
2nd Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

10:00 AM

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEDICATION OF VETERANS FOOD PANTRY (see insert)

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

PRELUDE: "The Bells of Christmas", Handbells

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 85)

Marty Pond, Liturgist

One: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people,

All: to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

One: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

All: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

One: The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

All: Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. Let us prepare a way for the LORD in our worship today.

*HYMN #13 "Prepare the Way"

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth. Let us offer them with joy in our hearts and a deep sense of gratitude.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY HYMN #592

**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 (UNISON)

Almighty God, we enter this season from a chaotic world filled with wars, division, and injustice. We hear your prophet Isaiah promising comfort -- then John the Baptist calling us to get to work. We are reminded we are called to prepare the way of the Lord - to be the designers of peace; builders of justice and producers of Christ-like love. As we bring our tithes and offerings to you, we pray that our giving continues to point to the Christ who comes in love and compassion. May our giving in this season reflect our hope for the promised kingdom to reign in our world. We pray this in the name of the Messiah, Jesus our Savior. Amen.

*HYMN #3 "Comfort, Comfort You My People"

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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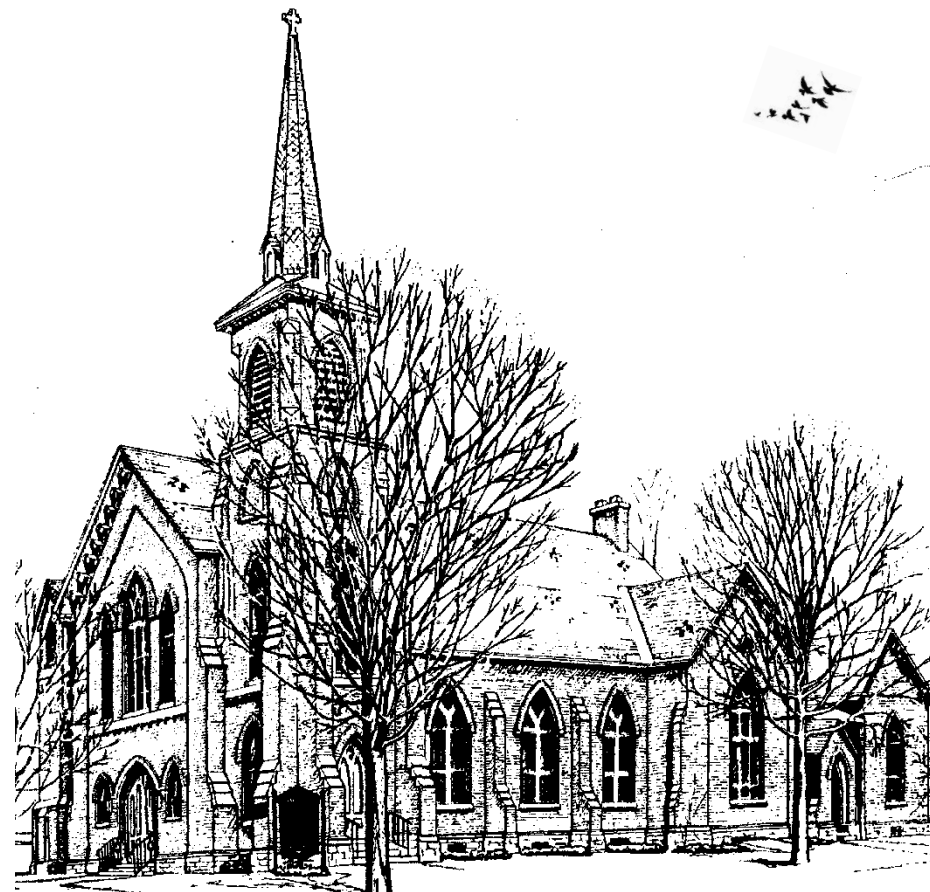
*For those who are able, please stand.

- **Flowers** this morning are in loving memory of Allen "Al" Winegard from Barb Winegard.
- **Today's Ushers:** Harry & Bea Boak
- **Coffee Hour:** today is hosted by Barb Winegard
- **Choir Practice:** will be held at 9:15 each Sunday morning before Worship.
- **Session:** Tues., Dec. 12, 7 p.m. in the Media Center
- **Deacons:** Wed. Dec. 13, 7 p.m. in the Media Center (revised date)
- **Holiday Open House:** Please join us on Sat. Dec. 16 at 2 - 4 p.m. for a holiday celebration with music, carols and treats. If you play an instrument, please bring it with you and a plate of sweet or savory treats to share!
- **Christmas Eve Worship:** Sun., Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Worship and 7 p.m. Candlelight Worship



First Presbyterian Church Baldwinsville, NY

December 10, 2023



Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence

Linda Beachel and family upon the death of her husband, Jim Beachel;
Anthonia Todd

Church Office: Education Center, 64 Oswego St., Baldwinsville, NY Website: presbville.com
9am - 2pm M-F Phone 315-635-9964 Fax 315-638-4792

Pastor-----Rev. Kirsty H. Dickson-Maret	Clerk of Session-----Stephanie Stine
Director of Music & Choirs-----Rheta Jenks	Organist-----Lee Johnston
Deacon Co-Moderator-----Marty Pond	Deacon Co-Moderator-----Shane Adams
Administrative Assistant-----Elizabeth Bayer	Financial Secretary-----Andrea Ducharme
Treasurer-----Diana Anastas	Nursery School Director---Jessica Newcomb

Identity Statement

We are a loving family of God, following Christ by practicing our legacy of worship, education, and mission to neighbors.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. Please join me in our Prayer of Confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sins of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.

Forgive us, Lord, for the times we refuse to listen to those who announce your presence. Forgive us when we ignore the cries that come from the wilderness. Allow us to understand that, like John the Baptist, we too are unworthy before the Lord of All. Help us live into our baptisms. Remind us of the beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, and empower us to be the continuation of that Good News. Amen.

One: Now that we have confessed as a body, let us take the truths that have troubled our hearts to God silently. Let us not be worried about the awkwardness of silence, as we take some time to focus on speaking with our God.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Gloria Patri #579

*PASSING OF THE PEACE:

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share signs of peace with one another.

WE HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	Isaiah 40:1-11 red Bible p.879, black Bible p.667	<i>Liturgist</i>
MUSICAL OFFERING	"Sicilienne by Gabriel Faure"	<i>Kate Laverne, Cellist</i>
EPISTLE READING	2 Peter 3:8-15a red Bible p. 1481, black Bible p. 238	<i>Rev. Kirsty Dickson-Maret</i>
GOSPEL LESSON	Matthew 25:31-46 red Bible p. 1207, black Bible p. 29	<i>Rev. Kirsty Dickson-Maret</i>
SERMON	"Make His Paths Straight"	<i>Rev. Kirsty Dickson-Maret</i>

WE OFFER OUR LIVES TO GOD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

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.

*HYMN #10 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

**DEDICATION OF VETERANS FOOD PANTRY
CPL KYLE SCHNEIDER FOUNDATION**

OPENING SENTENCES

One: Happy are they who have
The God of Jacob for their help,
Whose hope is in the Lord their God;
Who made heaven and earth, the seas
And all that is in them;
Who keeps promises forever;
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.
The Lord sets the captives free.

**All: The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
The Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord cares for the stranger;
The Lord sustains the orphan and the widow.
Praise the Lord!**



The "Angel Tree Project" is to assist families at P.E.A.C.E, Inc. & the Bee-Full Food Pantry at Baker High School. This project will run from Sun., Dec. 3rd to Mon., Dec. 18th. Please pick a dove off the tree and purchase the item listed. Bring the gift back wrapped with the dove that you took off the tree attached to the outside of the gift (please use a "sticky" note to attach the dove so we don't rip the paper).