

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION  
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When passing the bread to your neighbor say, "The body of Christ, broken for you."

When passing the cup to your neighbor say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

We will hold each element until all are served and then partake together.

PRAYER

### BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN OF SENDING #161 "People, Look East"

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #191 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (verse 3)

**For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
when, with ever-circling years, shall come the time foretold,  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

\*POSTLUDE "Wake Awake, For Night is Flying"

Philipp Nicolai, J S Bach



**WELCOME VISITOR!** We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Betsy Turner, Interim Pastor  
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus  
Linda Hodges, Office Manager

Ward Gailey, Music Director  
Gena Ridgeway, Accompanist  
Nursery Attendant, Suzie Wharton and Allie Dunn

# Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2019

11:00 am



## Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

*"I propose that Advent is a time of struggle between  
the poem that opens the future that God will work  
and the memo that keeps control.  
Advent is a time for relinquishing some of the control  
in order to receive the impossible from God."*

*Walter Brueggemann*

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

### CHIMING THE TRINITY

#### PRELUDE "The Advent of our God"

Aaron Williams

#### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Jeffrey Cochran

**Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church prayer list.**

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

\*Those who are able, please stand.

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #154 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 1)

**O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Jeremiah 33:14-16)

Liturgist: Jeffrey Cochran

One: The days are surely coming, says the Lord,

All: **when I will fulfill my promise to my people.**

One: Justice and righteousness will fill the land,

All: **and all will live in peace and safety.**

One: In hope and anticipation of Christ's coming kingdom, let us worship God!

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #153 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

(see insert)

Greg & Arlene Lathrop, Lexie Buchan

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

##### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Lord, have mercy upon us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Now, in a daring act of hope and trust, we ask your forgiveness for all the ways we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. Hear us now as we confess in silence the particular ways we need your grace...**

[silence]

**Show us your mercy and steadfast love, O God. Lead us in your truth and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation, the one for whom we wait. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Romans 13:11-12)

One: Friends, salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers. The night is far gone, the day is near. This is our hope: the Lord is coming, and forgiveness is at hand.

All: **Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

#### \*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

**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.**

## PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Dunn

#### ANTHEM "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" Schwartz

Lexie Buchan, flute

Children's Choir

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

##### FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

Page 594, Pew Bible

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

##### SECOND READING Matthew 24:36-44

Page 26, Pew Bible

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "Waiting"

Rev. Betsy Turner

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

##### OFFERTORY "We Light the Advent Candles"

German Folk Tune, Wir Hatten Gebauet

#### \*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost;**