

Advent is a season of preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Savior.

*Worshippers may stand as able.

Leader: Plain text
People: Bold text

The confession is based on a prayer by Laura Jaquith Bartlett.

We pour water into the Baptismal bowl as a reminder that we are washed clean of all our sins.

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
A Service of Lessons and Carols
DECEMBER 15, 2019 11:00 AM

CHIMES

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLED TOGETHER

PRELUDE "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" G. Pollock
Sharon Curnutte

*INTROIT "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" (see insert)

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Mary sang, "My soul magnifies the Lord ...

for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name!

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 140 "Once in Royal David's City" IRBY

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Upside-down God, you announce your coming with exciting news:

the hungry will eat their fill,

the oppressed will dance in newfound freedom;

you proclaim your mission with hard news:

the well-fed will go hungry,

the powerful will lose their status.

We find ourselves squirming as we acknowledge our participation in structures that oppress and marginalize.

Help us accept and proclaim the coming of your Son as truly good news.

Give us the courage to set aside our privilege, and help bring about this upside-down world, where everyone can sing together for joy.

(silent prayers of confession) And all God's people say, **Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

*SHARING THE PEACE "The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you!"

*SONG OF PRAISE

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, Amen. Amen. Amen

TO RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

GATHERING

"Where Children Belong"

**This, this is where children belong,
Welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:
This is where children belong.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Dr. Todd Wright

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Lesson 1: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 "The Truth from Above" R.V. Williams

Lesson 2: Isaiah 40:3-5 "Prepare the Way of the Lord" Mozart/Hopson

Lesson 3: Isaiah 40:9-11 "Hodie Veni Christe" C. Nygard

HYMN NO. 43 *(See Insert)* "O Little Town of Bethlehem" FOREST GREEN

Lesson 4: Luke 2:8-16 "Rise Up Shepherds" Price/Besig

Lesson 5: Luke 2:1-7 "Judah's Land" D. Johnson

Lesson 6: Matthew 2:1-5 "African Noel" P. Liebergen

Lesson 7: John 1:1-9

HYMN NO. 133 "O Come All Ye Faithful" (vs. 1, 3, 4) ADESTE FIDELES

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Scots Confession

When the fullness of time came God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the "just seed of David," the "Angel of the great counsel of God," the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY "What Child Is This?" G. Martin

*DOXOLOGY **In the Bleak Midwinter No. 144, v. 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**

TO LIVE AS DISCIPLES

*HYMN NO. 134 "Joy to the World" (vs. 1 & 4) ANTIOCH

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" No. 132, v. 1

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say:

Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Written by six ministers, including John Knox, in 1560, the document was ratified by Parliament as "doctrine grounded upon the infallible Word of God."

We conclude worship with the Postlude. Those who leave during the postlude are requested to do so quietly and respectfully.



If you would like to give flowers to celebrate a special day or person, please contact Leslie Breinar.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments, after worship.



STAFF

Rev. Dr. Todd Wright
Pastor

Rev. Dr. Amy Parker
Minister of Education
and the Arts
Carolyn Perrine
Organist

Leslie Breinar
Secretary

Dionne Canterbury
Children's Choir Dir.
Sharon Curnutte
Choir Director Emeritus

SESSION

Class of 2019
Cindy Hanna
Noah Lawson
Angie Price
Jim Smith
Chuck Stump

Class of 2020
Jack Grimm
Kathy Kruk
Peggy Palmer
Patty Skaff

Class of 2021
Heather Barry
Greg Rader
Sarah Stump
Barbara Tabaretti

Clerk of Session
Rose Ann Walker

TRUSTEES
Don Parker '19
Richard Callard '20
John France '21

*POSTLUDE

"Once In Royal David's City"

A. Jordan

GREETERS: *Greeters before Worship:* Charlie and Sarah Stebbins *Greeters after Worship:* Angela Price and Chuck Stump

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Dr. Todd Wright, *preacher*; Rev. Dr. Amy Parker; Carolyn Perrine, *organist*; Patty Skaff, *liturgist*; Jeanne MacDonald, Bailey and Maddy Smith, *candle lighter*; Howard Salisbury, Maureen Wright, Todd Zubick, Angie Price, Brendan Stump, Sandy Bowles, and Ray Boggs, *lesson readers*.

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: Sarah Stump and Kathy Kruk

FLOWERS: Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God!

STEWARDSHIP END OF YEAR: Please make any end of their year gifts before Dec. 31st to receive credit on your 2019 taxes and to help us close out the year in the black! If you would like to contribute to end of the year bonuses for the staff, now is the time. All bonuses will be divided among the staff on a percentage bases approved by the Session.

THIS SUNDAY, December 15, 2019

- + 9:45 AM – Sunday School
- + 11:00 AM – Worship – Lessons and Carols – Invite A Friend Sunday
- + 12:00 PM – Carry-In Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall (Provided by the Fellowship Committee)

THIS WEEK

- + Monday, December 16, 9:30 AM – Bridge; 5 PM – Tai Chi; 7 PM – Advent Study
- + Wednesday, December 18, 11 AM – Bridge
- + Thursday, December 19, 10 AM – PW Deborah Circle; 7 PM – PW Ruth Circle
- + Friday, December 20, 7 PM – NA Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

- + 9:45 AM – Sunday School
- + 11:00 AM – Worship
- + 12:00 PM – Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall (Provided by the Membership Committee)

Happy Birthday Those having a birthday this week: Rick Hanna (16th), Sandy Bowles (16th), Sandy Singleton (16th), Rodrigo Velasco (18th), Lisa Lawson (19th), Patty Skaff (22nd). If we have missed your birthday, please let us know!

PRAYERS FOR: Leon Copeland; Jeanne MacDonald; Velva Vanater; Peggy Palmer; Beth Chiparo; Lynn Gunnoe; Martha Foster; Jimmy Clark; Nancy Trotter; Maggie Powell; David Joslin; Leon and Sandy Copeland; Sandy Singleton; Steve and Susie Matulis; Tyler Zubick; Helen Singleton; Todd Wright, Amy Parker & their families; the session of Village Chapel

Those in care facilities: Sherry Russell, Martha Foster

Those overseas: Matthew Walker

All Students

Military Service: Paul Caruso, Rich Jarrett, and John Underhill

Nyeri Presbytery: Muthuaini Church (Pronounced Moh-THO-uh-EE'nay)

WV Council of Churches: Presbyterian Church USA

Churches in the Presbytery of WV: Riverlawn Presbyterian Church and the Staff of the Presbytery of WV

Missionaries: Steve and Sonia Dettweiler

Village Chapel Presbyterian Church

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DECEMBER 15, 2019



Mary Visits Elizabeth by Terry Hickernell

We believe children learn to worship by being in worship, so childcare for children (infant to kindergarten) begins after the Time for Children. The adult attendants will lead children out of the sanctuary to their room in the basement of the Education wing.

Worship bags for all children are available in the Narthex (at the back of the sanctuary).

Our sanctuary is equipped with hearing assist devices. Please see one of the ushers to borrow one during the service.

This Sunday's bulletin is printed on paper that contains at least 10% recycled fiber. A receptacle for recycling paper is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Please remember to silence your cell phones.

"Village Chapel Presbyterian Church is a congregation of God's people, a lively community of faith, striving to serve God according to God's ever evolving plan; passionately seeking opportunities to reflect God's love in our everyday lives through service, humility, self-examination and reflection, study and prayer. We are called to be generous and wise stewards of our God given gifts, talents, money and earthly resources, both as individuals and as the Body of Christ. Our mission, simply stated is that we are called to love, and to serve, and to be beacons of Christ's endless love and forgiveness, spreading God's eternal light to all people."