



Community
Presbyterian
Church
OF CLARENDON HILLS



Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

9:00 a.m.

Prelude

(Please use the prelude to make the transition from getting here to being here.
Open yourself to the Spirit of God moving in our midst.)

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lauren Cochran

*Sung Call to Worship 137 (vs. 1)

He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN

*Opening Sentences

Dan Youngman

One: Jesus promises: I am coming soon.

All: **We have been counting the days and marking the weeks.**

One: The mystery of the ages is now revealed to us.

All: **To God be the glory forever! Let us worship God.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Kathy, Walter, Andrew, Hanna, Kendall Florence

One: This morning we mark the fourth Sunday of Advent, our liturgical season of waiting and watching for the coming of the Messiah.

One: Our hearts long for Christ to come to earth; to bring light into the darkness and a peace that overcomes conflict.

One: In the mystery of these moments with angel messengers and God showing up in the most peculiar places, we pray our hearts, eyes and ears are open to receive the Christ.
(light four purple candles)

One: Let us pray: Holy God, inspire us to joyfully welcome the confounding news that you greet us as an infant child, innocent, poor, among animals in a stable and with no royal proclamation. Bless us with such belief that we always respond: "Come, let us go to Bethlehem." Amen.

Sung Response Hymn 89 *For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits* MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS
(All sing refrain, v. 4, refrain)

A Time for our Youngest Disciples (9:00) Lauren
(During the singing of the following hymn, children First Grade and younger may go to their Sunday School room with their teachers.)

***Hymn 113** *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

Call to Confession Dan
Let us confess our sins to the One whose mercy endures from generation to generation.

Prayer of Confession
Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us; yet we often make plans without listening to you and discover that our human agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive those times when we forget to whom we belong, pardon our actions that fail to demonstrate your love on earth, and fill us with hope and courage, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Halleluiah. Amen.**

***Sung Response to Pardon 583** *Glory to God* GLORIA (TAIZÉ)

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, let us share the peace of Christ.
The Peace of Christ be with you.
All: **And also with you.**
(Let us exchange the peace of Christ with our neighbors.)

Anthem *Angels Are Making Their Rounds* Pepper Choplin
Chancel Choir Ensemble

Prayer for Inspiration Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-14 (N.T. p. 54)
One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! This is the Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon *In the Most Peculiar Places* Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Beth and Lauren

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy... *(prayer continues)*...

... We join our voices with the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Hymn 552

All Sing: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

One: *(prayer continues)* You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ...
Great is the mystery of faith:

Hymn 553

All Sing: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer (using "sins")

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

This is the Lord's Table.

All who long to know Jesus Christ are welcome at this table.

Communion will be served by intinction.

Please walk up the center aisle to reach any of the stations,
tear a piece of bread, dip it into the cup and receive.

Pre-cut gluten free bread is offered at the center station.

The cups are filled with grape juice.

Please return to your seat via the outside aisles.

Pastors will serve in the pews for any who desire to remain seated.

(Gluten-free Ingredients: Sweet Ali's Bread Flour Mix (white rice flour, tapioca starch, sorghum flour, millet flour, sweet rice flour, brown rice flour, baking powder, xanthan gum), milk, eggs, egg whites (liquid egg whites, triethyl citrate added as a whipping aid), butter, brown sugar, yeast, sea salt, non-GMO canola oil. **Contains: dairy, eggs and corn.)**

During the serving of communion:

Hymn 507 *Come to the Table of Grace*

Hymn 527 (Opt. A) *Eat This Bread*

Hymn 133 (vs. 1, 3) *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Prayer after Communion

All: God of shepherds and sheep, we give you thanks that you have gathered us here, revealed to us your glory, and fed us with your mercy. Now send us out with good news for all – for us a child is born: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(Children in **grades 2 – 8** remain in worship as there is no Sunday School today.)

The Offering

Call to Offering

Dan

Offertory

***Doxology**

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**

Church Tidings

Lauren

***Hymn 140**

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

***Charge and Benediction**

Beth

***Sung Response to Benediction 137 (vs. 3)** *He Came Down*

HE CAME DOWN

He came down that we may have peace,

he came down that we may have peace,

he came down that we may have peace,

hallelujah forevermore.

Postlude

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Liturgist: Dan Youngman

SERVING COMMUNION: Sam Dammers, Matt Vold

USHERING THIS MORNING: Mark Schloegel, Christian Schloegel

OUR PASTORS WELCOME ALL CHILDREN

in worship — the squiggly, the sleeping, the giggling and the goldfish snacks

Next Sunday in Worship

December 31

One morning worship at 10:30 am

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers will be preaching on

Luke 2:22-40, Psalm 148

Messiah by Name

Nursery Care provided — no Sunday School

Space for your reflections

Christmas Eve Services:

- 3:30 p.m. Family Worship Service**
Christmas story for younger children and their families
- 7:00 p.m. Family Worship & Communion Service**
Christmas story for older children and their families
The LOGOS Choir sings
Nursery care available
- 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship, Lessons and Carols**
Chancel Choir and trumpet
Nursery care available
- 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship & Communion, Lessons and Carols**
Chancel Choir and trumpet



Adults and children of any age are welcome at all services.

Sunday, December 31, one worship service at 10:30 a.m.
Nursery care available

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ORDERED POINSETTIAS

to decorate the sanctuary. You may take your plants home **after the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service**, or during office hours of 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 27, through Friday, December 29. Please check for your name on the foil.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will have limited office hours for the holiday.

Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26: closed

Wednesday through Friday, December 27 – 29: open 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Monday, January 1, 2018: closed



On this holy and joy-filled morning, we extend to you a warm welcome and invite you to a deeper life with God through the worship and programs at Community Presbyterian Church.

Worship:

- **Sundays at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. (December 31, 10:30 a.m. only)**
- Communion celebrated at least monthly
- Childcare for young children at 9:00 a.m.
- Worship Together, worship geared for youth group, but all are welcome, one Sunday per month at 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday evening worship during Advent and Lent

Adult Education and Spiritual Formation:

- *The Present Word Bible Study*, Sundays, 9:00 a.m.
- *Tracing Our Faith Bible Study*, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
- *Men's Discussion Group*, Tuesdays, 7:00 a.m.
- *Thursday Morning Devotions* (book and discussion group), Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- *Presbyterian Women Bible Study Circles*, 4th Tuesday, various times & locations
- *Beautiful Mess Bible Study*, (discussion group for young moms) Mondays, 9:00 a.m., twice a month at Starbucks
- Special Adult Education classes, discussion groups and retreats are held throughout the year.

Children:

- Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. (Nursery–8th) 2nd through 8th grade attend worship with their families until 9:40 when they go to their respective Sunday School rooms until 10:15.
- K-1st Grade Worship/Cherub Choir, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
- LOGOS program, October–March, Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. (2nd–8th)
- Vacation Bible School, Summer 2018 (K–6th)
- CPC Preschool, weekdays for 2 ½, 3, 4, and 5-year-olds
- Child Care Center, before/after school care for 5–12-year-olds

Youth:

- Disciples (9th grade Confirmation class) Sundays, 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- Post-Disciples (10th–12th grades youth group) Sundays, 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- Westminster Fellowship (9th–12th grades) Sundays at 7:00 p.m.
- Youth Mission Caravans 2017: West Virginia—June 9-16; Camp Courageous 1—July 1-July 7; Virginia—July 14-21; Camp Courageous August 5-11.

Music:

- Chancel Choir, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
- Clarion Bells, Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.
- LOGOS Choir (2nd–8th grade), Wednesday afternoons
- Cherub Choir (K–1st grade), Sundays, 10:30 a.m.

Support and Concern:

- Stephen Ministry (providing one-to-one compassion and prayer for people experiencing difficulty or change)
- Older Adult Ministries (assistance for older adults and their families to provide resources and support)
- Caregiver's Support Group, last Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.
- Pastoral Care with pastors
- Homebound Communion

Fellowship:

- Presbyterian Women Luncheon, 1st Tuesday, 12:00 p.m.
- Mardi Gras, All-Church picnic, Progressive Dinner, Thanksgiving Dinner (sponsored by the Board of Deacons)
- "50+ Friends" Luncheons, held periodically throughout the year
- Circle of Voices Women's Book Group, 3rd Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Mission:

- Public Action to Deliver Shelter (P.A.D.S.)
(every Saturday night Oct. to May — CPC staffs 2nd Saturday)
- Women’s Mission Sewing Circle, Thursday, 9:00 a.m.
- Partnership with Iglesia Presbiteriana–Reformada Church in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba
- “Meal-a-Month” bags, Association House, LOVE Christian Clearinghouse, Hinsdale Community Services, People’s Resource Center and more.



For more information about our programs,
please visit our website at
www.chcpc.org
or follow us on Facebook!

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Lauren Cochran
Cyndi Frost
Deb Helms
Gregg Sewell
Kevin Chunko
Paula Cyphers
Kris Veenbaas
Charlie Justema
Laurie Scola
Nathan Schulz
Cathy Stahr
Stephen Ministers

The Ministers: All the Members
Pastor
Associate Pastor
Director of Children’s Ministries
Director of Youth Ministries
Director of Music Ministries/Choirs
Organist / Accompanist
Co-Director of Older Adult Ministries
Co-Director of Older Adult Ministries
Custodian
Financial Administrator
Inquirer under care
Church Administrator

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