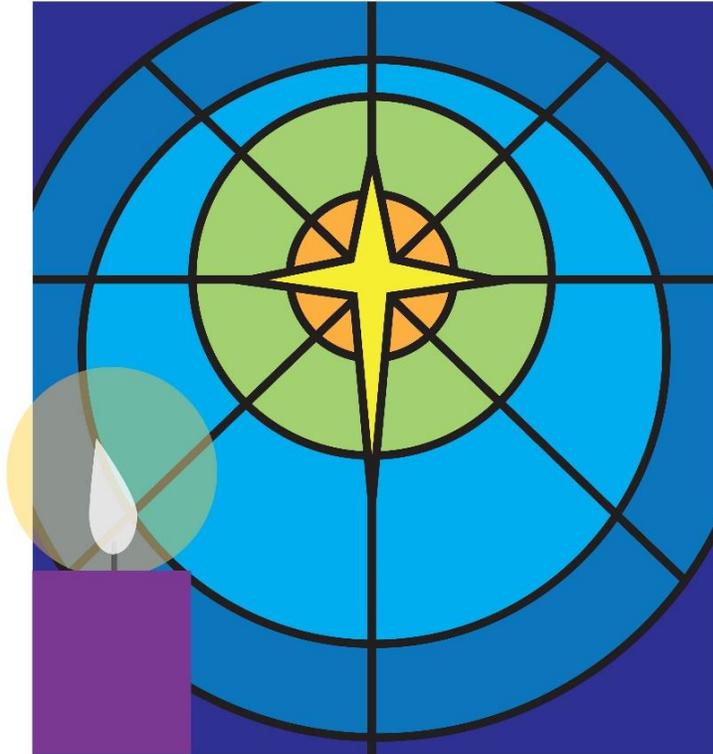


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF LANSING



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

510 W. Ottawa Street ■ Lansing, Michigan 48933

(517) 482-0668 www.lansingfirstpres.com

Facebook - Lansing First Presbyterian

Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

November 28, 2021 10:00 a.m.

1st Sunday of Advent

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In order to maintain our worship environment, please turn your cell phone off.

PRELUDE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Lee Dengler

Marty Livingston and Allison Carpenter, Hand Chimes
Chrisann Lowe, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Greg Botting

Leader: When will God's promise be fulfilled?

People: The days are surely coming.

Leader: When we will be saved?

People: The days are surely coming.

Leader: How will we know the signs to take place?

People: The days are surely coming when a branch from David shall come forth to execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Leader: What shall it be called?

People: The Lord is our righteousness.

++HYMN 88 [GTG] *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verses 1-4)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
 and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 our spirits by thine advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2) | Dec. 20: O Key of David (5) | Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1) |
| Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3) | Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6) | |
| Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4) | Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7) | |

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Davies Family

Reader 1: This week we begin the season of Advent, when the days grow short and darkness closes in. We are preparing to celebrate at Christmas the birth of Jesus, who is the Light of the World.

Reader 2: May this wreath remind us of the hope and joy that Jesus brings to the world.

People: Lord, we gather with the people who waited one thousand years for your coming.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Greg Botting

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. We've looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue.

Sharpen our minds clouded by worries. Sober our lives addicted to privilege.

Show us the signs of your coming, that we may stand before you, the Son of Man, in whose name we pray.

Assurance of Pardon

++ Response to Forgiveness 100[GTG] My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout (refrain)

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the
fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the
dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Greg Botting

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

People: **And also with you.**

Share the passing of the peace with those near you without touching please!
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! ("Angels We Have Heard On High" refrain)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Greg Botting

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 25:1-10

Greg Botting

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ² O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. ³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. ⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. ⁵ Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. ⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. ⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! ⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. ¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.****CHORAL ANTHEM**

O Come Emmanuel
with Mira Cheng, cello

by Elaine Hagenberg

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21:24-36

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

²⁴ they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. ²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

SERMON

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

++HYMN 357[GTG] *The Days are Surely Coming*

This text uses imagery from Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Matthew 24:29-36 / Mark 13:24-32 / Luke 21:25-36. These passages are especially associated with the beginning of Advent, a season that looks forward to Christ's second coming while also preparing us to remember his first coming.

The Days Are Surely Coming 357

1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,
 2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom-ised one,
 3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last

when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.
 when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.
 the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.

My righ-teous-ness and jus-tice will spread through-out the land
 Though earth and heav-en trem-ble, stand up and do not fear,
 Then righ-teous-ness and jus-tice will spread through-out the land

and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.
 for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.
 and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

- Leader: The Lord be with you
- People: And also with you.**
- Leader: Lift up your hearts.
- People: We lift them up to the Lord.**
- Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

(Prayers continue)

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.

CHORAL AMEN

Amen

UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Confession of 1967--Inclusive Language Text):
In recognition of special gifts of the Spirit and for the ordering of its life as a community, the church calls, trains, and authorizes certain members for leadership and oversight. The persons qualified for these duties in accordance with the polity of the church are set apart by ordination or other appropriate act and thus made responsible for their special ministries.

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

Offering

Choral Anthem

Zion Hears the Watchmen's Voices
with Ben English, tenor

by J.S. Bach

++ Doxology 607[GTG] *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
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

++HYMN 82[GTG] *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*
With its opening, "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season. It's blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

++BENEDICTION

++BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS 306[GTG]

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

++POSTLUDE

Sergei Kvitk

**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE USE CAMERAS TO BROADCAST VIDEO OF OUR CHURCH SERVICES.* Annual License w/Podcasting Renewal, Category C average weekly attendance 101 to 200. A-731144 for Apr 16, 2021 - Apr 15, 202

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, November 28 1st Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
11:15a.m. Adult Forum

Monday, November 29

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel

Tuesday, November 30

9:00 a.m.-2 Global Institute of Lansing classes
9:00 a.m.-11 Zoom Coffee Hour with Prince
5:15 p.m. Bells of First rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Yoga
6:30 p.m. Bagpiper's rehearsal – Litten Hall
6:30 p.m. LanSINGout rehearsal – Chapel

Wednesday, December 1

9:00 a.m.-5 AARP tax training – Litten Hall
9:00 a.m.-2 Global Institute of Lansing classes
10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study – Zoom
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal – Chapel
6:00 p.m. Mid MI Photo Club Meeting – Chapel
6:30 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting - Zoom

Thursday, December 2

9:00 a.m.-2 Global Institute of Lansing classes
10:00 a.m.-12 AARP tax training – Litten Hall
11:00 a.m. Library Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. Global Institute of Lansing classes
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Friday, December 3

Noon Visitation for Jean Hopkins
1:00 p.m. Jean Hopkins service – Chapel
5:30 p.m. Yoga

Saturday, December 4

10:00 a.m.-12 Lange rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsman Concert

Sunday, December 5 2nd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
11:15a.m. Adult Forum
3:00 p.m. Lansing Symphony Concert – Chapel
7:00 p.m. Paul Keller Concert - Chapel

INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

Liturgist	Greg Botting
Organist/Pianist	Sergei Kvitko
Director of Music	Megan Higle
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Jenkins

Concerns of the congregation:

In care facilities: Jerry Bockes (Eaton County Health and Rehab)
Jean Dietrich (Story Point of Grand Ledge)
Dianne Rector (Rosewood Manor in DeWitt)
Emma Lou Knight (Fairview Adult Foster Care in Grand Ledge)

FLOWER CHART There are many dates available on the chart to celebrate special days in our church family. The new price is \$50. Simply sign up on the chart (in the office hall), indicate the occasion that you would like celebrated or honored (birthday, anniversary or memorial), write a check to the church and give it to Tracy, and we will order for you. If you would like to purchase or provide a silk arrangement for use when we don't have a fresh arrangement scheduled, please see Judy Whitman. Thank you! - Worship Committee.

HEARING ASSISTANCE (The devices have been recently checked and they DO work!) **LARGE PRINT AND BRAILLE BULLETINS** (If you would like a Braille bulletin, please let the church office know ahead of time.) **We also have CUSHIONS available if you find the pews uncomfortable!** Please see one of the ushers if any of these aids to worship will enhance your participation in the service.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST INCLUDED IN THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE DURING SUNDAY WORSHIP, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE THE PREVIOUS THURSDAY MORNING. Please keep prayer requests brief, we will lift up names on Sunday mornings. Please contact Chris DeYonke if you would like a more detailed all church prayer request.

BANNER COLORS AND THEIR MEANINGS We bring back all the colors of the Christian year to remember what they stand for, which helps ground us and help us remember our purpose on earth. Today the paraments have been changed to purple, with the coming of Advent and the beginning of a new Christian year. Purple is the color of royalty, which we use in preparation for the arrival of Jesus on Christmas Eve. We use white for Christmas season, Easter season, and Christ the King. Next we will use green for common time – or as I prefer to think of it – growing time -when we grow in our faith. Red will be used on Pentecost, which stands for the Holy Spirit. It bears noting that most denominations only celebrate the Holy Spirit this ONE Sunday per year, which is an interesting commentary on how we view our faith and the importance of the Holy Spirit, and perhaps we should consider upping the role of the Spirit in our worship experiences! We also have banners confirming our solidarity with Christians around the globe, with an African print and an Asian design. If anyone has ideas for other banners, please feel free to talk with me! Gwen Botting, 616-755-2221 or gwenbotting9496@gmail.com.

JOIN VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR WITH DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH, PRINCE SOLACE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, ANYTIME FROM 9AM-11AM.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Evenings 6:00 to 6:45, Dec 2, 9, 16 and 23.

Adult Education Committee is very excited to present an Advent Bible Study titled *Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation: An Adult Advent Study*. It will be in person at the church in the library or parlor, or over zoom in your home. The material will parallel the children and youth material from the prior Sunday so your younger members are also welcome on the zoom and may have some unique insights to add to our discussion. The materials you will need for the "at home" sessions are an Advent Wreath, candles, Bible, writing utensil, Resource Sheet and Participant Handout. The Participant Handout should be read prior to the session for maximum effect.

~The only material you will need for the in-person session at church will be The Participant Handout (read prior to the session).

~We will send out all 4 sessions (in PDF form) to view at home in an all-church email the week of November 22nd.

~ We will also have the packets of the 4 sessions to pass out at the entrances to the sanctuary on Sundays, November 14 TODAY, 21 and 28.

~Printed packets of the 4 sessions will also be in the church office.

~Packets can be mailed to you by request; call the church office and let Tracy know.

Let this Advent be a time of deeper learning about
Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation.

ADULT FORUM 2021

(11:15-12:15 Adult Ed Room downstairs) (Childcare is available through this time.)

Sunday, November 28

ACT UGANDA- Education and Survival

Dave and Karen Viele will present pictures and updates of work done through ACT Uganda during the pandemic. Their talk will include new innovation and planning for 2022 with Muko High School and the Rubanda District in Uganda.

Continued below!

**Sunday, December 5
Butterfly Garden Exhibit**



LINK leadership will help spearhead the creation of the **Butterfly Garden Exhibit**; an intergenerational project that uses art as a healing mechanism to deepen our faith and interconnectedness within our congregation and local community. Tune in to hear more about it!

**Sunday, December 12
Sale of Fair Trade Products in the Chapel gathering area**

***The Adult Education Committee wishes everyone safe
and blessed holidays.***

*No Adult Forum December 19 or 26.
See you in January!*