CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

530 Tuscarawas Street West, Canton, Ohio 44702

December 8, 2024

The Order for Morning Worship

Second Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2024 Ten-Thirty O'Clock

**At these moments, we invite you to stand in body or spirit*

Please silence all electronic devices prior to the service

Nursery is available in the Children's area on the lower level.
Children's church (age 3–5th grade) is available after the Children's sermon.

Assemble in God's Name

Voluntary Two settings of Freu Dich Sehr — Gerald Near & Egil Hovland

"I Wonder As I Wander" — J.J. Niles, arr. Lanier
Youth Resound String Quartet

Welcome and Worship Notes

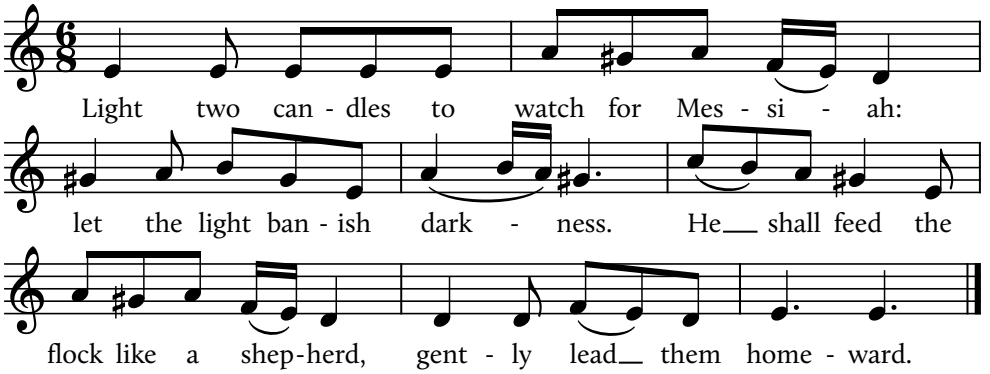
Call to Worship

Leader: John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance; he preaches to us still.

People: Make straight the paths we now walk and prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.

***Hymn 106** "Prepare the Way, O Zion" — Bereden Väg För Herran

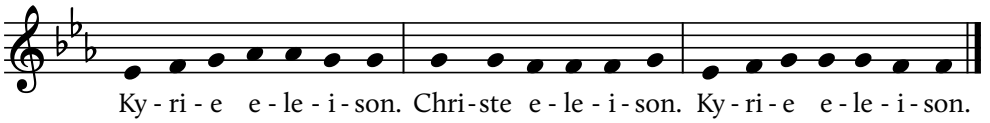
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Jessica, Mike, Everly, Hattie, & Klein Moretta

Call to Confession

Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Refining God, you have sent us prophets
and we have not listened.
We have not always determined what is best
or made way for your reign
in our lives, our church, and our society.
Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

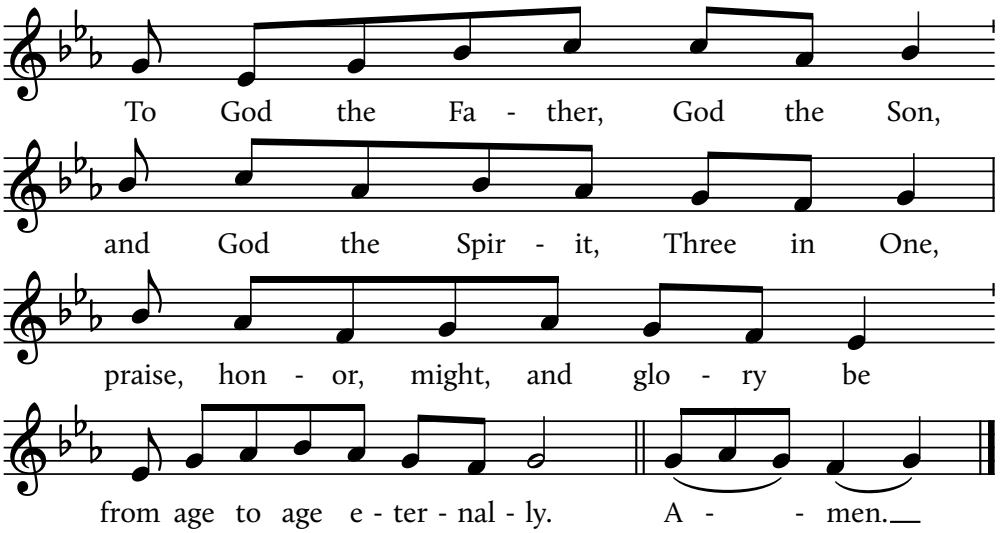
Kyrie

***Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, I am confident of this:
if we repent, God is sure to forgive us.
The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.
Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace,
let us share that peace with one another.

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

***Gloria: Hymn 84, vs. 4** CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



Children are now invited to come forward
and sit in the front pews on the organ side

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Message for Children

Following the children's sermon, children ages 3 through fifth grade are invited to follow the teachers out for Kids' Church.

Leader: Now let us bless each other.
Adults: God be with you as you go.
Children: God be with you as you stay.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, through your Holy Spirit
instruct us by the light of your prophets.
Illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call
to become your path into the world.
In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Gospel Reading *"The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah"* Matthew 1:1–6a, 17

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord Pew Bible p. 783
People: Thanks be to God Large Print Bible p. 1

***Hymn 92** "While We Are Waiting" WAITING
with Youth Resound String Quartet

Hebrew Reading *"Spies Sent to Jericho"* Joshua 2:1–24
Leader: The Word of the Lord Pew Bible pp. 169–70
People: Thanks be to God Large Print Bible pp. 241–42

Hymn "In Matthew's Gospel There Are Five" FAITH-MOTHERS
please stay seated and see insert

Sermon "Mother Rahab" Rev. Benjamin George

Our Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed,* p. 35

Prayers of the People *and* the Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem "Behold a Star from Jacob Shining" Felix Mendelssohn
Behold a star from Jacob shining,
And a scepter from Israel rising,
To reign in glory over the nations.
Like some bright morning star is he,
The promise of the coming day,
Beyond the night of sorrow.
Break forth, O Light!
We, our joyful Hearts uplifting
With thanksgiving hail the brightness of Thy rising.

***Doxology: Hymn 654** IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL
In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

***Prayer of Dedication (*in unison*)**
God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude,
the offerings of our lives.
Purify them with your refining fire
so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Re-entry into the World to Serve the Lord

Being Christ's Church—Living Our Faith
Does Bonnie's ordination go here?

***Hymn 93** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" TRURO

***Benediction**
***Response** "On Those Who Sit in Darkness" MERLE'S TUNE

Voluntary "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" A.D. Miller

Daily Grace

Using the liturgy from this Sunday's Order of Worship,
we enter into worship and prayer every day of the week.
We worship together...separately.

Scripture Readings: Worship texts for December 15, 2024

Mon: Zephaniah 3:14–20	Thurs: Luke 3:7–18
Tues: Isaiah 12:2–6	Fri: Zephaniah 3:14–20
Wed: Philippians 4:4–7	Sat: Isaiah 12:2–6

Preparing for Sunday, December 15, 2024

Consider: Sometimes wealthy people worry that God or the church is requiring them to be poor. What is the difference between being poor and being fair? How do you feel about sharing?

The Cathedral Hour this morning is made possible through generous donations from members and friends of Christ Presbyterian Church.

The Chancel Flowers are given in loving memory of Arthur E. Gibbs by the Gibbs Trust Investment Fund

Liturgist: Tracy Smith
Bible Bearer: Eaden Heckman
Chalice Bearer: Ezekiel George
Crucifer: Perry Randau
Volunteer A/V Technician: Levi George

Christ Presbyterian Church
Ministers: The People of Christ Church
Co-Pastors: Rev. Benjamin George &
Rev. Michael Wallace
Director of Music & Organist: Heather Cooper
Director of Chancel Choir: Dr. Britt Cooper
Director of Youth Ministry: Bonnie Wiggins
Director of Camp Wakonda: Zack White
Business Administrator/Assistant Treasurer: Diane Nave
Music Associate & Managing Editor: Dr. Sarah Pozderac-Chenevey
Youth Music Director: Hannah Miller
Head Custodian: Kurt A. Gottschick
Custodian: Chuck Troescher
A/V Technician: Michael Brown

Elders of Christ Presbyterian Church
Jennifer Anderson
Charles Ash
Becky Banfield
Elisa Case
David Hudson
Brian Leggett
Richard Milligan
Adam Wiggins
Kristi Wood

Deacons of Christ Presbyterian Church
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Mary Jane Ebie
Becky Fort
Debbie Jacob
Gail & Eric Mueller
Lorraine Murphy
Susan Oliver
Michael Ophardt
Judy Smith
Aaron Speakman

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Prayers adapted from *Feasting on the Word* and *The Book of Common Worship*

HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Activities for the Week of December 8, 2024

Sunday, December 8, 2024

8:30 AM	Worship Service (Chapel)
9:00 AM	Children's Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
9:00 AM	Youth Resound Rehearsal (Youth Room)
9:00 AM	Music Time (Children's Wing)
9:15 AM	Sunday School (various locations)
9:30 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Chancel)
10:30 AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
11:45 AM	Youth Group

Monday

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting (Parlor)
4:00 PM	Property Ministry (Parlor)
6:00 PM	Open Table Small Group (Pine Room)

Tuesday

9:30 AM	Pastors' Bible Study (Parlor)
11:30 AM	Christmas Bells Luncheon

Wednesday • Tydings Deadline

8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
8:00 AM	Food and Clothing Christmas Party (West. Hall)
3:30 PM	Worship Ministry (Parlor)
5:00 PM	MVP Meeting (Parlor)
6:30 PM	Stephen Ministry (Zoom)

Thursday

9:30 AM	Women's Bible Study (Parlor)
7:15 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Chancel)

Saturday

8:00 AM	Food Ministry Saturday Breakfast (West. Hall)

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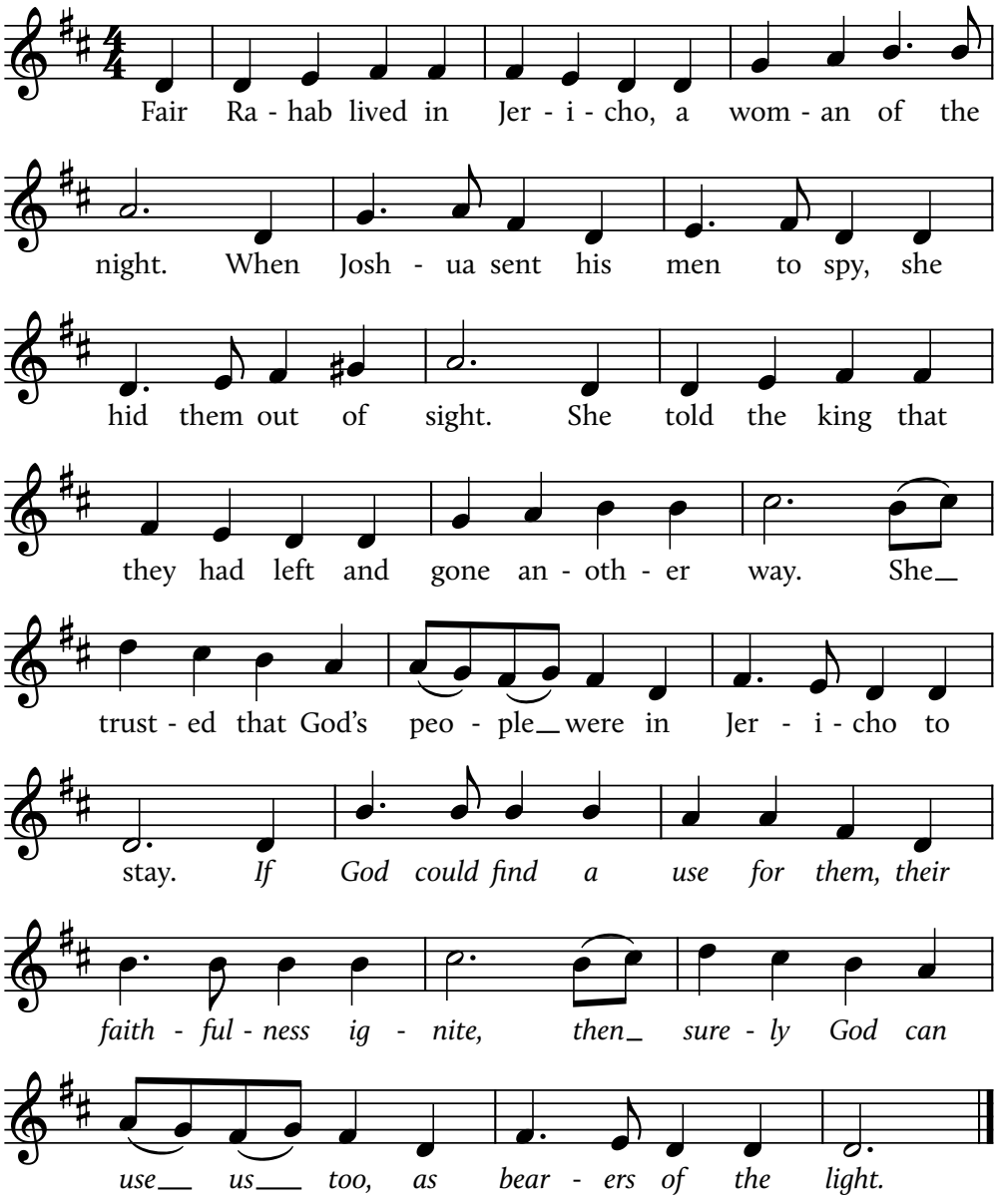
11:45 AM	Youth Group
4:00 PM	Christmas Pipes Concert (Sanctuary)

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