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# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

10:00 AM

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## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF APPROACH

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

*Bryan, Elizabeth & Casey Bayer*

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Mary's *Magnificat*, Luke 1)

*Matt McGivney, Liturgist*

One: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

**All: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

One: He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

**All: He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

One: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty

**All: The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.**

\*HYMN #600 "Song of Mary"

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)

**Loving God, as we present our tithes and offerings to you this morning, we honor the greatest blessing the world has ever received - your precious Son. Christ was sent to redeem us by paying the ultimate price for us. Thank you for sharing this example of completely selfless love. May we grow closer and closer to that example each passing day. May these gifts be used to help share your selfless love with others in the community and the world. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

HYMN #31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

\*CHARGE

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(4)

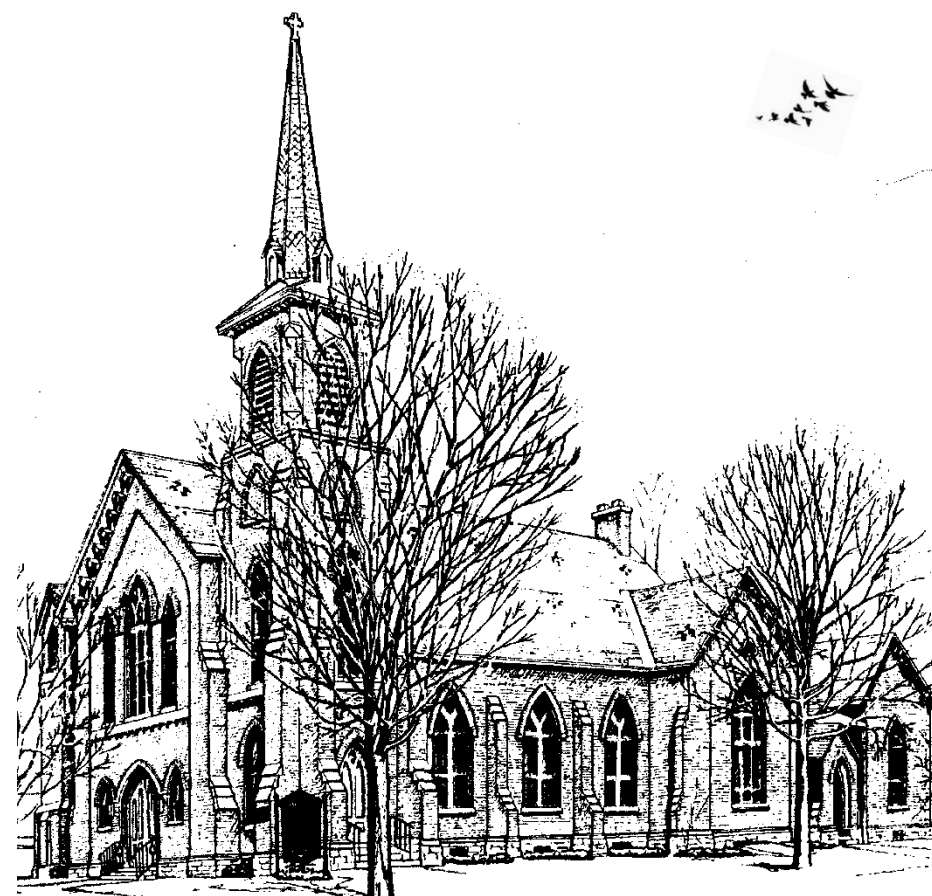
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\*For those who are able, please stand.

- **Today's Usher:** Shane Adams
- **Coffee Hour:** today is hosted by Marty Pond
- **Choir Practice:** will be held at 9:15 each Sunday morning before Worship.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship:** tonight at 7 p.m.
- **Childcare will be available:** for the 7 p.m. worship. Parents may drop off their children in the Nursery (upstairs above the choir room) starting at 6:30 p.m. They must be picked up no later than 8:30 p.m. If kids are bringing their own toys, we recommend that they have their names on them.
- **The Church Office:** will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26. Merry Christmas Everyone!

# **First Presbyterian Church Baldwinsville, NY**

## **December 24, 2023**



### **Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence**

Howard Rose; 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

In Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ, full of grace and truth. Trusting in God's unfailing grace, let us bring to God the truth of our trespasses again Him and against one another. Let us confess not as despised sinners, but as beloved Children of God. Please join me in our Prayer of Confession.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

**God of Joy, we come to celebrate again the arrival of Love Incarnate here in our very midst.  
Your glorious arrival is enough to cause the forests to sing for joy, yet we still find reasons to complain and sigh.  
Your light of salvation is bright enough to illuminate every corner of our lives, yet we still find ourselves shrouded in worry and doubt.  
Your gift of Love is big enough for the whole world, yet we still find ourselves resentful that your love extends to those whom we deem to be unworthy. God, you invite us into the light of the stable where the overlooked and forgotten have gathered to celebrate the miracle of your love. Give us the strength and courage to join you at the manger. 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.

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## WE HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
red Bible p.390, black Bible p.281

*Liturgist*

## MUSICAL OFFERING

EPISTLE READING Romans 16:25-27 **Rev. Kirsty Dickson-Maret**  
red Bible p. 1386, black Bible p. 165

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:26-38 **Rev. Kirsty Dickson-Maret**  
red Bible p. 1243, black Bible p. 56

SERMON "House of Bread" **Rev. Kirsty Dickson-Maret**

## 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 #19 "To a Maid Engaged to Joseph"

(3)