December 21

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-Streamed
- 9:45 A.M. SHINE Program for Children in PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in Room 3  
Youth Christian Ed. in the Youth Room
- 10:45 A.M. Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary
- 12:30 P.M. Dance Showcase in the Sanctuary & Social Room
- 3:00 P.M. Worship at Cherry Ridge
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 344 in the Memorial Room