

December 22, 2024, 11 AM
Olean First Presbyterian Church

Prelude ~ *Infant Holy* ~ Dale Wood

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

*Please sign the friendship pads and include your contact info, email, phone, and text.
We want to make sure we can communicate better with you.*

Choral Introit

God is Good

Everyday

And Everyday

God is Good

Call to Worship

In this weary world,

we sing of joy.

In this fragile world,

we lift each other up.

In this beautiful world,

we look for God.

In this tender world,

we hold onto hope.

This is the invitation of faith.

So, in this time of worship, may we sing, lift up, look for, and hold onto our with-us God.

With hope in our hearts, amen!

Opening Prayer

Stir up your power, O God, and come to set us free by the righteousness of your birth in our midst, by the light of your face shining upon us, and by becoming our brother, our friend, our salvation. We pray this in the name of Jesus.

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle ~ Lanna Waterman and Carol Bess

One: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? Where do we start?

All: Let us begin with tenderness. Let us begin with our hearts on our sleeve. Let us begin from a place of vulnerability and hope. Let us begin with love.

One: Yes, let us start with love. Today we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love.

All: May the warmth of these lights be our cornerstone. May the truth in these lights help us begin again.

One: May it be so! Amen.

Advent Song ~ *Light One Candle* ~ Natalie Sleeth

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to every heart. He comes! He Comes!

Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace.
He brings peace to ev'ry heart. He comes! He comes!

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 love, one bright candle for love.
He brings love to ev'ry heart. He comes! He comes!

Children's Program ~ "The True Meaning of Christmas"

Written by ~

Nathaniel McClellan

Carol McClellan

Performers ~

Nathaniel McClellan

Theodore McClellan

Carson Haynoski

Connor Haynoski

Rick Snyder

Pastor Bruce Levine

Lanna Waterman

*Please join us in singing these favorite Christmas Carols during the performance today.
The words are printed below for your convenience.*

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria

In excelsis Deo

Gloria

In excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria

In excelsis Deo

Gloria

In excelsis Deo!

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
‘Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born!”

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth;
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.

*Opening Hymn ~ *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* ~ No. 136

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)

Prayers of the People

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.

Minute for Mission ~ Doug Cashing on Christmas Joy Offering

Presentation of the Offering

If you prefer, you can go to our website Oleanfirstpresbyterian.com and click on the donate button.

*Doxology ~ No. 606

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 Thanksgiving

The Passing of the Peace

Closing Hymn ~ *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* ~ No. 146

Gentle Mary laid her child
lowly in a manger;
there he lay, the undefiled,
to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place,
can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race
who have found his favor.

Angels sang about his birth;
wise men sought and found him;
heaven's star shone brightly forth,
glory all around him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
heard the angels singing;
all the plains were lit that night;
all the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child
lowly in a manger;
he is still the undefiled,
but no more a stranger.
Son of God, of humble birth,
beautiful the story;
praise his name in all the earth;
hail the King of glory!

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *Creator Alme Siderum* ~ Pietro Yon

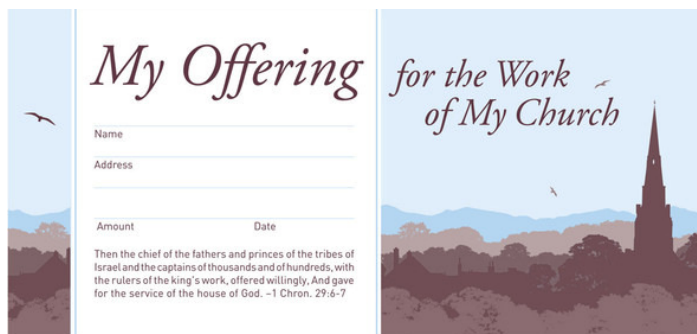
(Music permission by One License: 734848-A)

Today's Ushers are Chris Burton and Louie McClure.

Today's flowers are given in loving memory of Harold & Leeta Huber and Bill & Jean Burton by the Burton Family.



Please let Andrea know if you would like a box set of offering envelopes for 2025. Call 716-372-7844 or email oleanfpc@wny.twcbc.com.



Prayer List

Margaret Quigley	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Judy Sanchez	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
Joe Gullo	David	Chase Ewoldt
Dale Isenberg	Diane Trippany	Avrie Sinesiou
Joseph Kwiatkowski	Alyssa Daly and Family	Renee Ensell
Ken Stebbins	Punkie & Craig Sinesiou	Kim Whitney
Judi Blair	Barbara Compher	Carol Bess
Thomas Burian	Sylvia Lynch	Pastor Bruce Levine

***Please let the office know who can be removed and who needs to be added.
Thank you for your help! ***

Happy Birthday to:
26 ~ Tom Bowersox
27 ~ Ryan Whitney

Happy Anniversary to:
28 ~ Dixie Grabow & Stephen Yehl

Please Note: Pastor Bruce will be out of the office from Wednesday, December 25th, until Saturday, January 18th. The Church Office will be closed from Tuesday, December 24th, through Friday, January 3rd.

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 12/22/24

Sunday – Dec. 22	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship ~ Christmas Pageant
Tuesday - Dec. 24	7:30pm Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday - Dec. 25	Merry Christmas
Friday - Dec. 27	No Coffee & Conversation at
Saturday - Dec. 21	11am Choraliers
Sunday – Dec. 29	11am Worship ~ Alexis Fisk

If you wish to speak with Pastor Bruce, please call 716-378-6773.

