

December 12, 2021 ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements ~ Chery Nicholas

Prelude ~ Leigh Emmett

Light One Candle” (N. Sleeth)

***Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy,
Ev’ry nation will find salvation in Bethl’em’s baby boy.***

***Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy,
He brings joy to every heart, He comes! He comes!*** (repeat)

Lighting of the Advent Candle by the Barsy, Murphy, and Potter families

Call to Worship ~ *responsive*

Leader: We watch and wait for the coming of Christmas,

People: eagerly anticipating when we can celebrate and remember when God came down to Earth.

Leader: And we wait and serve in the Kingdom of God until Christ comes again.

People: Praise the Lord for his love, care and grace for us. Amen.

**you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

**Hymn #105 - “People! Look East” (verses 1,4,5)*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ *in unison*

God, you are our shepherd and our provider. You lead us through life’s journeys. Yet we confess that too often, we, like sheep, have gone astray. Forgive us Jesus, and in your mercy bring us closer to you as we draw closer to the celebration of your birth. Amen. (A time of silent, personal prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Responsive Chorus #88 ~ *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* (refrain)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Responsive Chorus #123 ~ *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"* (v. 1)

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King":
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.*

Offering Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Psalm 23:1-3

Special Music ~ Bells

Christian Scripture ~ Luke 3:7-16

Message ~ "Prophetic Promises- Rest"

*Hymn #147 ~ *"The First Noel"*

Community at Prayer

Prayer Preparation ~ *"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us, And grant us Thy peace.*

The Lord's Prayer ~ *in unison*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper ~ *responsive*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

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

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

"All Belong Here"~ (L. Rand/H. Rand) as recorded by The Many

*Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.
Come and remember you belong here. All belong here.
At this table come as you are, broken and bleeding's ok.
At this table eat and be filled, come and drink in this grace.
Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.
Come and remember you belong here. All belong here.*

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn #132 - *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"*

Congregational Meeting called for the election of officers

*Benediction

*Choral Response #113 - *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Postlude

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#504369287

A Congregational Meeting is called today for the purpose of electing officers.

Candidates: Ruling Elders: Class of 2024 - Karen Barsy and Kathy VanEck

**Deacons: Class of 2023 - John DeSautel; Class of 2024 - Pattie Benoit and
Terry Earnley**

**Trustees: Class of 2023 - Mike Graham; Class of 2024 - Jim Day, Jeanne Sinclair,
and Jerry Stone**

Foundation: Class of 2026 - Barbara DeLong

Nominations Committee Members: Richard Sherby and Joan Velis

Financial Review Committee: Jim Day, John Lapenta, and Kathy VanEck

***"Home for the Holidays,"* a benefit concert presented by Livonia Community Theatre
TODAY @ 4:00PM, featuring the award winning A Cappella Vocal Group TBD as
well as groups from local schools. Tickets are \$15.00 and available on the Livonia
Community Theatre website - click on *"Box Office"* or at the door.**

Masks will be required for all regardless of vaccination status.

**THANK YOU to Joseph Legato, owner of Bill & Rod's Appliance at 15870 Middlebelt for
the generous donation of a stove that was installed in the Cavell House!
Please consider patronizing Bill and Rod's for your appliance needs.**

Stewardship Campaign Update: 66% of the goal of \$225,000.00 has been met with 41 pledging units committed for a total of \$149,808.00. Thank you to all who have completed commitment cards for 2022. If you have not yet made your commitment, please do so as soon as possible so that the 2022 budget may be set.

The Giving Tree is in the lobby, ready to receive donations. The list of suggestions is on the sign. Advent Devotionals are available on the lobby table.

The St. Paul's Christmas Eve service will be at 4:00PM.

There will be NO worship service for St. Paul's on December 26 - all are invited to worship with Grace Bible Chapel IN GENESIS HALL at 11:30AM.

St. Paul's will be closed December 27 and 28 and January 3, 2022.

Advent Devotionals are available on the lobby table along with a list of suggested donations for the annual Giving Tree.

The Christmas Joy Offering

God saw the great needs of the world and offered the perfect gift, Jesus Christ. In Jesus, we receive the perfect gift of God being with us, and of being with those in need-the gift of being together when we are near, and being together when we are apart. When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church-past, present and future. Half of the offering goes to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions to help current and past church workers and their families in their time of critical financial need. The other half supports education and leadership development at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

ALL offerings and special donations to be credited for 2021 must be received no later than December 29. There is a secure mailbox at the church where donations can be dropped off.

REMINDER: ALL donations to the Board of Deacons, such as the upcoming Christmas Eve offering, and/or to the Foundation must be made by separate check made out directly to the Deacons or Foundation. **Their**

accounts are SEPARATE from the St. Paul's accounts.

The office will be closed on December 27, 28 and January 3.

From the Board of Deacons..."Do you have someone or something to celebrate? You can share your joy with your St. Paul's family, help feed the hungry, and honor the person or object of your celebration with a tribute gift to the Board of Deacons Hunger Ministries. Tribute gifts may also be in memory of someone or something, or your donation can simply be a gift to the Hunger Ministries. An acknowledgement will be placed in the bulletin and e-Branch. No set amount is required, and acknowledgements will go in the bulletin as soon as possible after checks are received. Donations may not be made far in advance for future dates. To donate, please:

- **Make your check payable to: St. Paul's Board of Deacons**
- In the Memo line, write: Hunger Ministries

- Enclose a note with: Donor(s) Name(s) and the dedication. (Dedication examples: In honor of the first responders. In honor of our grandchildren. In memory of my parents).

Send the donation with your check and note to St. Paul's, drop it in the secure mailbox outside the entrance, or bring it to the church during office hours. The Board of Deacons appreciates the congregation's generous spirit. Let's feed each other spiritually, and the hungry, literally. May the peace of Christ be with us all."



Meta Tulley, Ron Frank, Karen Bright, Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton
 Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Nola Bonandrini, Nancy Saunders
 Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant
 Bruce Phillips, Patricia Hutchison, Linda Thompson & her sister, Shirley Kircoff
 Macaylah Whitlock ~ daughter of the Rev. Kellie Whitlock
 Finley Farquhar ~ granddaughter of Eric; Rosemary Iaquina ~ sister of Cathy DeSautel
 Pamela Serene ~ daughter of the late Marilyn Allen
 Mark Feely ~ friend of Judy McGregor; Glenn Ellan Rubright ~ sister of Mike Graham
 Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck; Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian
 Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean; Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit
 Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
 Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham
 Mark Osborne ~ son of the late Janet
 Diane Calloway & Tony S. ~ cousins of the late Gail Artinian; MaryAnn Tabaka ~ mother of Suzanne
 Eric Tabaka ~ nephew of Suzanne; Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
 David Bonandrini ~ son of Nola & Ben; Zoe Marcus ~ friend of Karen Erwin
 Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook; Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips
 Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo; Leslie Benoit ~ daughter of the late Tamar and Jim Duthie
 Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling & Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron & Janet Frank
 Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis

Please review the prayer list and report any changes to the office as soon as possible.