

Celebration of Worship

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 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

Words of Welcome

Announcements and Minute for Mission

Reflection

"No God, no peace; know God, know peace.

Peace is not something! Peace is a person!

The world will never know peace without Jesus Christ!"

Ring of the Bell

Call to Worship

Family: A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord."

People: A choir sings in the silence, "Come, Emmanuel."

Family: Every valley shall be filled.

People: Every heart shall be made whole,

Family: for peace is stronger than turmoil,

People: and love is louder than hate.

Family: We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

Sung Response:

He came down that we may have peace;

He came down that we may have peace;

He came down that we may have peace;

Hallelujah forevermore.

Let us pray:

All: Loving God, as we pray "Thy kingdom come," grant us the courage to follow your Son Jesus in being a channel of your peace and joy. Enlighten us to see those areas of our life that need transformation. May we feel the urgency of the Baptist's message that we repent, for your kingdom is indeed at hand. Amen.

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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Call to Confession

Leader: in this season of waiting and anticipation, we are reminded of our need for grace and renewal. The light of Christ is coming into the world, yet we often dwell in shadows of doubt, fear and sin. Let us come before God, trusting in His mercy, to confess the ways we have fallen short and to prepare our hearts for the coming of Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace.

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, in a world of quick fixes and fast answers, we confess that we forget how to wait. We have rushed past your voice and ignored our promises. We have filled the silence with noise instead of listening for your coming. Forgive us, Lord. Renew our hope and teach us to watch again for You, through Jesus Christ, our Coming Lord. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection and Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: Advent reminds us of God's promise to make all things new. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we are set free from sin and given the gift of eternal life.

All: In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven. Amen.

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

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.

All: And also with you.

THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Leader: Loving God, as we enter this season of Advent, we seek Your light to guide us. Open our hearts and minds to Your Word, that we may embrace the hope of Christ's coming. Illuminate our path with Your truth and help us to live as beacons of hope in a world longing for Your presence and peace.

All: Amen.

1st Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

Anthem	<i>"My Hope Is in You"</i> Chancel Choir	Ruth Elaine Schram
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Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Sermon *“A Stump and a Promise”*
Rev. Charles M. Roberts

Hymn *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* Insert

Leader: All things in heaven and on earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Just as we will receive Christ's body and blood, let us offer now our lives to God with grateful hearts, dedicating our time, talents and resources to serve God's kingdom.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Leader: Come to this table, prepared for all who seek hope and peace. In this season of waiting, we remember the promise of Emmanuel – God with us. This table is not ours to give or withhold; it is Christ's table, and he invites all who long for grace and renewal.

Come, not because you are perfect, but because you are loved. Come, not because you have all the answers, but because you are searching.

Come, bringing your joys and your burdens, your faith and your doubts, for here Christ meets you with open arms.

The bread is broken, the cup is poured, and the feast is ready. Let us share together in this holy meal as we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. All is ready – come and taste and goodness of God.

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is good to give our thanks and praise. It is a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty,We join in praise and come together to sing unending hymns of the saints of glory.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

One: Holy are you, and Holy is your Son Jesus Christ, Who, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

All: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: And when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said:

All: "Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

One: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. Make us a Christmas people, secure in what has come and hopeful for what is yet to be. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. Keep us vigilant in our Advent waiting until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion:

All: Eternal God, we thank you for the blessings you bestow upon us and for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Send us out in peace, for we have seen, have heard, and been fed by your grace. Keep us faithful and alert for signs of Christ's coming and lead us to live lives marked by truth and light; in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Lectionary Passages

	<u>December 7th</u>	<u>December 14th</u>
Old Testament	<i>Isaiah 11:1-10</i>	<i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19</i>	<i>Psalms 146:5-10</i>
New Testament	<i>Romans 15:4-13</i>	<i>James 5:7-10</i>
Gospel	<i>Matthew 3:1-12</i>	<i>Matthew 11:2-11</i>

CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERING: From now until Sunday January 4 we are collecting this special annual offering that is sponsored by the US Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). It 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 who attend Presbyterian sponsored colleges. Special envelopes for your donation are in the chair racks or you can send a check to church or donate on the church website. Thank you for considering donating to this special need!

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 "Hope" and "Peace."
3. SPECIAL OFFERINGS this next week include:
This Friday at 7:00 - THE ROC City Ringers will present "Harmonies of the Holidays", a free concert in our Sanctuary.
Next Sunday the children and youth will present a Christmas Pageant during the worship service.
Next Sunday at 3:00 pm the Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus will present a holiday concert of "Messiah, Rutter and Violin Virtuosity" in our Sanctuary. Tickets are available at gvoc.org, or can be purchased at the door.
4. ADVENT DEVOTIONALS including daily reflections, Scripture, prayers and children's artwork were sent to you digitally Nov. 30th. If you need a hard copy, please email or call the office (265-9700) to make your request.
5. ANGEL TREE unwrapped gifts are due today and can be placed in the designated bins in the Narthex.
6. \$10 GIFT CARDS FOR MEN AT GRACE HOUSE are being collected from through next Sunday and may be placed in the box in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or in the office at other times. The men appreciate cards for places that are easily accessible in the city, such as Walmart, Target, McDonald's, Wendy's, Burger King, and Chick-fil-A.
7. POINSETTIAS to be displayed in the Sanctuary may be ordered in the Narthex through next Sunday. 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.
8. 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 some Webster school children's Christmas backpacks."

9. A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION has been called by Session on December 21st following the worship service for the purpose of electing the class of 2028 Ruling Elders, Deacons and Trustees.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, December 7 - Communion Sunday

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-Streamed
- 9:45 A.M. SHINE Program for Children in PreK – 5th Grade in Room 3
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Bible Project video on Hope & Peace in Room 9/10

Monday, December 8

- 6:30 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 510 in the Memorial Room
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room

Tuesday, December 9

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 4:30 P.M. Girl Scout 220 Troop in the Memorial Room
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- Genesee Valley Orchestra Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 7:00 P.M. Trustees' Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, December 10

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 1:00 P.M. Naomi Circle at the home of Diane Cole
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 715 in the Memorial Room
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon in Room 9/10
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

Thursday, December 11

- 7:30 A.M. Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells to Aaron Manor
- 10:00 A.M. King Circle at the home of Barbara Coleman
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Friday, December 12

- 9:30 A.M. Flying Club in the Social Room
- 10:30 A.M. Books, Friends & Faith Meeting on Zoom
- 6:45 P.M. Cub Pack 262 in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. ROC City Ringers Concert in the Sanctuary

Saturday, December 13

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom
- 10:00 A.M. Girl Scout Troop 715 in the Memorial Room
- 11:00 A.M. Girl Scout Event in the Social Room

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

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