



Holly Presbyterian Church
The First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Pennies from Heaven A voluntary small change offering for new building projects.

Prelude

***Call to Worship** *from Isaiah 2:4 and 35: 1, 2, 5, 6*

One: The desert will sing and rejoice

Many: And the wilderness blossom with flowers.

One: All will see the Lord's splendor,

Many: See the Lord's greatness and power.

One: Tell everyone who is anxious:

Many: Be strong and do not be afraid.

One: The blind will be able to see;

Many: The deaf will be able to hear;

One: The lame will leap and dance,

Many: Those who can't speak will shout.

One: They will hammer their swords into ploughs;

Many: They will turn spears into pruning-knives.

One: The nations will lie in peace;

Many: No more will they train for war.

One: This is the promise of God.

Many: God's promise will be fulfilled.

***Opening Hymn 2** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

***Prayer of Confession**

We bring to you-

**The unfulfilled promises to you and to each other,
the unfulfilled promises to ourselves,
the unopened presents of time, of interest, of love
which others have offered.**

We give to you-

**The thank yous that were never said,
the apologies that were never made,
the time that was never spent.**

We offer to you, even with reluctance-

**Any disappointment or hurt,
any jealousy or pettiness,
which will dement the future
unless we are liberated from it today.**

And we do this

**because your unfinished business
is to make us complete,
and we will not stand in the way of your purposes.**

**Make us merciful as you are merciful,
generous in our warmth towards self and others.**

This we ask in Jesus' name.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: Receive the Good News of God's forgiveness, and the accompaniment of God's steadfast presence.

All: Thanks be to God. May our spirits be stirred by God's faithfulness towards us, moving us to live with compassion and love. Amen.

Come as a Child

(We set apart this time specifically for children as we reflect upon the words of scripture for the day. There is no need to move from where you are, unless you find it helpful to come closer. Adults, too, are invited to listen as a child might and to participate.)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hope

Mather

One: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. *(The first candle is lit.)*

Many: God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Isaiah 2:1-5 Pew Bible (OT) Pg. 594

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

3 Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, either shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Reading** Matthew 24:36-44 Pew Bible (NT) Pg. 26

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Rev. Brooke Pickrell

***Hymn 5** Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Prayers of the People

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

One: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace—
hallowed be your name.

Christ our Lord, you descended to earth, to a lowly manger to bring all nations
under your rule
and draw us into your holy and perfect presence.

We bow at your manger in awe of your might.

Immanuel, God with us—hallowed be your name.

Many: Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

One: Prince of Peace, make your kingdom complete.

May we prepare a way for your kingdom
wherever there is violence and hatred
wherever there is oppression and injustice
wherever there is quarreling and alienation.

May we prepare a way for your kingdom of peace,
where the wolf will live with the lamb and the leopard will lie down with the kid.

In us, through us, and around us, your kingdom come.

Many: Give us this day our daily bread.

One: Bread of life, feed us with your truth.

In a season of greed and selfish desires
may we see that we are sustained only by your grace.
May our discontent disappear as we approach the day of your coming.

Many: Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

One: Come to us, Savior of the world.

Many: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

One: Protect us from the dangers and temptations we face each day.

Comfort all who are suffering in their hearts or in their bodies;
give them health and peace to sing of your power.

Many: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

One: Word who became flesh and lived among us,
we have seen your glory, full of grace and truth.

You come to us now, and you will come to us again in glory,
when we will join all heaven and earth in giving you blessing
and honor and glory and might forever!

Until that glorious day, we praise you for becoming one of us,
And we long for your glory to be fully revealed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

All: Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn 8 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

***Charge**

***Blessing**

Postlude

- The Call to Worship is from Wild Goose Worship Group, *Cloth for the Cradle: Worship Resources and Readings for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany* (Glasgow, Scotland: Wild Goose Resource Group, 1997).
- The Communal Prayer of Confession is modified and borrowed from liturgy provided by The Church of Scotland.
- The Prayers of the People are modified from a prayer provided by The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship.

Serving in the celebration of worship this week:
Worship Leader **Bob Killewald**
A/V **Gerry Jackson & Sound Karen Haneline**



On Sunday December 11th after worship, we will have a Special Congregational Meeting for the purpose to elect elders and Nominating Committee. Please plan on attending.

From the Congregational Care Team & Outreach Team

- The Fenton Ambassadors are coming to Holly Presbyterian Church on Sunday December 4th at 7pm. We need your help with supplying the refreshments afterwards. A signup sheet is available in the narthex. If you have any questions, please see Cathie Killewald.
- We need your help in advertising for this event. Flyers are available to give to friends and family or email them. We need to put flyers in the stores downtown and north of town including the Holly Plaza.



- We need a volunteer to sign up to make coffee each week. Coffee time is at 10:30am

Prayer Concerns –

- **For healing, strength, comfort and peace: for Pete Olson** (Carlee Ramirez's brother) who continues to battle colon cancer; the **family** of Beth Dryer as they mourn her passing; the **family** of John Bianchette (good friends of Brian & Laura Parker); **Tony** (Cathie Killewald's friend); **Steve in FL** (Friend of Cathy & Bob Killewald) who has stage 4 bladder cancer; **Jim Killewald** (Bob & Cathie's son)
- **Prayers for those suffering from natural and man-made disasters:** Hurricane Nicole, for all those affected by the school shooting in St. Louis, Hurricane Ian, the fire in downtown Holly this summer, and the war in Ukraine.



Bring protection and healing to the people of Ukraine. Show them that You are with them and that You hear their prayers. Strengthen those who are hurt, alone, or broken, and Bless them with Your Peace and Hope.

Finance Team

Weekly	Average budgeted needs	Income received	Attendance
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Nov 20th	\$1,969.00	\$2,785.00	22
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Calendar of Events

Fri Dec 2 nd	10am-12pm	Baby Pantry
Sun Dec 4 th	10:15am-10:45am	Bible Study
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship
	11:00am	Worship
Sun Dec 4 th	7:00pm	Fenton Ambassadors Concert
Tues Dec 6 th	6:00pm	Outreach Team Meeting
	7:00 pm	Information Technology Meeting

Directory



We are working on an **updated directory**. *Please check the copy on the table in the narthex* and make any additions or corrections to your information (or contact the office at 248-634-9494).