

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
10:00 A.M. Combined Service
Rev. Mark Piedmonte
Music Director – Gregory Fraser
* *Congregation will stand*

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE with SILENT PRAYERS: Bach Concerto A minor, 2nd Movement
GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - **During Covid, masks are required. There will be no singing other than by the minister and organist. At this time there is no need to stand during designated hymns. Hymn lyrics are provided as inserts so you may participate spiritually. We do not touch hymnals, friendship pads, Bibles, or offering plates. Place offering in plate upon entrance or when exiting.**

INTROIT: “Savior of the Nations, Come” *(See Insert to follow along)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader/**People**)
Leader: Rejoice in the Lord; again, I say, rejoice!
All: Be gentle to all; the Lord is near.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
As the Lord has promised, in days to come:
The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
All: like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.
(2 purple and one pink candles are now lit)

*OPENING PRAYER
Leader: Let us pray:
All: Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you. Now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to save us, so that wars and violence shall end, and your children may live in peace, honoring one another with justice and love. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” *(See Insert)*

CALL TO CONFESSION
Leader: A voice is crying out in the wilderness: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin.
All: Mighty God, we confess that we have not expected your kingdom. We live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Give thanks to the Lord! Call on God’s name and hear this wonderful news again: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI
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.

*WORDS & GESTURES OF PEACE: *(turn to extend signs of peace to neighbors from a distance)*
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you. ***All: And also with you.***

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: “Break Fast” Rev. Mark Piedmonte

*SONG OF PRAISE: “Go Tell It on the Mountain!” *(Video – Artist: NeedtoBreathe)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Leader: Let us pray, asking the Spirit’s guidance in understanding the Scriptures:
All: Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Isaiah 9: 1, 6-7 (responsive)
Leader: For a child has been born for us, **All: a son given to us;**
Leader: authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, ***All: Everlasting Father,***
Leader: Prince of Peace. **All: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.**
Leader: All: He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. **All: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.**

Gospel: John 1:1-18
Response to the reading of God’s Word:
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord! ***All: Thanks be to God!***

ADVENT SERMON SERIES: “And He is Named... Everlasting Father” Rev. Mark Piedmonte

*HYMN: In the Blead Midwinter” *(See Insert)*

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)
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.

SHARING OUR JOYS and CONCERNS

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE
Leader: The “O” Antiphons **(See Insert); All: Come, Lord Jesus**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

OFFERTORY

*SONG OF DEDICATION: **(Doxology)** "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" **(See Insert)**

*BENEDICTION / RESPONSE: ***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.***

POSTLUDE: Liszt Weihnachtsbaum

MEMBERS WILL PLEASE REMAIN FOR OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

STATEMENT FROM SESSION RE: BPC's COVID-19 RESPONSE

The BPC Session is on top of the mounting concerns over rising COVID cases in MD and has the best interest of our church family at heart. We are committed to following MD state guidelines and will make any needed adjustments accordingly. For now, we will continue to meet in-person for worship with attendance at or below 50% capacity. We will also make every effort to assure services are taped and uploaded to Face Book and to the church website in a timely manner for folks who choose to worship from home instead. We will also limit indoor group gatherings. For now, let's do all we can to stay – and help others to stay – healthy and safe. Please, when on church grounds for any reason, wear masks, avoid physical contact, stay 6 feet apart and wash your hands often. And if you feel sick in any way – please stay home, see the doctor, and call Pastor Mark for healing prayers. 610-428-3135.

With God's help, and each other's, we will get through this!

BUCKINGHAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

20 S. Main St., Berlin, MD 21811

Ph: 410-641-0234; Fax: 410-641-1959

E-Mail: info@buckinghampcusa.org

Web: www.buckinghampcusa.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS		3rd Sunday of Advent
TODAY, December13, 2020		
10:00am	COMBINED Worship Service – Taylor Hall Advent Readers/Candle Lighters – Thank you to the Truitt & Macride Families ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – All members encouraged to remain	
11:00am		

THIS WEEK: December 14 - 19, 2020	
Monday, December 14	Sharing & Caring 6:30pm
Thursday, December 17	Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm
Friday, December 18	Bible Study 10:00-11:30am; Tree Lighting and Nativity Pageant on the church Lawn 5:00pm

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – SEE ALSO “SCHEDULE OF EVENTS”	
Sunday, Dec. 20	Christmas Joy Offering; Christmas Dinner Pick-up or Delivery 4:00-5:30pm
Thursday, Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Family Service 3:00pm in Taylor Hall Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00pm in the Sanctuary

- **ANGEL TREE NOW IN KORTRIGHT** – Our angel Tree is up and ready! Come take tags for kids in need and let’s spread the generous love of Christmas. Any questions? See any one of our Deacons.
- **SHARE THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!** Christmas Dinner Sunday, December 20th Drive-Thru Pick-up or Delivery ONLY. Please pre-order by calling or texting Debi Cook 410-430-9111; Cindi Pruitt 443-880-5502 or email info@buckinghampcisa.org. Provide name, number of meals, and whether you will pick-up or you would like us to deliver. Please order by December 16. Ham, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Baked Pineapple & Dessert. Sign-up sheets are in Taylor Hall or Kortright Chapel.
- **CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE** – There is a basket with dividers for members who would like to exchange cards with one another without having to worry about mounting postage costs. This basket will be available in each service and members can simply place their cards in the alphabetical last name of their recipient.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE** – This year we are adding a Family Service at 3:00pm in Taylor Hall. Families are invited to come sit around tables together, enjoying special music, prayers, and a message in celebration of the birth of Jesus. We will continue to have our regularly scheduled 7pm service in the Sanctuary.
- **SPECIAL THROUGHOUT ADVENT – SHEEP TRAIL!** Can you spot the sheep in our local stores? Between November 27 – December 25, local businesses will display sheep figures in their windows. Children will have a chance to find them scavenger hunt style for special prizes! How fun and what a great way for the community to feel blessed by a spirit of Christmas.! BTW – All are invited to take a walk or drive around town and see if you can spot the sheep in local business windows. Who will find them all?

STAFF HOURS:
Pastor: Tuesday 3-5pm, Wednesday 1-3pm, Friday 10am-Noon
Secretary: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am – 3pm
Custodian: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday (hours flexible and as needed)
Music Director: (Hours flexible and as needed)

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Schedule of Events

***Friday, December 18 – Tree Lighting and Nativity Pageant - 5 PM on the church front lawn** – All are invited for an outdoor twist on our annual tree decorating and lighting. We will meet outside to decorate a beautiful tree. Then we'll light it up in anticipation of our celebration of the birth of Jesus, the light of the world. Plus, in lieu of our annual play, all are invited instead for this special presentation as we place the figures in the creche while the story of Jesus's birth is read. Bring a chair and a blanket and come get ready for the most holy night of the year.

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INTROIT: SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME


Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heaven and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

ADORATION


611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee




1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;
3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.



Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.



Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.


This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

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JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

In the Bleak Midwinter 144



1 In the bleak mid-win - ter, frost - y wind made moan;
2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there;
4 What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;



‡ in the bleak mid-win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
‡ wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer’s birthplace in Cheltenham.

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136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

to Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

TEXT: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940
MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work III, 1940; harm. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987
Music Harm. © 1989 Melva Wilson Costen

GO TELL IT
7.6.7.6 with refrain

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GO TELL IT
7.6.7.6 with refrain

Litany for Advent: O Antiphons

The eighth-century O Antiphons are traditionally used in daily prayer in the seven days before Christmas Eve, as indicated.

Leader: O Wisdom, *Dec. 17*
coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation,
you order all things with strength and gentleness: Come now and teach us the way to salvation.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Adonai, *Dec. 18*
Ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared in the burning bush to Moses
and gave him the law on Sinai: Come with outstretched arm to save us.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Root of Jesse, *Dec. 19*
rising as a sign for all the peoples, before you earthly rulers will keep silent,
and nations give you honor: Come quickly to deliver us.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Key of David, *Dec. 20*
Scepter over the house of Israel, you open and no one can close,
you close and no one can open: Come to set the prisoners free.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Radiant Dawn, *Dec. 21*
splendor of eternal light, Sun of justice:
Come, shine on those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Ruler of the nations, *Dec. 22*
Monarch for whom the people long, you are the cornerstone uniting all humanity:
Come, save us all, whom you formed out of clay.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Emmanuel, *Dec. 23*
our Sovereign and lawgiver, desire of the nations and Savior of all:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming
and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time.
Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes,
for he is Lord forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2020

HUGH & SUSAN CROPPER

Memory of
Dorothy H. Taylor

THE GUBOSH FAMILY

Memory of
Michael Xavier Gubosh

JESSE & SHERI LYNCH

Memory of
Charles H. Lynch, Sr. & Mary Louise
Taylor Lynch
Charles H. Lynch, Jr. & Betty Crabtree
Lynch
Thomas Taylor Lynch, Sr.

FRED & CAROL NEAL

Memory of
Loved Ones
Honor of
Our Children & Grandchildren

GEORGE PHILLIPS

Memory of
S. Glen Phillips
George O. Phillips III
Mark Hammond
Brett Hammond

CHARLON M. PRUITT

Memory of
John Q. Pruitt
Milton E & Irene W. Moore

KAREN VAN ROEKEL

Memory of
Betty Van Roekel
Margaret Porter

HERSHEL & CAROL ROSE

Memory of
Dalmas & Gladys Parker
Mamie Parker
Morris & Evelyn Hall
Mildred Ann Villani
Nevada Hastings
Honor of
Buckingham's Sunday School Children &
Youth Class

PATRICIA ROUCH

Memory of
David Rouch
Honor of
Grandsons: Adam, David, Matthew, William, &
Ryan

JOE & CINDY SCUKANEC

Memory of
John & Barbara Thomas

KIRK, CAROL, & ANDY STEIN

Memory of
Molly Stein
Wally Stein

SUSAN J. TODD

Memory of
Bob & Bertha Jackson

TOM & LYNDA TRUITT

Memory of
Dewey Davis,
Connie Davis,
Wayne Truitt
Myrtle Truitt
JR Truitt
Bob Wilkins
Toby (our pet)



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Michael Xavier Gubosh

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Memory of
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Wally Stein

SUSAN J. TODD

Memory of
Bob & Bertha Jackson

TOM & LYNDA TRUITT

Memory of
Dewey Davis,
Connie Davis,
Wayne Truitt
Myrtle Truitt
JR Truitt
Bob Wilkins
Toby (our pet)

Hope



Peace



Joy



Hope



Peace



Joy

