

Grace Community Presbyterian Church
2751 Grant Street, Lower Burrell, PA 15068
(724)339-9661

Website: www.gracecommunitypresbyterian.org

Worship Service is at 10:00am
Sunday School is at 9:00am

Church Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth W. Foust
Secretary: Reitha Bieranoski
Christian Ed.: Terri Wilson
Organist: Kenneth Mc Geary
Treasurer: Ray Zerjav
Custodian: John Baron and Paul Zurich

Elders

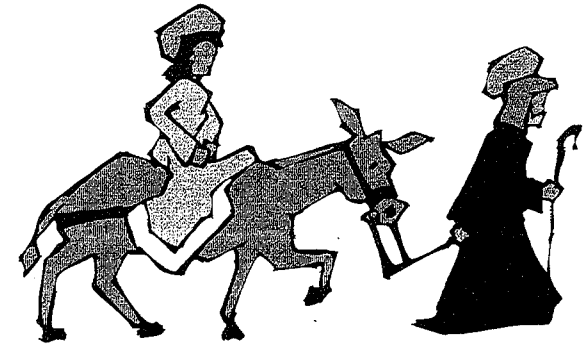
Donna Curll
Susan Malarkey
Bill Ludwig
Sharon Rupert
Jack Trinclisti
Henry Kedzierski
Lisa Edwards*
Denny Lewandowski*
Marge Montanari
Bill Renard
Valerie Lester*
John Napierski*
E. La Vonne Pelisari*
Doug Wright
Melody Highfield

*Denotes Chairman

Deacons

Jen Beck
Dale Wolfe
Deb Roskey
Shirley Wilson
Barb Foust
Terri Ludwig
Reitha Bieranoski
Teresa Howard
Michael Cochenour
Marge Bistline
Hazel Basta
Sandy Driver
Cathy Brady
Dan Howard
Phyllis Paolo

*Grace Community Presbyterian Church
December 9, 2018*



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

"LOOK TO THE WORD"

Sunday	<i>God's Word is a Lamp</i>	Psalms 119:103-5
Monday	<i>A Virgin shall Conceive</i>	Isaiah 7: 10-14
Tuesday	<i>To Us a Child is Born</i>	Isaiah 9: 2-7
Wednesday	<i>Behold, Your King</i>	Zechariah 9:9-10
Thursday	<i>A Light from Bethlehem</i>	Micah 5: 2-5a
Friday	<i>A Light Shining in the Dark</i>	2 Peter 1: 16-21
Saturday	<i>Time to Wake from Sleep</i>	Romans 13: 11-14

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

- Today Youth Fellowship (6:00-8:00pm)
Dec. 11 Bible Study (10:00am)
Mission Comm. (7:00pm)
Dec. 12 Finance (7:00pm)
Choir (7:00pm)
Bible Study (7:00pm)
- LOOKING AHEAD
- Dec. 16 Deacons (9:00am)
Worship (10:00am)
Dec. 18 Bible Study (10:00am)
Dec. 19 Bible Study (7:00pm)
Choir (7:00pm)
Dec. 23 The Choir will be presenting their cantata during Worship
There will be a **Grief Service** at 3:00pm that afternoon
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (7:00pm)
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion
(11:00pm)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN

ANTHEM *Keep Your Lamps* Chancel Choir

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Bobby Conroy and the Jr./Sr. High Class

CHILDREN'S SERMON Rev. Ken Foust
Bible Story time with Miss Cindy – Pre-school thru 1st grade

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 1: 67-79 (pg. 889) Phyllis Paolo

SERMON **The Dawn Is Here** Rev. Ken Foust

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **The Apostles Creed**
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

***HYMN** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* (insert)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

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 and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

CALL FOR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Lovelace

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*HYMN *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* (insert)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Redeemer come! I open wide My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide. Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

*POSTLUDE *Toccata on "Veni Emmanuel"* Long

The **Sacrament of Baptism** will be celebrated at Grace Church. If you are desiring to be baptized or have a child to be baptized, please call the church office (724)339-9661 or e-mail (ken.foust@gracecommunitypresbyterian.org).

Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after the Worship Service in Cana Hall. Your host this morning is Maureen Lamanna. Greeting you this morning is Kathy Pedatella and Rich Roach. The Deacons greeting you are Marge Bistline and Hazel Basta.

The **Prayer Chain** is being updated, please let Marge Bistline know if you still want to be a part of it, or if you want your name taken off. You can also call the office at (724)339-9661 and let Reitha know. Thank you.

TODAY'S MUSIC: J.S. Bach's Schuberle Chorales consist of six chorale preludes which are organ transcriptions of arias from Bach's own cantatas. Bach took the music from cantata #137 that he had written almost 25 years earlier. The cantata is based solely on the hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty." For the chorale-prelude, even though it would not be sung, Bach titled it after the hymn "**Come Thou, Jesu, from Heaven to Earth.**"

Come Thou, Jesu, from heaven to earth now descending?

Can it be heaven and earth are in harmony blending?

Eternal God, Shall this, my sorrow and need,

Quicken Thy great condescending.

As with many of the slave songs, **Keep Your Lamps** came from hearing a sermon. It is based on Matt. 25:1-13, where Jesus tells the story of the wise and foolish virgins. They had been told that the bridegroom would be coming. They got their lamps, trimmed them, set them burning and went to the appointed place. However, the bridegroom did not arrive at the appointed time and the foolish ones had brought enough oil only for one night. While they were returning to get more oil the bridegroom came, and they were locked out of the wedding. Jesus tells his disciples (including us), you do not know the hour of the Son of man's return. Be ready!

Today's offertory is based on the plainsong melody *Divinum Mysterium* (Divine Mystery), used as the setting for "**Of the Father's Love Begotten**" (#240 in our hymnal). The original Latin text was written by the prolific and prominent author of early sacred Latin poetry, Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, (348-c.413). While many Christmas hymns tell the story of Christ's birth, "**Of the Father's Love Begotten**" celebrates the birth of Jesus with a rear view – "ere the worlds began to be" – and a forward look to a time of "thanksgiving and unwearied praises" and "eternal victory."