



## Prayers this week

Prayers for Becky Arblaster, Julie Powell's neighbor, for her continued cancer treatments.

Ed Ford is now back home and please continue to pray for him.

Mack Porter is asking for prayers for his sister, Leslie. Her health has deteriorated and the family will have to make some difficult decisions going forward for her. Please keep Leslie and her family in your prayers.

Benjamin Irwin who was a student and was coming to church a few years ago is fighting cancer now and could use a lot of prayers as he goes through radiation every day.

Lara Mumaw is asking prayers for my friend's brother Earnie Zilka. Here is the update on Earnie, he had several jaw surgeries to fix his broken jaw from his track accident and is doing well.

Please keep Denise Brydon in your prayers she is still recovering at home.

Please keep Mike and Sandy Montgomery's neighbor, Bev in your prayers.

Robyn Gregg's daughter, Lindsay is having some health issues and is asking for continued prayers.

Mary Hines Formeck is asking for prayers for her brother, Ed Hines as he recovers from a pelvic fracture.

Bill Mills is asking for prayers for his great-grandson, Liam is in Cleveland Clinic with a head infection.

Jody Sperry is asking for continued prayers for Ben on his continued fight against his leukemia as his white has improved.

Please keep Dean, the father of one of Heather Runtas' cheerleaders in your prayers. He is battling multiple brain tumors and is now going to Hospice. They don't expect him to have much time left. This has been really hard on the family. Please keep them in your prayers as well. God Bless.

John and Jody Sperry's daughter in laws brother, Kevin was diagnosed with colon cancer this week. He is now receiving chemo for his cancer.

Carol Lambert is asking for prayers for Don Downing, he used to be a principle at Slippery Rock and Moraine Elementary schools, he is having severe heart problems and has been in the hospital for the past 3 weeks.

Paula Thompson Green is asking for prayers for the family and friends of Alice Stauffer, who was a teacher at Slippery Rock school and at Slippery Rock University. She went to be with her Lord. She was 82.

Ronnie Mercuri (Sunita's son-n-law, Jon's, father) went to be with his Lord on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep Jon and the family in your prayers. Jon and his dad were very close.

Julie Powell's friend, Rita's, leukemia is back, and she will be going through stem cell replacement surgery later this month and then will be hospitalized and isolated for a while afterwards. Please pray for her surgery to be successful and her spirits to remain positive.

Julie Powell's brother, Jim, just had another surgery to remove a diabetes-related infection in his foot. He will be in a rehab hospital for the next six weeks. Prayers were already answered that he didn't lose his foot, but continued prayers are needed for his recovery and for his spirits to remain positive.

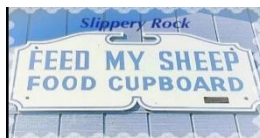
Mary Decker's great-grandson was born and is doing really well. Please keep them in your prayers as he was born pre-mature and has a lot of care ahead of him.

It is with a saddened heart that we bring the news that Kevin (Jody and John Sperry's daughter-in-law's brother) passed away November 21<sup>st</sup> during emergency surgery. Please keep Jody's daughter in law's family in your prayers. They lost their husband and father earlier this year now their youngest son and brother.

### *New This Week Prayers*

Please keep Beth Thompson in your prayers she fell and broke her collarbone. Prayers for quick healing and recovery.

**Please remember to update your prayers as needed. We would like to keep everyone up to date on the status.**



### **October Stats 2022**

<b>Families</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>Total Family Members</b>	<b>175</b>			
<b>Adults</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Seniors</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>New Families</b> 13
<b>Slippery Rock Boro</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>Slippery Rock Area</b>	<b>56</b>			<b>Harrisville Area</b> 12
<b>Out/Area Emergency/New Family</b>	<b>0</b>					

**Wish List:** **Sugar, Stuffing Mix, Cranberry Sauce**

*Thank you to one and all for your generous support. We could not help our friends and neighbors without you.*

If you know someone who is in need of our help, please give them our contact number.

**Contact number: 724-421-5274**

**December 4, 2022**

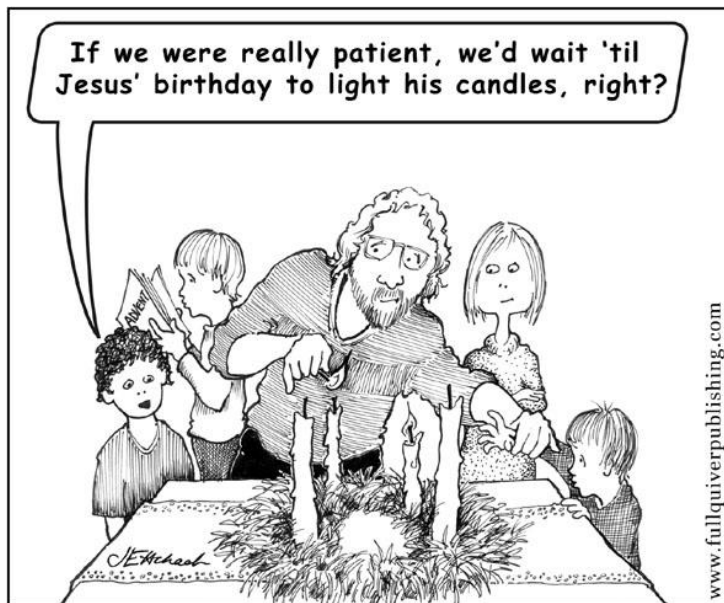
## **Pastor Bill's Weekly Message**



"That's called an advent calendar — it tells you just how many more days you have to be good!"



While shepherds watched their facebook by night



Seriously, what is this time of year really all about?

Sometimes we can wonder if folks really do understand what the season of Advent is.

Advent means “Coming”.

Throughout Advent, we “wait” for the coming of Christ!

We “recall” and “wait” for the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and also Christ’s return in the future.

Advent is a time for reflection on these Biblical truths and promises.

Advent is also a time of “Preparing”, “Anticipating” and being “Attentive”.

During a season where there is exhaustion, what might it mean to know things like Advent “Hope” and “Peace” in and all around us?

Some of my most famous theologians have stated it best.

"In the silence of a midwinter dusk, there is a sound so faint that for all you can tell it may be only the sound of the silence itself. You hold your breath to listen. You are aware of the beating of your heart. The extraordinary thing that is about to happen is matched only by the extraordinary moment just before it happens. Advent is the name of that moment." ~ Frederick Buechner

*"The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord" ~ Henri Nouwen*

"The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come." ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer

My prayer is that you will find the beautiful balance of "waiting" and "experiencing" Advent this year.

Below is our ENTIRE bulletin for Dec. 4th.

God bless you, and see you in church or online, during Advent!

*Rev. William C. Mumaw II*

**Prelude:** Piano Fum, Fum, Fum Mark Hayes

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit** Christmas Is For Giving Joseph Hopkins

### **Lighting of Advent Wreath**

**"The Bethlehem Candle"**

Samantha Montgomery and Lila Runtas

**\*Reading/ Prayer/ Lighting of Candle**

During Lighting of Candle:

All Sing - #169 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verse 2 Only! - **"Hymns For the Family of God"**

### **Praise Sentences**

L: Welcome today to this time of preparation.  
P: **We have entered this season of waiting and anticipation.**  
L: The Lord is bringing to Peace.  
P: **Lord, prepare our lives and bring us peace.**  
L: Open your hearts, and let your spirits be quieted.  
Be at peace with the Lord, others and yourself.  
P: **Prince of Peace, we stand in need of Your presence.**

Opening Hymn - #38 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”    Presbyterian Blue Hymnal

### Opening Prayer

Almighty God, You have surprised us with Your presence in unexpected ways. In the expectations of our routine, we have missed the treasure that You place before us. We come to worship You in community often expecting nothing more than the usual. We begin our days, our weeks, assuming all will run as it always has. We do not look for the unexpected, for Your active presence in our daily lives and for that we confess our sorrow. Forgive us for not allowing our eyes to catch the unexpected, to glimpse Your glory in the ordinary. Pour a new peace into our lives and let us be bearers of Your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest Gift of all.

**(Brief Moment of Silent Confession)**

Pastor’s Amen

Church Song of Response

Time with Children

Scripture    Micah 5:2-5

<sup>2</sup> “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans<sup>[a]</sup> of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” <sup>3</sup> Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. <sup>4</sup> He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup> And he will be our peace.

**Choir Anthem**    *The Advent Road*        *Douglas Wagner*

**Scripture**    **Matthew 2:1-6**

**2** After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: <sup>6</sup> "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

**Message**    **"The Bethlehem Candle"**

**Reflection Hymn** – **#49 "Once in Royal David's City"**    Presbyterian Blue Hymnal

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

**Closing Hymn** – **#44 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"**    Presbyterian Blue Hymnal

**Benediction Response** - The First Nowell (Hymn #56 Refrain Only)

**Postlude:**    *O Come All Ye Faithful*        *Gordon Young*



*Calvin*

!!! Doesn't the sanctuary look great. We made some changes to the Christmas decorations layout.

A big thank you to all who help!

I want to talk about Advent.

Wow, this Sunday will mark the half-way mark of Advent 2022.

Here is a special prayer for all of you.

I hope it can help you during this busy Advent season.

May it bring meaning and focus to such a busy time of year.

BYE!



What a beautiful and busy time of year! The fall colors were amazing this year and now as winter is approaching, we are looking forward to Thanksgiving this Thursday. Pastor Bill has been talking about things we can be thankful for in our church family and church building. There are so many things coming up from now until the end of December and Worship & Music would like to give you some things to be thankful for and look forward to in the next few weeks.

Nov 27th is the first Sunday of Advent. We will be having Communion that day. The orchestra will be playing for the morning service. And Pastor Bill will begin his Advent sermon series. The theme is **"Flames for the Faithful"**. Each Sunday during Advent he plans to have someone light an Advent candle and we will hear about what that candle represents.

Nov. 27 Prophecy Candle

Dec. 11 Shepherds Candle

Dec. 4 Bethlehem Candle

Dec. 18 Angels Candle

Some other things will be happening in our services as we go through December.

Dec. 11 The Youth choir is planning something very special, and you won't want to miss this!

Dec. 18 The Handbells will play the prelude and the Adult Choir will share a beautiful cantata.

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve is on Saturday this year -

at 6:20pm the evening will begin with some special preludes

at 6:30pm the service of Lessons & Carols will begin

Dec. 25 Christmas morning we get to celebrate Christmas together at usual time of 10:30am.

Pastor Bill will have a message for us, there will be some special music, and lots of singing for all to enjoy.

Also, during December, there are several other musical events that you might enjoy and several of our church family will be participating in these events.

Friday, Dec 2 at 7:30pm Bach Choir will present their Christmas Concert here at Center Presby

Saturday, Dec 3 at 7:30pm Bach Choir will present their Christmas Concert at Tower Presby, Grove City

Monday, Dec 5 at 7:00pm Holiday Handbell Concert at Tower Presby, Grove City

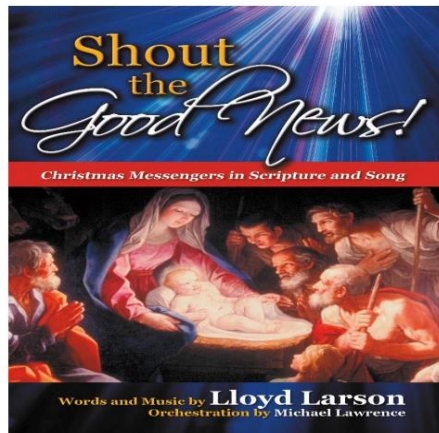
There will be several handbell choirs performing along with a well-known handbell soloist.



Saturday, Dec 10 at 7:00pm ACTS Choir & Orchestra will present the Christmas Cantata "Shout the Good News" at Mt. Chestnut Presby, Butler

Sunday, Dec 11 at 3:00pm ACTS Choir & Orchestra will present the Christmas Cantata "Shout the Good News" here at Center Presby

There is a lot going on in our church and neighboring towns in the next few weeks. So, if you are getting a bit stressed or tired of shopping, may we recommend spending some quiet time meditating on the message of Advent and Christmas through God's word in our services and the beautiful music that is right here at our fingertips. Come let us adore Him!



**Presented by  
ACTS Choir and Orchestra**

Saturday, December 10, 2022  
Mt. Chestnut Presbyterian Church  
Butler, Pa.  
**PERFORMANCE TIME 7:00 p.m.**



Sunday, December 11, 2022  
**Center Presbyterian Church  
Slippery Rock, Pa.  
PERFORMANCE TIME 3:00 p.m.**

Contact us at:  
Website –  
[www.adoringchristthrusong.com](http://www.adoringchristthrusong.com)  
Facebook - Adoring Christ Thru Song  
Director – Kate Cotter  
[k.s.eberle@gmail.com](mailto:k.s.eberle@gmail.com) or 724-496-0118

## The Bach Society

Under the Direction of Leo R. Sayles  
Invites you to attend their choral concert

***'Round the Glory Manger***



Free to the public

Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Center Presbyterian Church  
Slippery Rock 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Tower Presbyterian  
Church Grove City 7:30 PM

For more information go to [www.bachsocietycommunitychoir.com](http://www.bachsocietycommunitychoir.com)