



CAMP HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2023 10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

*Childcare is available from 10 a.m. to noon in Room 3 of the Kuhn Education Wing.
We also invite children to use our activity area in the sanctuary.*

Assistive listening devices are available at the sound booth (rear of sanctuary).

Greeting you today are Dave & Judy Thompson, Rick Woodard, and Monica Zazworsky.

Providing fellowship refreshments are Dave & Judy Thompson.

*Manning the audio/video booth and streaming the service are Bud Swartz, Jeff Heiss,
and Dale Meadowcroft.*

Teaching Kirk Kids is Karen Pope.

Playing the organ and leading the choir is Diane Rutzler.

The chancel flowers are given by Tom Kuhn in loving memory of Kathy.

Today's liturgy is from Sanctified Art's "From Generation to Generation." ©A Sanctified Art LLC

*Worship begins with the first note of the prelude – may we silence our voices and open our
hearts, allowing the music to draw us together into the presence of God.*

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Processional

Amazing Grace

Gus Person, bagpiper

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Lebo-Metzler Family

L: Recently, people from the ages of 2 to 80 were asked the question, "What gives you hope?" From the voices of different generations, hear a few of their answers —

Adult: My 2-year-old son

Child: Dogs wagging their tails

Older adult: Talking with young people

Teenager: Kindness from strangers

Adult: Spending time in the woods

Older adult: Hands clasped in prayer

Teenager: Social progress

Adult: The way my son calls everybody "buddy"

Child: The ringing of church bells

Older adult: Babies trying over and over to take their first step

Adult: Christian community

Teenager: Advocates for justice

Child: Books

Older adult: Friendship with my adult children

What gives you hope? Today, we light the candle of hope to remind ourselves that God is alive and at work in this world.

(The Candle of Hope is lit.)

P: From generation to generation, God has brought good news of love and compassion, justice and community. May we abide in that good news. Amen.

All: *When God Is a Child*

(Refrain): *When God is a child there's joy in our song.*

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

(Refrain)

*Call to Worship

L: God's promises stand unshaken through all generations.

P: **May we be awake and alert as we watch for the coming of our Lord.**

L: Let us worship God!

*Hymn 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*Call to Confession

In God's house, everyone is welcome — those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there's room for us here. With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray.

*Prayer of Confession

L: God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."

P: **But we say, "Our lives are too messy."**

L: You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here."

P: **But we say, "It's too risky to hope."**

L: You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here."

**Those who are able are asked to please stand.*

P: But we say, “Some things are easier to forget.”

L: God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there’s room for us here.

P: **Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best. Help us remember, today and tomorrow, there’s room for every story. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Family of faith, we who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And, we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, “There’s room for you here.” From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria (Hymn 583)

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Passing of the Peace

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: **And also with you.**

Presentation of Bibles

The Rev. Stuart Seelman

Children’s Message

(After the message, preschool and elementary-age children are invited to follow volunteers to the Little Kirk for an age-appropriate worship experience.)

First Scripture Reading (OT, p.631)

Isaiah 2:1-5

L: This is the word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

Is Your Heart Prepared for The King?
The Chancel Choir

Robert Lau

Second Scripture Reading (NT, p.1)

Matthew 1:1-17

L: This is the word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“From Generation to Generation: There’s Room for Every Story”

The Rev. Nancy Conklin

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a God who promised to Abraham, who wrestled with Jacob, who walked with Ruth, who spoke with Moses, who grieved with Bathsheba, who danced with David, who dreamed with Joseph, and who hoped like Mary. We believe in a God who has been loving, inviting, transforming, and challenging us from generation to generation. And, we believe that same God is here with us now, saying, “Come on in; there’s room for you here.” Amen.

*Hymn 158

Born in the Night, Mary’s Child

Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Sussex Carol
The Chancel Choir

Robert Lau

*Doxology (Tune: “Old Hundredth”)

***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.***

*Prayer of Dedication

Receive these gifts, O God, as a reflection of our hope found in Christ’s life in ours. May they bring tangible hope into the lives of those in need, we pray in the name of the One who has come and is coming anew, our Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Gathering Hymn 494 (v.1-3) *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving/The 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

Gracious and abundant God, even as we wait for the fulfillment of your creation, you meet us in Christ at this table, in this meal. We thank you for feeding us with the bread of life and quenching our thirst with the cup of salvation. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Holy Spirit to share your life and salvation with all whom we meet. Amen.

*Hymn 100

My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout

*Benediction

*Recessional

Angels We Have Heard on High
Gus Person, bagpiper

Statement of Welcome & Inclusion

As followers of Jesus, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God. We are committed to creating an inclusive space of belonging and safety. Therefore, this community of faith welcomes into full participation, membership, and leadership persons of diverse age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, level of education, class, and income.

Rooted in the Reformed tradition, we affirm that “God alone is Lord of the conscience,” allowing for a breadth of diverse theological and biblical interpretations. We covenant to accept, respect, and love one another as we apply our faith in the circumstances of our lives and in the matters of our world.

IT'S HAPPENING AT CHPC

- Pastor Nancy is going on a prayer retreat. If you have **pastoral needs this week, please call the office or reach out to Pastor Don or Pastor Stuart.**
- An **Advent study for women is taking place Sunday mornings through Dec. 24 at 9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.** Copies of the Sanctified Art Advent devotional, "From Generation to Generation..." will be provided. See Cindy Thompson for more information.
- Please join us today after worship to pose for a group photo in front of the **New Hope Ministries Giving Tree in the Gathering Place.** Then, select an ornament from the tree or pick up a list of most-needed items to help local families in need. **Place your unwrapped gifts under the tree (or drop them in the box outside the church office) by Sunday, Dec. 10.** Checks made out to New Hope Ministries or gift cards also are appreciated.
- PW's Quilters & Crafters for Mission group is holding its annual **holiday craft sale today and next Sunday, Dec. 10, in the Gathering Place.** Don't forget to stop by and purchase beautiful handcrafted gifts that support PW's mission work! And, mark your calendars for **PW's holiday bake sale, which will be held Sunday, Dec. 17.**
- Our next **Noonday Organ Recital**, featuring Hannah Koby, organist at St. John's Episcopal Church in Carlisle and contributing faculty member at Dickinson College, **will be held Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 12:15 p.m.** Before the recital, **enjoy the free luncheon in Fellowship Hall at 11:45 a.m.**
- The **Presbyterian Women's Christmas Coffee will be held Thursday, Dec. 7, at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.** All women are invited to this festive occasion. Breakfast will be provided, and the program will include a reading by Lynn Kloske and the sharing of Christmas memories. Please join PW as they prepare for Advent!
- Staff Commission is asking you to prayerfully consider giving a Christmas gift to our CHPC staff. **Please make your contribution by Sunday, Dec. 17,** marking checks or online gifts with "Staff Christmas Gift" in the memo line. (Note that staff gifts are not tax-deductible.)
- It's not too late to make a Christmas dedication for our Christmas Eve bulletin. **Make a donation to the Christmas Joy Offering or the Advent Decorations Fund to honor loved ones.** Forms are available in the Gathering Place and are **due to the office by Monday, Dec. 11.**
- Thank you for your generous contributions of egg cartons for the HAFP and plastic bags for our bench program. **We've reached our limit on both items, and will no longer need them.** Please recycle responsibly in another way. Thank you!

CHPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 4

1 p.m. — Quilters & Crafters for Mission; Q&C Room

Tuesday, December 5

6 p.m. — West Shore A.A. Big Book Study; Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. — PW Coordinating Team Meeting; Blue Room

Wednesday, December 6

11:45 a.m. — Noonday Organ Recital Luncheon; Fellowship Hall

12:15 p.m. — Noonday Organ Recital; Sanctuary

6 p.m. — Handbell Choir Rehearsal; Music Room

7 p.m. — Chancel Choir Rehearsal; Music Room

Thursday, December 7

10 a.m. — PW Christmas Coffee; Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 9

9:30 a.m. — PW Second Saturday Breakfast; Silver Spring Diner

Sunday, December 10

Quilters & Crafters for Mission Sale; Gathering Place

9 a.m. — Exegesis Adult Sunday School Class; Blue Room and via Zoom

9 a.m. — Men's Bible Study; Green Room

9 a.m. — Women's Advent Study; Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. — Chancel Choir Rehearsal; Music Room

10:30 a.m. — Worship Service; Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. — Brass Choir Rehearsal; Sanctuary

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church

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