

Service for the Lord's Day

December 19, 2021 11:00 a.m.

4th Sunday of Advent



New to Hunter? Here's some information to help you feel at home. Where you see asterisks in the bulletin, you're invited to stand. When we pass the peace, you're invited to greet those around you with a joyful sign of Christ's peace. We offer a nursery for newborns through 3-year-olds. Thank you for visiting Hunter. We're glad you're here! Before you leave, please place a welcome card in the offering plate.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" arr. Diane Bish

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship

God of Stars and Angels, reveal yourself to us.

Come now in power and Glory.

In this season of nativity we wait.

Come to us again in Jesus Christ.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

*Hymn 128 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

Prayer of Confession

God of marvels and mysteries, we often miss the signs you send us. We focus on the here and now, what we are doing, never seeing beyond our little world. People in need go unnoticed, lonely soul are left in their isolation. We have eyes but fail to see. We have hearts and minds and hands but fail to act. In this season when You give us so much, teach us Your way of selfless giving. Open us again to the wider world of Your reign. Amen.

(moment for silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" GLORY TO GOD

*Passing of the Peace

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the New Testament Matthew 1:18-24 (N.T., p. 1)

Reading from the New Testament John 1:1-5, 9, 14, 16-18 (N.T., p. 91)

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Message "He is Here" Ray Mendenhall

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Presenting Our Tithes & Offerings (with Hunger Offering)

Special Music "O Holy Night" Adolphe Adams
Baritone, Taeun Moon

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

*Hymn 134

"Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

*Charge & Benediction

*Hymn 561

"Amen"

AMEN

Postlude

Toccata on "Adeste Fideles"

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Depart in Peace

*Please stand as you are able.

Household Prayer: God of grace, your eternal Work took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom for the sake of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sunday Announcements

A warm welcome to all visitors. We are glad you chose to worship with us today.

Our liturgist today is: **Debi Hardin**

Acolyte: **Colin Smith**

Prayer Requests

Prayers for: Becky Gift, Lori Taylor (a friend of Lynn Davis' who is battling cancer), Jim & Betty Scott, Susan Durant, Kriis Zeps and Rue Wallace.

This prayer request was posted by the community on the whiteboard in front of the church:

- All those affected by the recent tornadoes in Western KY and beyond.

You have seen changes in the sanctuary decorations as we've moved through Advent. On this, its fourth Sunday, the story is nearly complete. In the windows, angels have come to the shepherds to tell them the great news. A lone camel rests in the shade of palm trees, unaware that there is a long journey in his future. Mary and Joseph are awaiting the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Joy Offering: By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God's Gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and by developing our future leaders at Presbyterian related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Christmas Joy Offering gift envelopes will be available in the pew racks through the Christmas Eve service.

Join us on Christmas Eve for a service of lessons and carols at 6:00p.m. All are welcome!

A big thank you to all who helped with the Christmas Goody Bags:

- To those who provided items for the bags,
- To those who packed the bags,
- To those who helped to distribute the bags on Sunday after worship,
- To those who delivered bags to members who were unable to get to Hunter on Sunday.

In all, we assembled and distributed 60 goody bags. Many thanks to all involved.

The church office will be closed Friday, December 24 and Monday, December 27 in observance of the Christmas holiday.

If you would like to talk with Ray Mendenhall, he can be reached at 859-940-1735 or you can email him at: rwmend@gmail.com.

Thank you to those who shared in leading today's service: Hyunjin Kwak, Allen Fletcher, Taeun Moon, Debi Hardin, Colin Smith and Val Zeps.

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Hunter Presbyterian Church

(859) 277-5126 www.hunterlex.org

Check us out on Facebook: www.facebook.com/HunterPresbyterian

Rev. Ray Mendenhall, Transitional Pastor;

Hyunjin Kwak, Director of Music Ministry; Allen Fletcher, Organist;
Kevin Eddy, Property Manager; Lynn Davis, Administrative Assistant.