

## Evangelical Covenant Church

260 S. Union St. Paxton, IL 60957  
Church phone & fax: 217-379-3554  
paxcov@gmail.com www.paxcov.org  
Pastor Keith Reuther



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### This Week in Our Church Family

#### Today, Sunday, December 14, 2025 - Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Scripture Tonya Durham  
Ushers Roger Gustafson, Jeff Shaffer  
3:00 p.m. Youth Group

#### Saturday, December 20, 2025

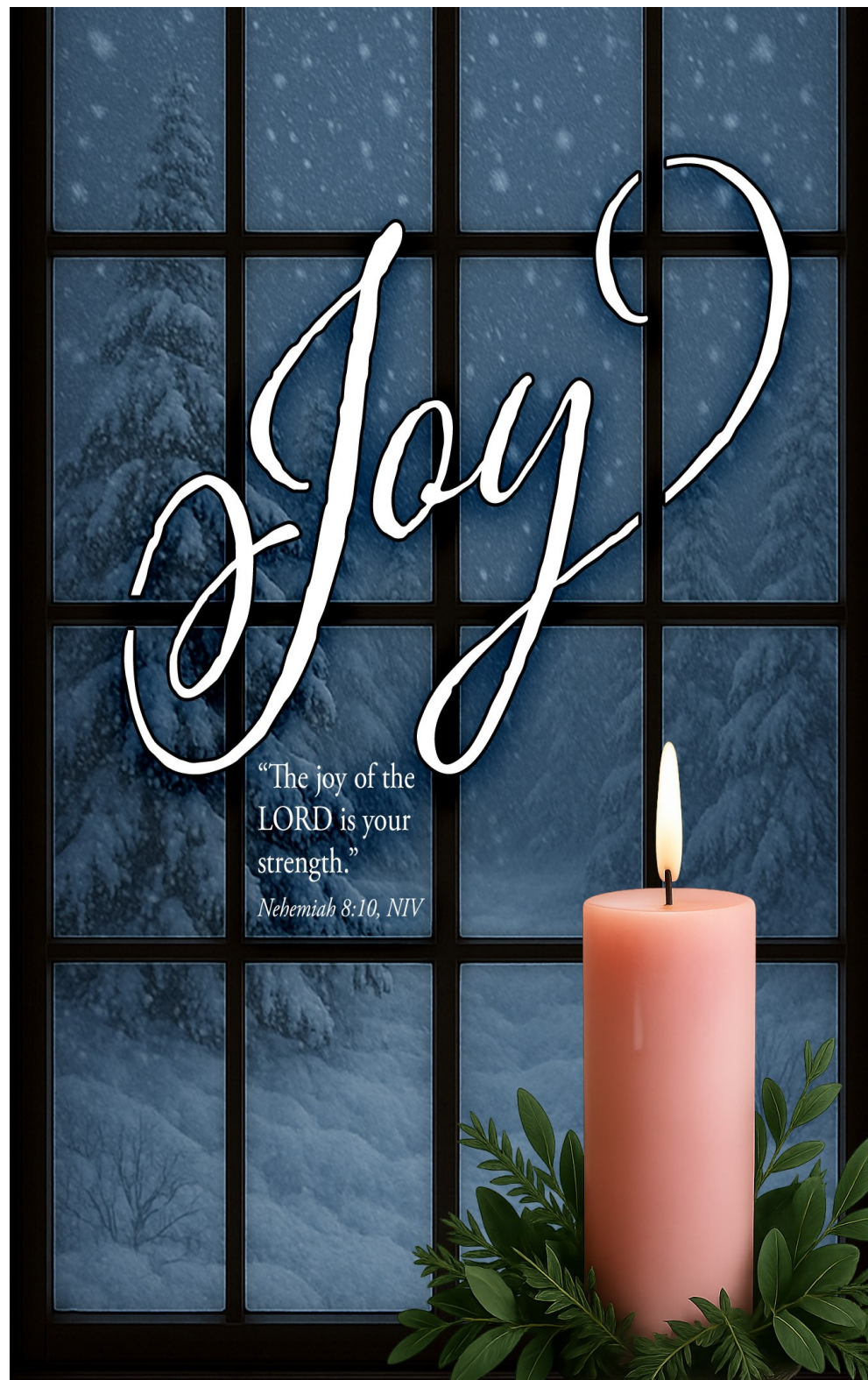
8:00 a.m. Men's Group

#### Next Sunday, December 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Scripture Youth  
Ushers Glen Foss, Melanie Harms

\*Hearing assistance devices available by request at the sound board

\*Video streaming of the service is available in the Fellowship Hall.



"The joy of the  
LORD is your  
strength."

*Nehemiah 8:10, NIV*



Evangelical Covenant Church  
Third Sunday of Advent  
December 14, 2025

Prelude  
Welcome and Announcements  
Greeting Time

Call to Worship

Psalm 146:5-10

Praise Song: "Beautiful One"  
Invocation  
Praise Song: "In Christ Alone"

Lighting of Advent Candles

Scripture Readings:  
Old Testament: Isaiah 35:1-10  
Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Tonya Durham

Children's Message

Pastoral Prayer  
Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #135 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Sermon: "They Shall Obtain Joy and Gladness"

Hymn: #130 "Come, You People of the Promise"

Benediction

Hymn of Response: #120 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"  
(verse 1)

Postlude

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Long Term/Home Care

Betty Lesus

Missions

Cathy Campobello  
(Medellin, Colombia)  
Joe & Tammy Faulkinbury (Covenant  
Mountain Mission Bible Camp;  
Jonesville, VA)  
Ted & Sharon Wingo (South  
Carolina)  
Greta Henry (Merci Ministries;  
Champaign, IL )

We have the ability to send out text message alerts in the event we would need to postpone or cancel any portion of church. If you would like to receive these messages please make sure the church office has your current cell phone number.

Youth Group will meet today from 3-6pm for caroling and decorating cookies for the Christmas dinner.

The First United Methodist Bell Choir will be performing this afternoon at 3pm and the Methodist Church. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

The Children's Christmas program is next Sunday, December 21.

The Christmas Dinner will be Christmas Day from 11am-1pm. If you would like to help with deliveries and/or prep please contact Amanda Nelson

Announcements

There is a water bucket in the narthex to collect funds for the Covenant Kids Congo water project. We are more than halfway to our goal!

*\*Offering plates are located in the back of the church as well as in the narthex.*

*\*Prayer cards are available in the pews.*