

of Advent

The First Presbyterian Church Delhi, New York

November 27, 2022

10:30 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

"Great is the Lord, and most worthy of Praise." Psalm 48:1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude Welcome and Church Life Notes Introit

"Emmanuel"

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Eric, Talia & Vincent Specht

Reader One: When I look around, I see shadows of hunger. Particularly in this time of pandemic so many neighbors, nearby and around the world, will go to bed hungry tonight.

Reader Two: When I look around I see shadows of injustice, the rich getting richer, the poor getting poorer – and someone somewhere will fall asleep under a bridge tonight.

Reader One: In the face of hunger, we light a candle of Hope.

Reader Two: In the face of injustice, in the face of despair, we light a candle of hope. (light candle)

Reader One: Let the light from this candle say to all that God's hope is coming, on earth as it already is in heaven.

Reader Two: Friends, be not afraid, God's hope is at hand!

*Call to Worship (Psalm 66:1-4)

Shout with joy to God, all the earth.

Sing the glory of his name, make his praise glorious.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds. So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you."

All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you; they sing praise to your name.

*Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#133

Call to Confession Prayer of Confession

Holy Lord, in this season of Advent, we confess that we often are distracted by the busy season, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of the Christmas season. We also ask for forgiveness for all the times we have doubted your presence and for all the times we have failed to hold the peace in our lives. Let us be carriers of your peace toward others. Remind us that this is the season of waiting and preparation for the greatest gift of all. In the Holy Name of our Savior, Jesus, we pray. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

We are reminded that the day is surely coming when God fulfills his promise that the Messiah is coming to save the world from sin.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Choral Response

"Gloria Patri"

#581

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.

*Sharing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Arr. by Hakes

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that as your word is proclaimed we may hear your words this day. Amen.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading - Matthew 24:36-44

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Leader: The Gospel of Christ. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"The Message is Clear"

Pulpit Guest Ron Galley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#113

*Affirmation of Faith - Shorter Catechism

What is sin?

Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgressing of, the law of God.

Presentation of Gifts & Offerings Call to the Offering

Thank you God for the faith you give to us through your word. We are blessed that the spirit of God is with us always through your powerful presence and love. We give our offerings in your blessed name in hopes that we might grow in righteousness and continue on our daily paths through faith now and throughout eternity. Amen.

Offerings may be made online at <u>https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering</u> or by USPS mail service.

Offertory

***Choral Response** *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

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. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Lord, we thank you and praise you for this day of Advent, to wait for the coming of the Messiah. We dedicate our gifts this day in your name. We humbly pray; Amen.

Prayer Hymn

"In God Alone"

#814

#606

In God alone my soul can find rest and peace, in God my peace and joy. Only in God my soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

... "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors"

*Hymn

"What Child is This"

#145

*Benediction

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: "God of hope, I look to you with an open heart and yearning Spirit. During this Advent season, I will keep awake and alert, listening to your precepts. My hope is in you." —Matthew Kelly

Leading us in worship this morning: Pulpit Guest Ron Galley, Worship Leader Billy Meredith, Music Director Tammi Tully, Liturgist



Today is the first Sunday of Advent and a new church year. Welcome to this rich season of worship.

(*Prayer*) A new church year, a new season, a new focus. Thank you, Creator God, for the coming weeks to prepare our hearts anew for the arrival of your Son.

Your **tithes and offerings** may be made online via PayPal, click the donate button at **https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering**, or by regular USPS mail (4 Clinton Street, Delhi, NY 13753).

THE FLOWERS today are given in memory of Dr. Howard Dickson from his family.

Wreath Orders are due today. Be sure to get your orders in on time!

On Tues, Dec 6 from 9:30 to 12:30 EDD Adaptive Sports will be having a **craft time with special needs children** in the Chapel. Volunteers and participants are welcome! If you are interested in participating, call Barb Mackey at 607-435-7201, or speak with Betty Bell.

For the time that we are without a full-time pastor, members of Session will be taking turns in serving as a go-to person if a pastoral need arises. For the month of November our contact person will be Renee Maxwell. She can be reached at (607) 746-6128 or oma8243@gmail.com.

Today is a BOUNTIFUL GIVING SUNDAY. The Delhi Food Pantry is accepting **non-perishable food items.** You can also donate via <u>https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering</u> or give cash or check donations designated for the food bank. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church. Checks may also be mailed via regular mail to the church at 4 Clinton Street, Delhi NY 13753.

The Nov-Dec Courier and devotional booklets (Upper Room and Daily Bread) are available outside the office and in the new narthex. Please take one for your daily devotions!

THOUGHTS ON GIVING: *"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Matthew 24:42* People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we don't take each day for granted and see the little miracles that occur in our lives every day.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2022 has been set at \$42.00 per member.

Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance	38 - 33 in sanctuary +
Sunday 11-20-2022	Approx. 5 virtual
The amount needed each week	\$2,147.35*
The amount given week of 11-20-2022	\$550.00
The amount needed year-to-date	\$100,925.45
The amount given YTD as of 11-20-2022	\$79,846.48
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 11-20-2022	\$6,273.60
Kirk Receipts 11-13-22 to 11-19-22	\$1,630.45
Mission giving week of 11-20-2022	\$11.00
Mission giving YTD as of 11-20-2022	\$2,739.00
Apportionment Needed 2022	\$7,182.00
Apportionment received YTD as of 11-20-2022	\$2,294.58

*The amount needed each week is total expenses minus budgeted savings transfers.

SUNDAY	First Sunday of Advent & Bountiful Giving Sunday
November 27	Wreath Order Deadline
	9:45 am Sunday School
	9:45 am Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am Worship
	12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Calling hours for Janet Maxwell
	2:00 pm Memorial Service for Janet Maxwell
MONDAY	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
November 28	9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
November 29	3:00 pm Girl Scouts (Chapel)
WEDNESDAY	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
November 30	10:30 am Gentle Yoga (Chapel)
	5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
December 1	9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
December 2	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open
SATURDAY	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open
December 3	9:15 am Fit to be Tied Yoga (Chapel)
SUNDAY	Second Sunday of Advent
December 4	9:30 am Deacons Meeting
	9:45 am Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am Worship with Communion

A VERY VERY VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AT THE KIRK All holiday items will be for sale starting Dec 2nd in Fellowship Hall.