

December 8, 2024, 11 AM
The Second Sunday of Advent
Olean First Presbyterian Church

Prelude ~ *Veni Emmanuel* ~ Pietro Yon

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 a world that is lonely,
we will save a seat for you.

In a world that is anxious,
we will light candles against the gloom.

In a world that is weary,
we will sing songs of joy and truth.

I am not alone.

We are not alone.

For here in this place, God is weaving us together.

Light the candles! Sing with joy!

We are a three-cord strand, not easily broken.

Opening Prayer

Covenant God, you send us messengers to cleanse and refine us for your coming. Help us endure the mirror of the prophets message, that we may see you when you suddenly appear among us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lighting the Second Advent Candle ~ Marlene Lang and Matt Isenberg

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

B: Let us begin together. Let us begin arm in arm. Let us begin by holding each other up, instead of tearing each other down. Let us begin with words of peace.

A: Yes, let us begin with peace.

B: Today we light the candles of hope and peace. May these lights remind us of what could be. May these lights mark a new beginning. May peace flow like a river, and may it start with us.

A: Arm in arm, hand in hand, side by side. May we begin again. Amen.

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!

Children's Time

*Opening Hymn ~ *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* ~ No. 88

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.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show;
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

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.

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

Anthem ~ *And the Stars Sang* ~ Joseph Martin

The Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination ~ No. 455

Listen to the word that God has spoken;
listen to the One who is close at hand;
listen to the voice that began creation;
listen even if you don't understand.

Readings ~

Malachi 3:1-4

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Luke 3:1-6

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Word of God
The Word of Life

Message

Music for Meditation

*Closing Hymn ~ *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* ~ No. 119

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

*Benediction

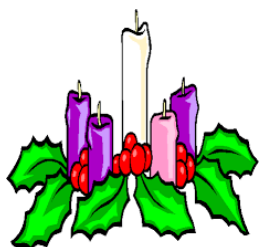
*Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *March of the Three Kings* ~ Gounod/Wilson

(Music permission by One License: 734848-A)

Today's Greeters and Ushers are Barry and Marilyn Hurley.

Flowers are in recognition of Lynn & Louie McClure's wedding anniversary, married December 9, 1995 in our sanctuary. Congratulations!



We need candle lighters for the advent wreath for the Christmas Eve service. Please let Pastor Bruce know if you are interested.

Christmas Memorials

Order forms in Fellowship Hall

Orders due TODAY



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:
14 ~ Beth (McGonnell) Kalafatich

Happy Anniversary to:
9 ~ Louie & Lynn McClure

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 12/8/24

Sunday – Dec. 8	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship
Monday - Dec. 9	4pm Session
Tuesday - Dec. 10	6:30pm Scouts
Wednesday - Dec. 11	Noon PW Luncheon at Bistro 5pm CE
Thursday - Dec. 12	1pm Deacons 5:30pm BYO Dinner 6:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Scouts 7pm Choir 7pm Bible Study
Friday - Dec. 13	10am Coffee & Conversation at N Union St Tim Hortons 7:30pm Fish Club
Saturday - Dec. 14	11am Choraliers
Sunday – Dec. 15	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship

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



We are in need of another usher. If you are interested, please contact Punkie Sinesiou at 585-307-2327.



The PW Mitten Tree will be up until Thursday, December 12th. Donations of mittens, hats, scarves and socks are appreciated. Collected items will be donated to the Olean Food Pantry.


Come celebrate

Christmas Eve

with us at
First Presbyterian Church

212 Laurens Street
Olean, NY 14760

Christmas Eve Service with Communion at 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome to join us in this time of joy, hope, and peace.



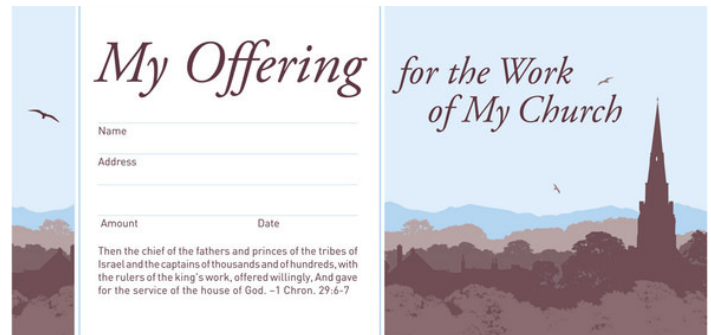


PW Christmas Gathering *at Brother's Bistro*

Wednesday, December 11th at Noon

All women of the congregation are invited to attend this
Christmas lunch gathering for food, fellowship and fun.

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.



2025 Per Capita is \$40.