

OFFERING

We make our offering today with hopeful hearts, trusting that the Holy One who comes to us will bless our gifts and our lives, to make us signs of hope in the world God loves.

*** RESPONSE** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy and Righteous God, we offer our gifts with humble hearts, knowing the needs in your world are great and our gifts alone will never fill that need. We offer our gifts in hope that you will bless them and use them to help fulfill your purpose revealed in Jesus Christ, Savior of us all. Amen

***HYMN** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (see insert)

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

***RESPONSE** “While We are Waiting, Come” 92, verse 1

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please share the peace of Christ with one another as you leave this space.

*POSTLUDE



OHIO UNITED
Presbyterian Church



***Loving God,
Loving Neighbor;
Helping Our Neighbors to Love God***

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

Let us share this peace with one another.

(please greet those around you with signs of peace)

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for the worship of God.

PRELUDE

WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

 The Honess Family

Advent is a time for God’s people to reawaken their longings.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We long for every hurt to be healed.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We long for every tear to be dried.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We long for every injustice to be made right.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We celebrated God’s promises and long for those yet to unfold.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

First Candle is Lit

This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that even in the midst of darkness, the light of hope shines. Jesus Christ is the promised One of God, the light of the world. May this light of hope illuminate our hearts throughout this Advent season.

***PRAYER OF ADORATION** (unison) Liturgist Joe Glatz

**God of love, you come to your people to dwell with us.
You come with power to transform all things.
You come with promises to make all things new.
You come with signs of your deep love for the world.
You come, and your truth breaks into our lives shattering
lies and half-truths, setting your people free.
Your coming is our hope, and so, we offer you our praise
and prayers in gratitude and anticipation.
Come into our lives again, O God,
And show us how to hope in the face of all that is discouraging,
for we gather in the name of Hope made flesh,
Jesus Christ, your promise and our desire. Amen**

*** HYMN** “How Firm a Foundation” 463

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Surprising God, forgive our sleepiness in the presence of your splendor
and for when we abandon hope and expect and look for the same old
thing in the same old way. Forgive us our silence when we ought to
have spoken up and our carelessness with your world and each other.
Awaken us to your holy, hopeful presence so we may watch and wait
for you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Silence is kept...

DECLARATION OF PARDON

The One who comes with justice also comes with mercy. The God of Judgment is truly the Christ of compassion. God offers you forgiveness today, in the hope you will receive it gladly. Do not be afraid but rejoice in the God who comes to us.

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Amen.

***RESPONSE** “Wait for the Lord” 90

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM “O Come to Us, Emmanuel”

CHILDREN’S CHAT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**Spirit of God, move within and among us today, to open God’s Word
read and proclaimed, for us. Guide us to your truth and help us
discern and understand your Word, pointing us to Christ, your
Living Word. Amen**

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 33:14-16

SERMON “Hope”

***HYMN OF AFFIRMATION** “Christ Be Our Light” 314

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you;

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is our greatest calling and joy...And now we pray the words which
Jesus gave all his followers:

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.

Now and forever. Amen

THE COMMUNION

Please hold the elements as you are served until prompted

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday School

Children 3 yr–6th grade during worship following children’s chat
Adult Sunday School–9am to 9:45am

Sunday December 1–Youth Choir Rehearsal 9-9:45am

Sunday, December 1–Communion

Monday, December 2–Elder Care Visit @6pm

Monday, December 2–Property Meeting @6:30pm

Tuesday, December 3–Annual Women’s Dinner @6pm

Wednesday, December 4–Story Time @9:30 or 10:30 am

Thursday, December 5–Choir Rehearsal @7pm

Sunday, December 8–Youth Musical

The OUPC Christmas Card mailbox is in the Narthex ready to be filled with your Christmas greetings. If you wish to send cards to fellow church members who attend regularly, bring your cards and put them in the slots that are in alphabetical order. You might want to check your slot to see if you have mail. While you are spreading good cheer you will be saving money on postage stamps that you might consider making an extra donation for upcoming projects like repaving the parking lot.

The Wish Tree is up in the front of the sanctuary. Please consider taking a tag to help local children have a blessed Christmas. Please return unwrapped gifts with the tag attached by the due date. Any questions call or text Gina at 724-809-3215.

If you didn’t sign up to bake or help with the Cookie Bazaar, but would like to contact Patti Strominger. All proceeds will go towards replacing the parking lot.

The Nominating Committee is looking to fill open positions on the Board of Session for the Class of 2027. If you have any interest or have questions, contact Chris Otto at 412-722-5325 or cco107@hotmail.com

Keep Them in Your Prayers: Donna Olexick, Rich Kerlin, Paul (Karen Keller’s friend), Lynn Smith, Peter Kerlin, Marcia Davis, Jack Gennaro, Tom Owczarzak, Paul Kulha, Jim Williams

In the Military: William Barth

Those who are not able to worship regularly: Sarah Jane Shaffer, Dolores Skinner, Lois Davie, Pat & Tony Wozniak, Ella Mae Speiker, Edna Petrella, Dorothy Elko, Irene Gartley, Libby Urick, Trudy Boggs, Betty Solinski, Ed & Evelyn Lawson

OHIO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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ALIQUIPPA, PA 15001

Our website is: www.ohiopresbyterian.org

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@ohiounitedpresbyterianchurch1974/streams>

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

Pastor:

Kalyn D. Stevwing

pastorkalyn@gmail.com

724-841-8145

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

Worship Leader/Pianist: Alli Feszko

Custodian: Monica Ward

Treasurer: Chris Hurni

Youth Coordinator: Peggy Franzese

Organist Emeritus: Shirley Fluharty

OUR SESSION

CLASS OF 2026: Joe Glatz, Jennifer Davis

Rich Palmer (2T), John Martin (2T)

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

OUR DEACONS

CLASS OF 2026: Dave Kocher, Ivonne Holsinger

Greg Holsinger, Dianne Kanitra (2T)

CLASS OF 2025: Dawn Psik, Terri Owczarzak

Denise Matthias, Ken Jones

CLASS OF 2024: Jeff Barth, Bob Hurni

Eleanor Pike, Corinna Petrella

