



# First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship 1st Sunday of Advent – November 27, 2022

#### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

**PRELUDE** 

WELCOME

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

**TOLLING OF THE HOUR** 

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

The prophet Isaiah made this invitation to his listeners, and he extends it to us again today:

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord. Let us go to the house of the God of Jacob and Rachel. May God teach us to walk in God's paths. \* We invite you to rise in body or in spirit where there are asterisks \*

We invite you to read all **bold** words aloud with the community

We start services with a "Call to Worship" to establish the context for worship as an encounter with the Holy One who calls all things into being.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** Let us worship God.

#### \*HYMN #88

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
  Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, God of the beginning and the end times:

As we begin this journey through Advent and start a new year in our Christian story, we remember that your time is different from our time.

We must stay awake and pay attention because your peace is not our peace, and your ways are not our ways.

We do not know the hour or the day when you are coming,

but we know the ways you will appear.

Even as we remember this beginning, we know that you will be with us to the end.

With hope, peace, joy and love we pray.

Amen.

#### LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The Lehrian Family

**RESPONSE #91** 

"Come, Come, Emmanuel"

Come, Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. Come, Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Now is the time to wake from sleep—

to cast off the shroud of sin and put on the garment of grace. Let us trust the promise of God's mercy,

for the day of salvation is near.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

We turn from communal praise to corporate confession, not for shame nor in guilt, but to wrestle honestly with the impact we have on each other. We do so with the knowledge of God's grace for all people.

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

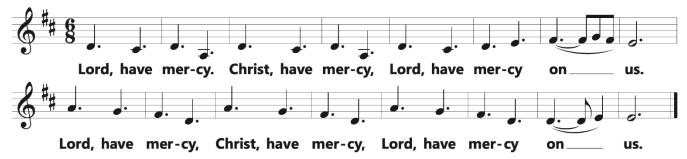
God of the ages, through the prophets and apostles you have challenged us to lay aside the works of destruction and prepare for your new creation.

We confess that we continue to cling to our sinful ways—greed and lust, abuse and waste, envy and strife.

Forgive us, Holy One.

By your Spirit, lead us to live in a way that honors you, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ our Savior, who is coming in glory to reign.

#### **PRAYER FOR GRACE**



#### **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Through the gift of baptism, we are cleansed in the Holy Spirit, clothed with the righteousness of Christ, and covered by the grace of God.

Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

#### \*RESPONSE #583

"Gloria, Gloria"

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo. Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia. (repeat)

#### **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** 

Please exchange signs of Christ's peace and reconciliation.

#### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful God, through the gift of your word you offer us instruction, encouragement, and hope. By the power of your Spirit teach us to live in hope, sharing joy and peace with the world; in the name of Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5 NRSVUE

<sup>1</sup> The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills;

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths."

all the nations shall stream to it.

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord! The Scriptures bear witness to the Word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who "became flesh and lived among us" (John 1:14). Where the Word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the Word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

# And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD.

For Israel's witness it is to praise the name of the LORD.

There were set the thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray, "May they prosper, those who love you."

May peace abide in your walls, and security be in your towers.

For the sake of my family and friends, let me say, "Peace upon you."

For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God, I will seek good things for you.

Coming to us from the worship of ancient Judaism, the psalms have been at the heart of Christian prayer and praise across the centuries. Throughout its history, the Reformed tradition has given a special place to singing the psalms in worship. The Psalm is not intended as a reading but a response to the first reading.

**ANTHEM** "I Want to Be Ready" arr. Moses Hogan

GOSPEL READING Matthew 24:36-44 NRSVUE

<sup>36</sup> "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

<sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man.

<sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

<sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**SERMON** Rev. Jason Dauer

\*HYMN #107 "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.

Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together, he opens wide the heavenly door and lives now inside us forever.

- 2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a-singing; his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing; music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving-kindness. The thunder of his anthems rolls to shatter all hatred and violence.
- 3 In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing, as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.

- Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder, the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.
- 4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night.
  Though dark the winter and cheerless,
  the rising sun shall crown you with light;
  be strong and loving and fearless.
  Love be our song and love our prayer
  and love our endless story;
  may God fill every day we share
  and bring us at last into glory.

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

from the Confession of 1967

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all.

Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.

He expressed the love of God in word and deed
and became a brother to all.

The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity.

Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community.

Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations.

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind.

Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.

But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing

power in the form of a servant,

wisdom in the folly of the cross,

and goodness in receiving sinners.

The power of God's love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

#### SHARING OF THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsive)

God of hope,

we come to you as our waiting time begins—this "already but not yet" time. We look forward just a few weeks and prepare to celebrate your coming years ago. We remember to prepare for your coming again.

#### We pray in hope.

God of peace,

as part of the preparation for your coming, may we begin to beat our swords into plowshares. May we dismantle our weapons of mass destruction, and rid ourselves of our stockpiles of fear. May we sow seeds of connection rather than discontent.

May we teach peace to the nations who continue to study war, including our own.

#### We pray for your peace.

God of joy,

lead us in the joyful work of making peace.

May we seek ways to feed those who hunger, to bind up those who are wounded, to get treatment for all who are addicted, to find housing for all who need it, and provide protection for any who are not safe.

May our joy be rooted in your promises to care for the stranger, to release the captive, to bring good news to the poor, and to let the oppressed go free.

#### We pray for such joy.

God of love,

a joy so deep and wide will surely expand our hearts.

So today as we pray for those we love already—family, friends, neighbors, colleagues. We pray also for those who are harder for us to love—family, friends, neighbors, colleagues. Love isn't easy, so we ask for your strength and guidance.

#### We pray to love well.

Prayers of Intercession

As we journey toward Bethlehem to meet you at the manger once again, may we not forget to look for you all around and at all times—wherever we encounter your hope, peace, joy, and love. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

#### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD WITH THANKSGIVING

#### OFFERING OF OUR LIVES, GIFTS, AND GOODS

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

#### Blessed be God forever.

If you wish to bring a financial offering to support the sustainability of our ministry, you may place it in the collection plates or contribute by using this QR code or going to www.fpcedgewood.org/donate

#### \*RESPONSE #647

"Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;

give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";

let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us."

Give thanks. Give thanks.

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have done wondrous things.

Your glory fills the whole earth.

You send the rain to water the land and cause the fields to flourish.

You defend those who are poor and deliver those who are oppressed.

Use the works of our hands to establish your holy realm,

and strengthen our hearts as we wait for the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



#### THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

And now, with the confidence of the children of God,

let us pray in the languages closest to our hearts the prayer Jesus taught:

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.

#### SENDING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

#### \*HYMN #352

"My Lord, What a Morning"

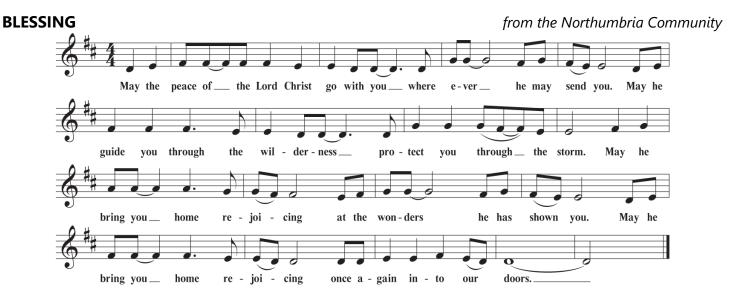
Refrain:

My Lord! what a morning; my Lord! what a morning; O my Lord! what a morning, when the stars begin to fall, when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound to wake the nations underground, looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

- 2 You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)
- 3 You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

#### INVITATIONS TO BE THE CHURCH TOGETHER



#### **CHARGE**

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

#### **POSTLUDE**

#### **SERVICE IN THE WORLD**

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Morning Service; we go forth to love and serve the Lord in daily living.

In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.

#### Participants in this worship service:

Rev. Jason Dauer, pastor | David Falk, liturgist | The Lehrian Family, advent candle lighting Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist | The Sanctuary Choir John Foster, videographer

Music presented with permission under
CCLI copyright license #1381818 & streaming license #20445653
Liturgy presented with permission from Connections: Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1

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





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

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!

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING immediately following worship on Sunday, December 11 for the purpose of electing officers and reviewing the 2023 preliminary budget approved by Session. All active members are asked to attend and vote.

BOOK CLUB MEETS WEEKLY, 10:00AM, Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apessos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood, finishing the book "A Man Called Peter".

MHY HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAM: For the past several years, FPCE has partnered with Mars Home for Youth when collecting donations for the annual Manger Tree drive. MHY Family Services is a non-profit organization serving youth with intensive behavioral needs and social challenges, and providing them a safe environment on their journey to wellness. Each year, MHY supports over 1,000 boys, girls and families in our community through our specialized trauma-based treatment. Our own Jim and Lisa Segedy are active with MHY as volunteers and members of the board of directors. A list of needed items and ways to donate can be found on our website and in the weekly email. Donations must be received by **Sunday, December 4** so that Jim & Lisa can deliver by the 12/5 deadline.

ADVENT STUDY...Pastor Jason will be leading a study titled "Holy Disruption" which presents a fresh understanding of the holiness of Christmas grounded, not in a conventional cozy Christmas message, but through Mark's disquieting gospel which invites its readers to experience God's disruptive but transformative love for us and our world. The group will meet on Thursdays during Advent, starting on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM. If you are interested, please notify Pastor Jason or the church office of your preference for meeting in person or over zoom. You can pick up a free copy of the book in the Church Office (suggested donation is \$10) or access a free eBook through Hoopla, a digital public library resource. If you have any questions, reach out to Pastor Jason (pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org).

#### **UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS AT FPCE:**

Saturday, December 3

Saturday, December 10

Munhall Community Band Concert, 4:30PM (tix: munhallband.org)

They will be joined by the FPCE & Anne Ashley UMC choirs

Saturday, December 17

Steranka Flute Studio Winter Recital, 11:00AM (free admission)

Vocal Confluence Holiday Show, 7:30PM (tix: vocalconfluence.org)

North Hills Singers visit FPCE, 11:00AM (mini concert after worship)

Vocal Confluence Holiday Show, 3:00PM (tix: vocalconfluence.org)



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 4, 2022.** 

wish to contribute	Poinsettia(s) for the beau	utification of the	e Church Sanctuary for Christmas.	
I would like choice of color	red red	white	marble	
Please attach a check or m Edgewood. <b>The cost is \$7</b> .	•	Make all checks	payable to First Presbyterian Church	ı of
The wording:	In honor of:	1	In loving memory of:	
Ву:				_
I wish to take my plar	nt after the Christmas Eve	candlelight ser	vice.	

#### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

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

#### Monday, November 28

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)

7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

#### Tuesday, November 29

10:00AM Book Club (AH)

7:00PM Edgewood Symphony Orchestra (S)

#### Thursday, December 1

2:00PM Writing Class (L) 5:00PM Flute Lesson (CE)

7:00PM SAA (L)

7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

7:00PM Advent Study (GP)

#### Friday, December 2

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

#### Saturday, December 3

Light Up Edgewood

**7:30PM ESO Holiday Concert (S)** 8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)

11:00AM Worship (S)

Next Sunday, December 4

Youth Sunday School (GP)

12:15PM Fellowship (GP)

#### How can you become involved?

As we 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**

Pastor ..... The Rev. Jason Dauer pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org

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.

### MHY FAMILY SERVICES'



## HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAM 2022



During this year of transition, YOU, our local friends and community partners, have been essential to our growing response to children in crisis. As we continue to manage the increasing mental health needs of youth and families, we know that the holiday season often brings its own challenges for children who are struggling and facing obstacles far beyond their years.

This year, more than ever, your help is needed. Your gift will allow MHY's therapists and care professionals to have the resources needed to ensure all those we serve have what they need for their health, safety and, of course, some *Holiday Cheer!* 

# Please consider continuing your support to local children and families this year.

#### MONETARY DONATIONS

Simply write checks payable to **Mars Home for Youth Foundation** and mail to the address below or scan this QR code and go directly to our site to make a secure on-line gift. You can also visit our secure on-line donation portal at **mhyfamilyservices.org/give-now/.** 

#### **GIFT CARDS**

See a full list of retail establishments on the Christmas Wish List. Please drop off or mail to MHY at the address below.



#### CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Please see our *Christmas Wish List* on the back side of this page for our most needed items.



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.

521 Route 228, Mars, PA 16046

Please include your name and address with your donation so we may acknowledge your gift!

ALL DONATIONS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY

DECEMBER 5TH

# MHY FAMILY SERVICES'

All Donations Need to be Received by DECEMBER 5TH





Amazon

Walmart

Giant Eagle

Target

Aldi

Chick-fil-A

Dollar Tree

Five Below

Kohl's

Michaels

\*Gift Cards help us meet the therapeutic care needs of those we serve.

DONATE



Twin, Full & Queen size Comforters & Sheets Feminine Products

Body Wash/Shampoo/Conditioner

Body Sprays/Perfume & Cologne gift sets Body Lotions (male & female)

Weighted Blankets (10 or 15 lbs.)

Athletic Shoes - Children sizes 6-12,

Men sizes 6-13, Women sizes 6-11

Hoodies - youth & adult sizes

New Reusable Water Bottles

Large Reusable Shopping Bags (from TJ Maxx & Marshalls)

Self-Care Gift Basket Items: mugs, coffee/tea, bubble bath, scented lotions, face masks, candles, chocolates



Art Canvases without staples Paint & Brushes Origami Books & Paper Bracelet Making Kits STEM & Science Kits

#### Games & Other Fun

Lego Sets (All types including Mario, Harry Potter, Jurassic Park & 3-in-1 sets) Action Figures (Minecraft, Naruto, Sonic, Five Nights at Freddy's) Stuffed Animals (assortment including Minecraft & Five Nights at Freddy's) Pokemon Cards Family Board Games Squishies & Squishmallows Push Pop Bubble Toys, Stress Balls & Fidgets Kinetic Sand Play-Doh & Thinking Putty New Young Adult Books

#### Electronics & Sports

Large Bags of Candy & Chocolates

Bluetooth Headphones Remote Control Cars Hand-held Games Sports Balls Skateboards Batteries (AA & AAA)



# **Monetary Donations**

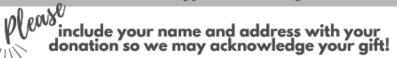
Help us to ensure that youth and families have all they need to meet personal care, therapeutic and program needs. Giving is easy!

## 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.





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.



521 Route 228, Mars, PA 16046

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