

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

HOPEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



HOPEWELL PRESBYTERIAN
EST. 1831

Third Sunday of Advent
December 17th, 2023 | 10:30 am Worship Service

-WE GATHER TO PRAISE -

§ Invites you to rise in body or spirit with the people of God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

ELDER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

§ CALL TO WORSHIP

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

As fallen people, we must be called from our worship of the created and focus on the proper worship of the Creator.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

§ HYMN OF PRAISE

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

HYMN 98

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

4. Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear.
5. Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down.

§ HYMN OF PRAISE

LEFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES!

HYMN 77

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of Glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near,
the Savior of the world is here.
4. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.
5. Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to Thee; here Lord abide!
Let me Thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.
6. So come, my Sovereign, enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,
until the glorious crown be won.

– WE CONFESS –

§ CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

(time for silent, individual confession)

Have mercy on us, O God, and restore us to a life of obedience. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

§ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

§ RESPONSE TO PARDON GLORIA PATRI HYMN 614

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

– WE SHARE OUR LIFE & GIFTS –

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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;
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.

OFFERTORY

§ RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

§ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

We pray for the world because God loves it. God created the world and cares for it. To abide in God's love is to share God's concern for the world. Our prayers should therefore be as specific as God's tender compassion for the least ones among us.

- WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD -

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

DANIEL 7:9-13

LITURGIST

He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

ONE THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

ALL THANKS BE TO GOD.

DISMISSAL FOR JR. CHURCH

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON SCRIPTURE 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 REV. BRANDON JOLLEY

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

SERMON

REV. BRANDON JOLLEY

§ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord.
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Through the sermon we encounter Jesus Christ in God's word, are equipped to follow Him more faithfully, and are inspired to proclaim the Gospel to others through our words and deeds.

- WE GO FORTH TO PROCLAIM -

§ CLOSING HYMN COME BEHOLD THE WONDEROUS MYSTERY GUIDE P.6

Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the king
He, the theme of Heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery
He, the perfect son of man
In his living, in his suffering
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in him, we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery
Christ, the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery
Slain by death, the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord, He is alive
What a foretaste of deliverance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when he comes

What a foretaste of deliverance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when he comes

§ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A benediction is literally a "good word" or a blessing to carry with us as we leave our time of worship.

-SERMON NOTES -

- QUESTIONS TO PONDER -

WHAT STOOD OUT TO ME?

WHERE DID I SEE JESUS IN THIS SERMON?

WHAT QUESTIONS/THOUGHTS DO I HAVE?

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker

1. Come, be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry in the dawn - ing of the
 2. Come, be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry: He the per - fect Son of
 3. Come, be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry: Christ the Lord up - on the
 4. Come, be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry: slain by death, the God of

King, He, the theme of heav - en's prais - es, robed in
 Man, In His liv - ing, in His suf - fring, nev - er
 tree; In the stead of ru - ined sin - ners hangs the
 life; but no grave could e'er re - strain Him, Praise the

frail hu - man - i - ty. In our long - ing, in our
 trace nor stain of sin. See the true and bet - ter
 Lamb in vic - to - ry. See the price of our re -
 Lord, He is a - live! What a fore - taste of de -

dark - ness, now the light of life has come; Look to
 Ad - am come to save the hell - bound man, Christ, the
 demp - tion; see the Fa - ther's plan un - fold, bring - ing
 liv - 'rance; how un - wa - ver - ing our hope: Christ in

Christ, who con - de - scend - ed, took on flesh to ran - som us.
 great and sure ful - fill - ment of the law, in Him we stand.
 man - y sons to glo - ry, grace un - meas - ured, love un - told!
 pow - er res - ur - rect - ed, as will we be when He comes.

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Sunday School

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School (classroom in the basement by the elevators)

10:15 a.m. - Preschool Class

11:00 a.m. - Jr. Church (dismissed during the Worship Service)

Wednesday Prayer - 10:00 am in Pastor Brandon's office.

Caroling! December 19th - Meet at the church at 5:30. We will visit a few friends and then return to the church for pizza, hot chocolate and cookie decorating.

Session - Session will meet Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00.

Christmas Eve Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 5:00 pm

- PRAYER REQUESTS -

- Tina Catt
- Elsie Tarsitano
- Eric Pasborg - heart
- Pat Mundorff
- Janet Salem - cancer, recovery from surgery
- Martha Myers - pancreatic cancer
- Robert Lehman I - cancer
- Roger Meyers - blood clots
- Missionaries: Josh and Libby Auyer - Czech Republic

- Christian Sympathy is extended to:
 - Linda Mink on the death of her mother, Eleanor Carr on December 11th.
 - Bill McIntire on the death of his father, Dave "Mac" McIntire on December 12th.

Homebound: Lester Burton, Hugh Carter, Mary Catt, Norma Jean Fox, Clarellen Kelsay, Pat Mundorff, Alberta Satter, Becky Wertz, Jean Williams

December Birthdays: Heather Dougherty - 1st; Jim Hendrix - 2nd; Violet Davidson - 4th; Mindy Shaw - 8th; Matt Jones - 10th; Charlee Spencer - 11th; Olive Davidson - 14th; Tucker McIntire - 16th; Jackie Graham - 17th; Freya Sempsrott - 21st; Holly Steimel - 22nd; Pat Mundorff - 24th; Mary Lue Walker - 25th; Vienna Sempsrott - 29th; Leslie Hash and Mike Wicker - 30th

Poinsettias have been purchased in memory of loved ones by:

Michele Burgess	Bill and Joyce Liverett
Doug and Carla Demaree	Amy Spencer
John and Sandy Ditmars	John and Tammy Spencer
George and Lilly Dow	Kathleen and Andy Spencer
David and Leslie Hash	Holly Steimel
Brent and Kathy Henderson	Moyne and Jerry Tackett
Tom and Cathy Johnson	Frank and Charlotte Weaver
Ron Kelsay	Jean Williams
Howard Krapf	Cindy Williams
Bill Leser Family	Steve and Polly Yount

- DISCIPLESHIP READING -

Encountering God in your daily life is the best way to grow your relationship with our Redeemer. This reading plan was customized using TheBibleTeam.com

<input type="checkbox"/>	MONDAY	Romans 2-3	Psalm 71
<input type="checkbox"/>	TUESDAY	Romans 4	Psalm 72
<input type="checkbox"/>	WEDNESDAY	Romans 5-6	Psalm 73
<input type="checkbox"/>	THURSDAY	Romans 7	Psalm 74
<input type="checkbox"/>	FRIDAY	Romans 8-9	Psalm 75

WEEKLY CATECHISM

As a church body, we affirm the Westminster Confession of Faith. The confession, written in 1648, serves as the confessional anchor of Presbyterian doctrine and includes a catechism to teach the faith in churches. Each week we work our way through 3-5 questions from the Westminster Shorter Catechism to both learn and remind ourselves of the faith that we profess. Pastor Brandon would love to talk to you when difficult sections come up.

Q. 49. Which is the second commandment?

A. The second commandment is: You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand (generations) of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Q50. What does the second commandment require?

A. The second commandment requires us to receive, respectfully perform, and preserve completely and purely all the regulations for religion and worship that God has established in His word.

Q51. What does the second commandment forbid?

A. The second commandment forbids our worshipping God with images or in any other way not established in His word.

Q52. What are the reasons for the second commandment?

A. The reasons for the second commandment are that God totally rules over us, that we belong to Him, and that He is eager to be worshipped correctly.

- WEEKLY AT HOME LITURGY -

CALL TO WORSHIP

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."
-Revelation 4:9-11

PRAYER OF ADORATION

O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord. *Praise him, and magnify him forever.* O you angels of the Lord, bless the Lord. *Praise him, and magnify him forever.* O you heavens, bless the Lord. *Praise him, and magnify him forever.* O you waters that are above the firmament, bless the Lord. *Praise him, and magnify him forever.* O all powers of the Lord, bless the Lord. *Praise him, and magnify him forever.* O you sun, and moon, bless the Lord. *Praise him, and magnify him forever.*
-Richard Baxter

READING OF THE LAW

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
-1 John 4:7-11

CONFESSION OF SINS

O merciful Father, regard not what we have done against you, but what our blessed Savior has done for us. Regard not what we have made ourselves; but what he is made unto us of you, our God. O that Christ may be to every one of our souls, wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption! That his precious blood may cleanse us from all our sins; and that your Holy Spirit may renew and sanctify our souls. May he crucify our flesh with its affections and lusts, and mortify all our members which are upon earth. O let not sin reign in our mortal bodies, that we should obey in the lusts thereof; but being made free from sin, let us be the servants of righteousness. Amen.
-John Wesley

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from his iniquities. -Psalm 130:7-8

PRAISE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.
-Gloria Patri

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty, gracious Father, since our whole salvation depends on our true understanding of your holy Word, grant that our hearts - freed from worldly affairs - may hear and understand your holy Word with all diligence and faith, so that we may rightly discern your gracious will, cherish it, and live by it with all earnestness, to your praise and honor, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.
-Martin Bucer

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Daily Bible reading plan (see Discipleship Reading Plan)

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

O Lord, come quickly and reign on your throne, for now often something rises up within me, and tries to take possession of your throne: pride, covetousness, uncleanness, and sloth want to be my kings, and then evil-speaking, anger, hatred, and the whole train of vices join with me in warring against myself, and try to reign over me. I resist them; I cry out against them, and say, "I have no other king than Christ." O King of peace, come and reign in me, for I will have no king but you! Amen.

-Bernard of Clairvaux

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by your name; your kingdom come; your 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.

TO PONDER PRAYERFULLY

He who loves the coming of the Lord
is not he who affirms it is far off,
nor is it he who says it is near.
It is he who, whether it be far or near,
awaits it with sincere faith,
stead-fast hope and fervent love.

– *Augustine of Hippo*

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Hopewell Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbytery of the Midwest
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Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

hopewellpc.org