

OHIO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1236 LONGVUE AVE.
ALIQUIPPA, PA 15001

Our website is: www.ohiopresbyterian.org

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@ohiounitedpresbyterianchur1974/streams>

- Sunday worship 10:00 am
- Sunday School for our younger members (Grades Pre-K - 6th grade) during worship

Transitional Pastor:

Rev. Bob Goossen

Email: bobgoossen@zoominternet.net

phone # 724-464-4032

Administrative Assistant:

Nancy Connell

Church office hours Monday through Thursday 9:00-2:00

Church phone #: 724-378-3690 ext. 3

Church email: office@ohioupchurch.com

Choir Director: Amanda Collins

Accompanist & Bell Choir Director: Shirley Fluharty

Worship Leader/Pianist: Alli Feszko

Custodian: Monica Ward

Treasurer: Chris Hurni

Youth Coordinator: Peggy Franzese

OUR SESSION

CLASS OF 2025: Chris Otto (2T), Casey Honess (2T),
Patti Strominger, Chris Mathias

CLASS OF 2024: Gina Arzberger (2T), Rayna Knox
Paul Magee (2T), Wendi Rybicki

CLASS OF 2023: Charles Hendrick,
Nancy Lucas (2T), Rich Palmer, John Martin

OUR DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025: Ava Diccico,
Denise Matthias, Ken Jones

CLASS OF 2024: Jeff Barth, Bob Hurni
Eleanor Pike, Corinna Petrella

CLASS OF 2023: Bev Abate (2T), Peg Franzese
Dianne Kanitra, Terri Owczarzak



OHIO UNITED

Presbyterian Church



Loving God,

Loving Neighbor;

Helping Our Neighbors to Love God

January 7, 2024

“If you want to go fast, go alone.

If you want to go far, go together.”

–African Proverb

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Bob Goossen

CALL TO WORSHIP “Love Has Come” (vss 1&2)

110

***LITANY OF PRAYER AND PRAISE** (responsively)

Denise Mathias

Born in the light of the Bright and Morning Star,
we are new.

**Not patched, not mended...but new
like a newborn...like the morning...**

The guilt-blotched yesterdays are gone;
the soul stains are no more!

**There is no looking back;
there are no regrets.**

In our newness we are free.

In the power of God’s continuing creation, we are:

new shoots from the root of Jesse

new branches from the one true Vine,

new songs breaking through the world’s deafness.

This then is a new day.

**New shoots, new branches,
new songs, new day...**

**Bathed in the promise of God’s New Creation,
we begin!**

*** CAROL** “The First Nowell” (vss 1, 2, 4 & 5)

147

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We search for your light, Star Caster, but too often end up settling for the dimness of temptation. Our motives for seeking to find Christ are not always pure, for we expect him to fulfill our desires, rather than your hopes for us.

Forgive us, Shaper of our lives, that we are so foolish to put our needs ahead of your grace. Help us to be like those wise people of so long ago, who found hope; who found grace; who found salvation. As we journey with your Son our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, fill us with the light of your joy and love.

Silence is kept

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Grace has been poured into our hearts, love has flooded our souls, the light of hope shines in us.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

ALL: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!*

***RESPONSE** “Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child” 126

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM “Coventry Carol”

CHILDREN’S CHAT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2: 1-12

SERMON “In the Grasp of Grace”

DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

***AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison)

We believe in God, who created and is creating.

In Jesus Christ God comes to us to forgive and renew,

to reconcile us to himself and to each other,

to set us free in our humanity for joyous obedience.

By the Spirit, God forms and reforms us

to live fully and responsibly each day, a grace-gift from God.

God calls us to be God’s people, the church in the world,
and invites us to celebrate God’s presence
as we love and serve others,
and as we proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.

***CAROL** “As with Gladness Men of Old” 150

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

***CAROL** “We Three Kings of Orient Are” 151

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (chorus only) 136

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and every where;

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***POSTLUDE**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday School

- Children 3yrs - 6th grade during worship
- The Adult class will resume on Jan. 21

Today–Undecorating the church following worship

Today–Youth Group @6-7:30pm

Tuesday, January 9–Deacons Meeting @6:30pm

Tuesday, January 9–Session @7pm

Wednesday, January 10–Story Time @10am

Sunday, January 14–Deacon Training @9am in library

Sunday, January 14–Ordination & Installation of Deacons and Elders

Sunday, January 14–Communion

Sunday January 14–Youth Group @6-7:30pm

Monday, January 15–Property Meeting @6:30pm

Monday, January 15–Deborah Circle Bible Study @6:30pm

Wednesday, January 17–Story Time @10am

Keep Them in Your Prayers: Donna Olexick, Rich Kerlin, Paul (Karen Keller’s friend), Lynn Smith, Peter Kerlin, Marcia Davis, Jack Gennaro, Don Habedank (Shirley Fluharty’s brother), Bernie Fedorka (Mark Douglass’s friend), David Alexander (Shirley Fluharty’s son-in-law), Tom Owczarzak, Paul Kulha, Jim Williams

In the Military: Don Sanders, William Barth, Kelly Barth

Those who are not able to worship regularly: Sarah Jane Shaffer, Dolores Skinner, Lois Davie, Willa Kocher, Maude Williams, Pat & Tony Wozniak, Roberta Smith, Ella Mae Speiker, Edna Petrella, Lois Dancer, Dorothy Elko, Irene Gartley, Martha Piroli, Libby Urick, Trudy Boggs, Janice Adamski, Betty Solinski

Garden of Knowledge Library

As we expand our library, we have created an Amazon wish list that you may purchase books for our library. The books range in age from newborn to young adult. Here is a link to our wish list:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/11KT1O8IDN6AG/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2

After a complete inventory of our Garden of Knowledge Library. We are missing some books, many were checked out prior to the pandemic. Please check your children’s books at home and see if you have any from our library. You can return them to Christina Palmer. Thank you!