

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Schaller, Iowa

10:00 A. M.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

Rev. Michael Sydnor

PRELUDE

Janice Ploeger, Organist

LIGHTING THE SECOND CANDLE – THE CANDLE OF PEACE

(Bruce & Jackie Menter)

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. As the Lord has promised, in days to come . . . First Sunday of Advent

Reader: The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

People: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Second Sunday of Advent

Reader: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

People: the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together, and a little child shall lead them. (Light two purple candles.)

Reader: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

People: Amen.<sup>1</sup>

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder: A voice cries out in the wilderness:

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!<sup>2</sup>

Elder: Let us worship God.

\*HYMN

“Joy to the World!”

# 125

<sup>1</sup> Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 164). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 177). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

INVOCATION (Please be seated)

Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON):

Elder

Prince of Peace, the wars and rumors of wars betray our addiction to violence, our destructive and dehumanizing ways. We deserve your judgement and condemnation. Yet, you remain faithful, a steadfast source of peace amid our warring madness. Holy God, turn us from evil. Return us to Christ and his path of peace. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. <sup>3</sup> (Time of silent prayer). Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor

\* GLORIA PATRI

#623

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Elder

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

<sup>3</sup> © Presbyterian Outlook, 2024 Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution.

## **Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

**Pastor**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Tracónitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all people will see God’s salvation.’ ”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## **CHILDREN’S TIME**

**HYMN** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” # 51

**SERMON** “The Salvation Freeway”

## **\*APOSTLE’S CREED**

### **MINUTE FOR MISSION**

### **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Response #421 (Verse 1)

## **PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #625

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**NEW JOYS & CONCERNS:**

The Mary Cole Family  
Carol Swanson Poston  
(Health Issues)

**CONTINUING JOYS AND CONCERNS:**

Our Pastor  
Our Church  
Our School  
Sue Grieme  
Carol Wendel  
Florene Cork  
Denise King  
Terri Rininger  
Scott & Velma Woodke  
Wanda Jeppeson  
Veronica Moyle  
Rod Plagman  
Richard Morgan  
Mark Diersen  
Dexter Meseck  
Steve Schaefer  
Ken Fells Jr.

**PRAYER FOR CHURCHES**

**December 8, 2024**

Pray for Rev. Shawn Harmon,  
Commissioned to Overseas Mission Service

**December 15, 2024**

Theological Institutions in the PC (USA)

\*HYMN “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” # 138

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION SONG “Freely, Freely” (V. 1) #447

\*EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

\*POSTLUDE

(\*Those who are able please stand.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2024 PER CAPITA**

2024 Per Capita amount is \$53.95. It is a very important way we can contribute to the operation and mission of the Presbyterian Church. Session encourages all members to contribute. Please mark your check “Per Capita”.

**ELDER OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER**

Florene Cork

**SCHEDULE FOR LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**Dec. 8th**

Bruce & Jackie Mentzer

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**

Jim & Cathy McDonough

**Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The Jacobson Family

**Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**

The Franken Family

On this second Sunday of Advent, we eagerly welcome all who have joined with us in anticipation of the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May this time of worship be encouraging and inspirational to all.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### December 2024

08 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. In-Person Worship

11 Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Ladies Fellowship

14 Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Angel's Touch Cookie Sale at St. Mark's Lutheran Church 1614 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Storm Lake.

15 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. In-Person Worship

22 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship

24 Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion & Candle Lighting Service



Poinsettias

Please help provide our church with a festive look by sharing poinsettias for the season.



## THE GIVING TREE

We have tags this year and we need your help! All you have to do is pick a tag, get a gift and return the gift with the tag attached! It can be wrapped or bagged! All gifts must be brought back to the church by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Let's spread some Holiday Cheer this year!!



## SHARE THE WARMTH

The snowman is waiting for your gifts of warmth, which includes warm clothing items such as pajamas, mittens, caps, underwear, scarves and boots to keep others warm. In all sizes. Please have all your gifts of warmth at the church no later than Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Schaller-Crestland Ministerial Association Holiday Toy and Clothing Drive is in need of the following items for families: boys and teen size stocking hats, mittens, and gloves, pajama and pajama pants for boys and girls – sizes 6 and up, and new or gently used stuffed animals. Thanks!

Hi all, we have had a late request. The family has 6 children. Girls 4 and 6. Four teenagers from ages 16-18. The older ones need coats. Adult M and L for the boys and Adult S and M for the girls. If anyone has gently-used items they would like to donate. We are out of hats and gloves for males-those would also be appreciated.

The other item we would need would be pajamas or pajama pants in the following sizes: Girl 6/7, Boy Adult M. Boy Adult L, Girl Adult S, Girl Adult M.

Thanks so much for your help!



## **BIRTHDAY WISHES**

**Joann Reimers (Dec.17<sup>th</sup>)**  
**Jim McDonough (Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>)**  
**David Siebrecht (Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>)**  
**Bruce Mentzer (Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>)**



## **CHRISTMAS JOY**

**SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

**CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE**

**December 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 24th**



The Christmas Joy Offering envelopes and children's coin boxes can be found at the back of the Sanctuary through the season of Advent.

## **MISSION STATEMENT OF ANGEL TOUCH**

An Angel's Touch is a nonprofit Charitable 501 (3) organization set up to honor Ron and Janette Willer by their loving family to improve the lives of the elderly, children and those with special needs who are impoverished, distressed, underprivileged or low income by giving one small gift at a time with heartfelt love.



We are asking church families if anyone would be willing to make a batch of Christmas cookies or candies to An Angel's Touch Cookie Sale on December 14th, contact Denise King (712-749-9408) or Shari Willer

O'Bannon (712-299-0397). We will also be glad to pick them up. (See Insert about Cookie Bake Sale)