

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude
Welcome
Faith Life and Opportunities
Preparatory Meditation

“Rise Up That Holy Night”

Adult Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 1:68-71

* HYMNS OF PRAISE

(screen)

“Behold”

“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”

* PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Romans 13:11^b-14

PRAYER OF CONFESSION OF SINS

(in unison below)

O Lord, whose chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for your presence and humbly seeks your love: we come to you to acknowledge and confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; that we have not loved you with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and for the good we have left undone. But you, O Lord, are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in mercy; there is forgiveness with you. Restore to us the joy of salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills and rest to our souls. Speak to each one of us the word that we need, and let your word remain with us until it has worked in us your holy will, according to the grace and purpose of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GOD'S PROMISE OF GRACE

John 5:24

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(p. 870, responsively)

The Shorter Catechism Q/ A # 20-22

CALL TO GENEROSITY

Acts 20:35^b

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN OF FAITH

203

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

(Children ages 4 through 3rd grade are dismissed for Children's Church)

OLD TESTAMENT READING (p. 762)

Isaiah 40:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT READING (p. 1090)

Luke 2:1-14

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Senior Pastor Lee Capper

“THE CHRISTMAS SONG (BIBLE VERSION):

A Song of God's Salvation”

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

* HYMN OF COMMITMENT

211

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

* DISMISSAL AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ruth Lum

(* for those who are able, please stand)

EVENING SERVICE

Our evening service at 5:30 p.m. will consist of our Christmas Eve Family Worship Service with traditional lessons and carols for the whole family. Join us as we set Christ at the very center of our Christmas celebration. Invite family and friends, coworkers and neighbors to share in our joy at the Savior's birth!

BUDGET & BENEVOLENCES

Received December 17, 2023	\$9,695.00
Weekly budget need	6,883.49
Received year-to-date	346,955.46
Budget year-to-date	351,058.96
Over/ (under) budget	(4,103.50)
Deacons Fund	25.00
Deacons Fund (Year-to-date)	2,146.00
Building Fund (Mortgage Payment)	0.00
Building Fund Offering (Year-to-date)	350.00
Building Fund Mortgage Payment Offerings	6,340.00
December p.m. - PCA Ministerial Relief Offering	460.00
Sam Reckley Memorial Gift	200.00

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome

VISITORS: We are glad to have you worship with us today. Please sign a guest register at either entrance, and allow us to greet you after our worship service. Hearing Assistance Receivers are available in the Audio/Visual Room and parents with infants are welcome to use the Parent Room - both by the front entrance. Bathrooms/Nursery: go through the Fellowship Hall behind the worship auditorium. Please mute or turn off all cell phones.

TODAY'S OFFERING: please place in the offering plates stationed in the aisles at both entrances, either before worship or after worship, or else mail it.

EVENING OFFERING: is designated for the **PCA Ministerial Relief Offering**.

This Week's Schedule

TODAY	8:30 a.m.	Choir Practice in the sanctuary
	9:40 a.m.	Sunday School (all ages including nursery)
	10:45 a.m.	Morning Worship Service
	5:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Family Worship Service - celebrate the coming of Christ with lessons and traditional carols for the whole family, bringing to a close our Advent Theme, "The Christmas Song (Bible Version)." Join us in putting Christ at the heart of your Christmas celebration!

NEXT SUNDAY 10:45 a.m. **Morning Worship Service**

GROWTH & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

CHRISTMAS BOOKS: are on display in the church library. Check something out today to enjoy over your Christmas holidays!

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH: booklets and tracts are available at both entrances.

WINTER ADULT SS: continues with two options: 1. **Shepherding a Child's Heart** - video/discussion on parenting in sanctuary, led by Milton Lum.
2. **1&2 Peter** -Bible discussion in the Fellowship Hall led by Jeremy Wilson.
Next week there will be **no Sunday School (or Evening Service)**.

BYFAITH MAGAZINE: the **50th Anniversary issue** of the PCA magazine is **hot-off-the-press** and available at both entrances; pick up one today! It is a wonderful and detailed account of the PCA; every family is urged to pick up a copy!

3RD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT: is on the wall rack at the side exit foyer.

DECEMBER PRAYER & BIBLE CALENDAR: is available on the information table.

ADULT DEVOTIONALS: The **January** issue of *Tabletalk*, the **January-March Encounter with God** and the **December-February Our Daily Bread** are now available on the library information table.

CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONALS: The **December-February** issue of *Keys for Kids* is on the library information table.

SERVICE CALENDAR

CHURCH MINISTRIES	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SS Nursery	Jessica S & Jen H	n/a
Toddler Nursery	Kristen M & Lauryn R	Katie N and Roy C
Infant Nursery (On-Call)	Riley Davis	Kristen Maust
Children's Church	Sue Felton	Cindy Chisholm
Children's Church Helper	Lydia Nelson	Sintija Anderson
Evening Nursery	n/a	n/a
Kids Catechism Club	n/a	n/a
Live Stream	Charlene Platter	Justin Davis
Piano	Darlene Russell	Darlene Russell
Guitar	Roy Chisholm	Blane Fike
Building Closing	Ian MacFawn	Brandon Buser
Building Maintenance	Brandon Buser	Brandon Buser

FAITH AT PRAYER

12/24/2023

PRAYER FAMILY: Lee & Nancy Capper

PRAYER MISSIONARY: Covenant Village

PRAYER AGENCY: Union Rescue Mission

PRESBYTERY CHURCH: Murrys ville Community PCA, Murrys ville, PA

NEW ABORTION CLINIC: close down from lack of clients, employees.

SALVATION: Xiaojin Zhu, Keith & Dean Felton, Vahit. Evi, Katherine, Katelyn J

INTERNATIONAL PEACE: Israel's war against Hamas terrorists, return of hostages, war in Ukraine, Chinese threats against Taiwan.

CHILDCARE: more volunteers, need to complete child protection training.

SEEKING TO SELL HOUSE: Juls & Barbara Wood, Josh Wood.

EXPECTING: Josh & Samantha (May)

MOVING: Josh Pickett (to Roanoke)

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT: Ann O', Amy Sebastian, Josh Pickett, Greg Williams

CANCER/HEALTH CONCERNS: Diane Whetstone (MS), Roger Everett (cancer), Jesse Wilson Sr. (vertigo), Laura Donaldson (brain cancer in remission), Elysee Taylor (healing from burn scars), Amy Klemm (depression), Lindsey Eberlin (stroke, doctors to find source), Debbi Nickerson (kidney) Angie Carbaugh (alcoholism); Jared Souders (stage 4 tongue cancer), Ryan Souders (cardiac syncope); Chris Eberlin's mother (recovery from brain tumor), Andrew Wilson (cancer in neck & spine), Mary Beth Taylor (pain from crushed spinal column), Jo Troutman (cancer/ salvation - wife & 3 kids), Don Eft (cancer has returned), Scott's ex-wife Francoise - cancer, broken vertebrae in neck; Garrett Buser (Brandon's brother stage 4 renal cancer - pray for strength through treatment, tolerance of pain, restored relation to church and God), Whitley Davis (RSV), Milton's sister Melanie (digestive concerns).

JOHANNA A: return to faith she once professed; take her medicine.

PASTOR LEE & NANCY CAPPER: Nancy's health; Lee: cataract surgery in January, study of Deuteronomy, and preparation to teach in April for Ukraine Biblical Seminary via Zoom.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR JOSHUA & SAMANTHA JARVIS, ALISTAIR, MAEVE: wisdom in parenting, development of Samantha's new counseling practice; Samantha's health during pregnancy, and Alistair's speech development.

PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT LEADERS, MILITARY, & JUDICIAL SYSTEM

WORLD-WIDE PERSECUTION: Iraq: for peace & stability to come to Iraq so Christians can return home; for an end to violence so believers can worship safely; and for God's protection & courage for new believers from M*lim backgrounds.

PRAYER FOR UNREACHED PEOPLES: Korku in Bangladesh: Pray for the few believers to keep their focus on Jesus and that a church will be established among them; for the exploitation of the Korku people to end; and that they would have a spiritual hunger that opens their hearts to Christ.

Pray that 1% of PCA adult members might respond to call to foreign missions.

SERMON NOTES

Senior Pastor Lee Capper

12/24/2023

"THE CHRISTMAS SONG (BIBLE VERSION):

A Song of God's Salvation"

Isaiah 40:1-11 | Luke 2:1-14

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: How has this sermon impacted you? What will you do or think differently? What verse stood out as most important?