



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship Second Sunday of Advent – December 5, 2021

*All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Into our world as into Mary's womb...

Come, Lord Jesus.

Into the forgotten places, as into the stable...

Come, Lord Jesus.

Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope; into the lives of the powerful, bringing caution;
into the lives of the weary, bringing rest; into the lives of the wise, bringing restlessness; and
into our lives and longings, whatever our estate...

Come, Lord Jesus.

This is good news: Christ is coming, and blessed are those who wait on the Lord.

Therefore come quickly, Lord.

*HYMN #99

"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

1 My soul gives glory to my God;
my heart pours out its praise.
God lifted up my lowliness
in many marvelous ways.

2 My God has done great things for me:
yes, holy is God's name.
All people will declare me blessed,
and blessings they shall claim.

3 From age to age to all who fear,
such mercy love imparts,

dispensing justice far and near,
dismissing selfish hearts.

4 Love casts the mighty from their thrones,
promotes the insecure,
leaves hungry spirits satisfied;
the rich seem suddenly poor.

5 Praise God, whose loving covenant
supports those in distress,
remembering past promises
with present faithfulness.

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Michelle & Jake Santo

Hear Zechariah's song of hope for peace to the Christ child. A reading from Luke 1:76-79:
"You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Let us pray:

God of hope, Prince of Peace, You speak peace into the world in the Way of the Christ child. Help us embody your peace and live as peacemakers that we may be called children of God.

God of hope, God of peace, into our darkness come.

We light this candle in hope. *(Light the first candle.)*

We light this candle for peace. *(Light the second candle.)*

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG

"Hope is a Star"

(verse 2)

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.
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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, forgive us for fragmenting your world and forgetting your Word.

We make contentment our aim and only gasp at injustice.

Still we gather at this table remembering the Prince of Peace.

Forgive our indifference, shake our complacency and imprint on our hearts

Christ's promise to come again. (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The promises of God are sure. They ever have been and ever will be.

Let the redeemed of the Lord live lives that reflect our trust in those promises.

*RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen. *(sing 3 times)*
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you; **and also with you.**

(For the safety of all, please share the peace with a smile or wave from your seat.)

GATHERING SONG #92

"While We are Waiting"

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-55

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

ANTHEM

"Gabriel's Message"

arr. Edgar Pettman

SERMON

"Longing for Justice and Peace"

Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills

CLOTH FOR THE CRADLE

*HYMN #314

"Christ, Be Our Light"

(verses 1 & 2 only)

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The table of bread and wine is now ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus, and to all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table,

you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;

you who have been to this table often and you have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed—come.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

May the coming God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts, people of God, your redemption draws near.

We will offer them to the One who leads us down paths of faithfulness.

Join together in singing thanksgiving to God, our righteousness.

We praise the One for whom we wait, this day and every day.

The days of creation came, God of goodness,

when you spoke on that first morning, calling forth budding flowers for each spring,

warm breezes for summer days, tumbling leaves in the autumn,

bright, brittle stars on winter nights.

You did all this, and so much more, so we might discover your ways,

but we chose to walk the paths paved by sin and death.

Prophets came, speaking of your promises and calling us back to your truths,

but we continued to reflect on the teachings of temptation.

So you sent Jesus to us, your Word which will never fade.

With those whose hearts are strong in holiness,

with those who long for justice for all people, we offer our songs of thanksgiving:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, _____
Bless - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. ___ Ho -
hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in ___ the high - est.
san - na in ___ the high - est, ___ ho - san - na in ___ the high - est.

You are holy, God of our salvation, and your Child is the bearer of justice.
He set aside great glory to come incognito to us. Knowing our fears,
he showed us how to trust in you. Feeling our despairs,
he filled us with your overflowing hope.
Experiencing our death, he went into the grave so death might become a safe place for us,
and we would receive your redemption.

**As we set out on this Advent journey, as we seek to walk the way to Bethlehem,
we remember that mystery we call faith:**

Christ has died; ___ Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.
Christ has died; ___ Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

Come now to your children gathered at the Table,
pouring out your Spirit on the gifts of the Bread and of the Cup.
This is the bread which, though broken,
strengthens us to stand up for justice
and to face the bullies named terror and hate.
This is the cup which overflows with grace,
**so we might transform our communities into safe places for all people;
so we might see our sisters and brothers in those the world would have us fear.**
And when we raise our heads to see our redemption draw near at the end of all time,
**we will join our sisters and brothers in singing your praises forever and ever,
God in Community, Holy in One.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is shared.

CLOSING RESPONSE

Christ has come to turn the world upside down;
to humble the powerful and to lift up the lowly.
Christ has come to turn the tables;
to topple vain idols and to stand with the poor of the earth.
Christ has come to proclaim God's kingdom;
**to feed the hungry, to give sight to the blind,
to strengthen the weary, to set the prisoners free.**
Christ has come to turn the world upside down;
to overthrow the present order with a revolution of love. Amen.

A - men, ___ A - men, A - - - men.

RESPONSE #647

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given
Jesus Christ, the Son.

"Give Thanks"

And now let the weak say, "I am strong";
let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #100

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last
from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,

you will show your might,
put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

3 From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participants in this worship service:

The Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills, guest pastor | Rick Masten, liturgist

Michelle & Jake Santo, advent candle lighters

Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist

The Sanctuary Choir

John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our YouTube channel,
or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



Welcome! Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!

AUGUST 5, 2021 REVISED IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES:

Due to the rise in cases of COVID-19 and the Delta Variant, and in response to Allegheny County moving from the moderate to substantial transmission rate, the Worship Committee has reinstated safety protocols for in-person worship following CDC recommendations as follows:

- **Properly worn masks are required for all those attending worship regardless of vaccination status**
- Please continue to observe social distancing in the marked pews
- **Congregational singing may continue while masked.** You are welcome to use the hymnals in the pews, stand and join in singing of hymns and responses. Lyrics will continue to be printed in the bulletin for those following along online.

We understand that each person is different with the possible risks he or she may have. Live-streamed online worship will continue to be available on Facebook and YouTube for those who choose to stay home until they feel safe to rejoin in person.

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

WE WELCOME BACK TO OUR PULPIT the Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills as guest pastor for the season of Advent and Christmas Eve worship.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING immediately following worship on Sunday, December 12 for the purpose of electing officers and reviewing the 2022 preliminary budget approved by Session. All active members are asked to attend and vote.

BOOK CLUB CONTINUES, "Hidden Christmas" by Timothy Keller, 10:00AM, Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apossos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY: Join Elder Tim Hoffman for a weekly one-hour bible study on the life of Joseph held on Zoom at 7:00pm Wednesday nights. <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/6670286724> No password is needed. Just copy paste the link into your browser and load the page. You will be automatically placed into a waiting room then brought into the main room by the host and moderator, Tim Hoffman. Email HoffmanTL@gmail.com with questions.

NOMINATIONS are being accepted for Board of Deacons and Session. At least 4 slots need to be filled for the Deacons and at least 1 for Session. If you have never served on one of these boards and have new ideas or energy or have a nominee in mind, please contact Tim Hoffman at hoffmantl@gmail.com or call the Church Office.

RECYCLE BINS are located in the last pew in sanctuary and blue bin at side vestibule entrance for bulletins, cups, (list of what is accepted is posted on bins).

MARS HOME FOR YOUTH is seeking donations for their 2021 holiday drive to assist the boys and girls with having a more rewarding Christmas. A full list of items that can be purchased is attached as a full-page flyer. **All Donations Need to be Received by December 6th** Shop online and ship gifts directly to: MHY Family Services "HOLIDAY PROGRAM" 521 Route 228 Mars, PA 16046

COMMUNITY CAROL SING...Help us usher in the holiday season in the Edgewood community by joining our pick-up caroling choir! Light Up Edgewood is scheduled for 7:00-9:00PM on Saturday, December 11 and includes the tree lighting at Memorial Park, a walking tour, Santa's arrival, live performances, Christmas movies, vendors for last-minute gifts, horse & carriage rides, refreshments, and more. We have extended invitations to members of our own Sanctuary Choir, Vocal Confluence, East Shore Chorale, and Voces Solis, but anyone who would like to join is welcome!



Our Caroling Choir will meet in the church sanctuary at 6:30PM to run through 4 or 5 well-known carols in 4-part harmony, then walk across the street to sing them for the tree lighting at 7:00PM. Hot cocoa and cookies will be available after for those participating, and there is also an opportunity for interested singers to be strolling carolers during the walking tour along Maple Avenue. Join us!



VOCAL CONFLUENCE proudly presents our annual holiday show, "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year," at 3:00PM in the sanctuary of FPCE. This is our first performance since our last holiday show in December 2019, and we are thrilled to be performing our music for you in-person again. We will not be requiring the purchase of tickets to attend but we suggest a \$10 donation at the door.

COVID PROTOCOL: Following the lead of choruses in our area and across the country, we will be requiring masks for all audience members, as well as proof of COVID-19 vaccination for those ages 12 and up. Masks must cover the nose and mouth at all times. Please have your physical CDC card, or a photo of it, ready at the front door prior to entering the church. If you are not feeling well, we ask that you stay home to prevent the spread of any illness at our event. Pews will be blocked to allow for social distancing - therefore capacity will be roughly 150 guests on a first come, first served basis. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we navigate in-person performances in a post-pandemic world.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 12 – Third Sunday of Advent, Reception of New Members, Congregational Meeting
December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent, Emerging Worship/Blue Christmas
December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion, 8:00PM
December 26 – Service of Lessons & Carols

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room,
GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study,
S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

Monday, December 6

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)
7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Tuesday, December 7

10:00AM Book Club (AH)
8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Wednesday, December 8

7:00PM Bible Study (Zoom)
7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Thursday, December 9

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)
7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

Friday, December 10

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)
8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Saturday, December 11

6:30PM Community Carol Sing (S)
7:00PM Light Up Edgewood (Memorial Park)
8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Next Sunday, December 12

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)
11:00AM Worship/Receiving New Members (S)
Youth Sunday School (GP)
12:00PM Congregational Meeting
3:00PM Vocal Confluence Holiday Show (S)

How can you become involved?

As we reopen, working to rebuild and reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

OUR FPCE FAMILY

Office & Cleaning Manager

Judy Mysels

office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager

Rob Mysels

building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music

Shaun Cloonan

music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist

Sunny Sakai

Sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Ministers

The Entire Congregation



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

120 East Swissvale Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218 | 412-241-4613 | www.fpcedgewood.org

MHY FAMILY SERVICES' CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Critical Needs

Twin Size Comforters & Sheets
Big Bath Towels & Washcloths
Body Wash & Deodorant
Shampoo/Conditioner/2 in 1 Shampoo
Multicultural Hair Products

Personal Care Needs

New Duffle Bags & Backpacks
Large Reusable Shopping Bags
(from TJ Maxx & Marshalls)
Plastic Reusable Water Bottles *(new)*
Batteries (AA & AAA)
Feminine Products
Hair Brushes & Hair Picks
Body Spray/Cologne Gift Sets
Athletic Shoes
* *(Men sizes 6-13, Women sizes 6-11)*
Sports Bras *(Adult sizes)*
Boxer Briefs *(Men & Women sizes)*
Socks & Underwear *(Adult sizes)*

Gift Cards

Amazon
Walmart
Giant Eagle
Target
Aldi
Chick-fil-A
Dollar Tree
Five Below
Kohl's
Michaels

Arts & Crafts

Tie Dye & Jewelry Making Kits
Gem Art & Paint by Number Kits
Art Canvas without staples
Acrylic & Pastel Paints and Brushes
Kinetic Sand & Molding Clay
Poster Boards & Markers
Origami Books & Paper



Electronics

MP3 Players
Small Portable Speakers
Alarm Clocks with Radios
DVD's & 3D movies - G/PG/PG13
Nintendo Switch & E games *(all ages)*
Noise-cancelling Headphones & Earbuds

Games & Other Fun

Legos *(all types)*
New Stuffed Animals
Squishies & Squishmallows
Stress Balls & Fidget Spinners
Push Pop Bubble Toys
Thinking Putty & Play-Doh
Young Adult Books
Wall Stickers for Decor
Puzzles, Board & Card Games
Magic: The Gathering Cards
Word Search & Crossword Games
Candy & Holiday Treats

Monetary Donations

To ensure MHY youth have all they need to support their individual, personal care and therapeutic needs, please consider a monetary gift. Giving is easy!



Simply visit mhyfamilyservices.org

(or scan the QR code and go directly to our site) and make a secure on-line gift. Or make a check payable to "Mars Home for Youth Foundation."

All gifts will be acknowledged with a tax-deductible receipt.



All Donations Need to be Received by December 6th

Shop online and ship gifts directly to:

MHY Family Services "HOLIDAY PROGRAM"

521 Route 228 Mars, PA 16046

*Please include your name & address so we may acknowledge your gift!



Serving Youth & Families
M·H·Y
FAMILY SERVICES
Since 1978

For questions or to schedule an appointment to drop off holiday gifts, please contact Karen Harvey at kharvey@mhyfamilyservices.org or 724.625.3141 x 283.

Thank you for your kindness and for making our children feel so special this holiday season!

CHRISTMAS



POINSETTIAS

Poinsettia plants may be contributed by anyone to help decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season. Please fill out the order blank below and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the Church Office. **Deadline is December 6, 2021.**

I wish to contribute _____ Poinsettia(s) for the beautification of the Church Sanctuary for Christmas.

I would like choice of color: _____ red _____ white _____ marble

Please attach a check or money to this order form. Make all checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood. **The cost is \$7.50 per plant.**

The wording: _____ In honor of: _____ In loving memory of:

By: _____

_____ I wish to take my plant after the Christmas Eve candlelight service.

