

Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 22, 2024

Order of Worship – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prelude "O Holy Father" by Robert J. Powell

Welcome & Announcements

Choral Anthem

Gathering Prayer

✠ Gathering Carol "While Shepherds Watched their Flocks" #135

Lighting the Candle of Love & Prayer The Parsons Family

✠ Carol of Love "Love Divine All Loves Excelling" #92, v.1, 3

Welcome Friends at Home

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People & *The Lord's Prayer*

Special Music "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Youth Skit "His Name Is Jesus"

Congregation Carol "Away in a Manger" #157

Children (PreK-5th grade) are invited to Kids' Club.

Message "He Shall Be Called... Messiah the Lord"

Giving our Gifts "Voluntary" by Samuel Sebastian Wesley

✠ Doxology for the Nativity "For Unto Us" # 146

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

✠ Carol of Sending "Silent Night Holy Night" #147

✠ Blessing

✠ Choral Benediction

✠ Postlude "Epilogue" by Samuel Sebastian Wesley

✠ All are invited to stand as they are able.

Credits: Gathering Prayer adapted from Inclusive Gathering Birmingham U.K. All other prayers adapted from Homiletics Online.

Welcome to our Church!

Thank you for worshipping with us

If you are a visitor, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card, which you will find in the pew rack. You can place the card in the offering plate.

Let us know if we can assist you.

Sunday Servants

Usher: Joan Watros & Sue Barry

AV System: Dave & Tim Parsons

Music Director: Scott Miller

Organist: Michael Singbusch

Kids' Club: Fran Sincerbeaux

Flowers: Advent Flowers

Preacher: Nancy Didway

All for the glory of God.

Prayer and Praise

Please keep the **Abundant Life Christian School** in Madison, Wisconsin, in your prayers as they process the unthinkable and grieve the loss of three of their own to gun violence this week.

Aiden Payne is still sick. Her family appreciates continued prayers for her to get better. She is enjoying the cards and notes that she has been receiving in the mail. (Still no calls or visits, please.)

Joyce Day is down with her family. Your prayers for daughter-in-law, **Robyn Day** are still needed and very much appreciated.

Thank you for your prayers for Sue Barry's brother, **Arthur**, as he undergoes radiation therapy. Please also pray for her brother-in-law, **Ken Wilkins**, who is hospitalized with multiple serious health issues.

Larry King's sister, **Rhonda**, also needs continued prayer. She is no longer responding to treatment.

Barb Davidson needs prayer to walk through difficult challenges in her life. She also asks for continued prayer for her son, **Tom**.

If you wish to list a prayer request, please contact the church office at 607-844-8321 or drydenpresoffice@gmail.com.

Alternatively, or additionally, the Deacons welcome you to share your prayer request by filling out the **Deacons' Prayer Circle** pew card and dropping it in the offering basket. Requests shared this way will not be made public or added to the bulletin unless you wish them to be.

If you have not submitted your pledge card for 2025, please do so soon. Additional cards are in the fellowship hall.

Thank you.

Christmas Joy Offering, will be received again today. These gifts help provide (1) financial support and grants to current and retired Presbyterian church workers and surviving spouses in time of need, and (2) continued ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that primarily assist students of color. Special envelopes are in the pews. Checks may be made to this church with a designation for Christmas Joy.

Calendar

Sun. 12/22	9:15 a.m.	Choir
	10:30 a.m.	Worship/4th Sunday Advent/Communion
	11:30 a.m.	Choir
		Joe & Doughs
	3:00 p.m.	Cantata
Mon. 12/23		Bulletin deadline
	11:00 a.m.	Kitchen Cupboard
Tues. 12/24	7:00 p.m.	Candlelight Service
Wed. 12/25	Christmas Day - Kitchen Cupboard closed	
Fri. 12/27	11:00 a.m.	Kitchen Cupboard
Sat. 12/28	11:00 a.m.	Kitchen Cupboard
Sun. 12/29	10:30 a.m.	Worship/Epiphany Sunday
	11:30 a.m.	Joe & Doughs



Christmas Cantata

Dryden Presbyterian & United Methodist Churches

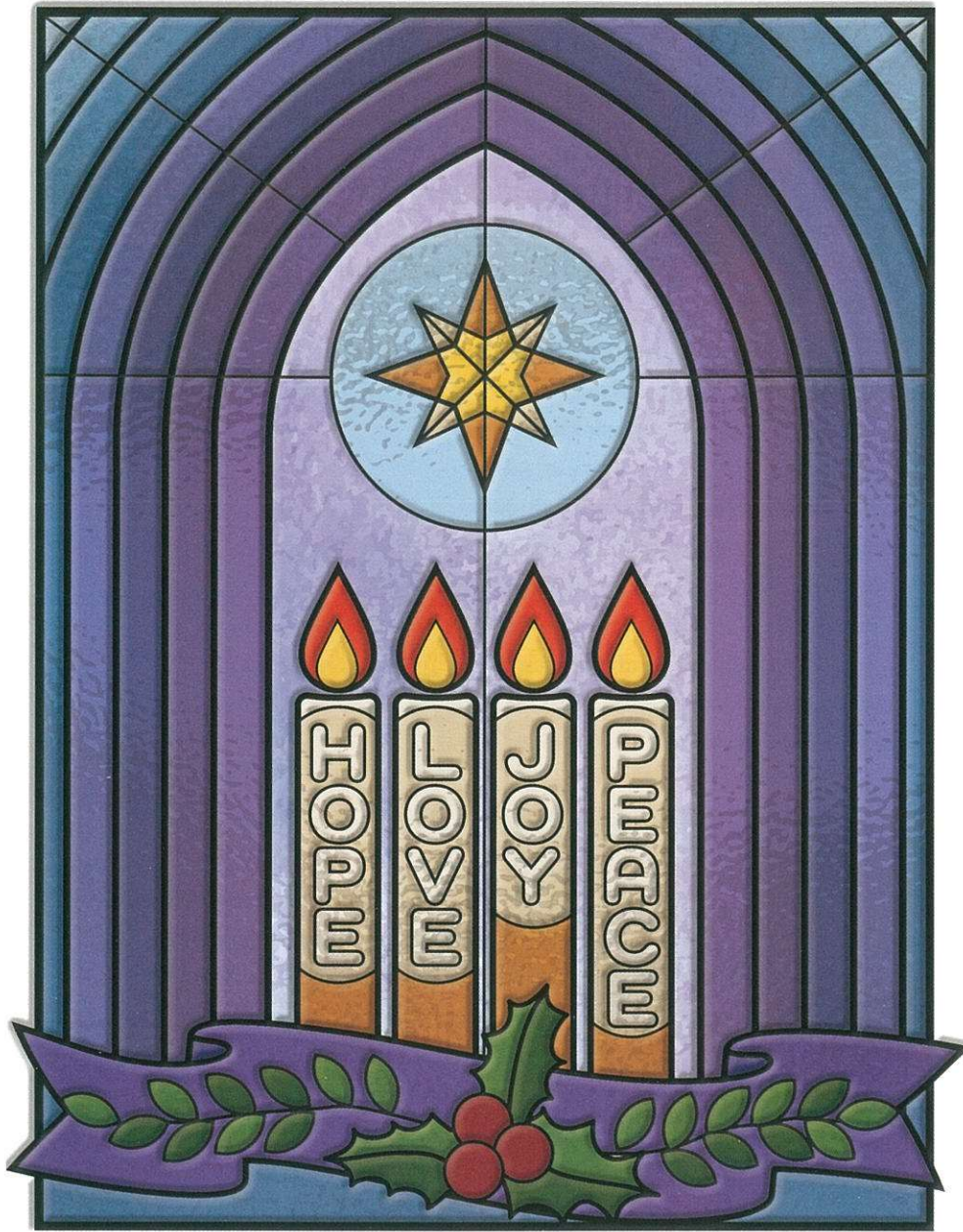
December 22nd at 3 p.m.



Candlelight Service

December 24th at 7:00 p.m.





We are there



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Through the Christmas Joy Offering,
we reflect God's perfect gift to us.

50%

of our gifts smooth the path for current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need.

A few years into her ministry, Dr. Judi McMillian had to unexpectedly leave her congregation, and found herself between calls and in the position of being the sole person responsible for her children, and her mortgage. She reinvented herself by working at a flower shop, but her life stress simply proved too much. A friend and clergy colleague told her that the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, made possible by gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering, could help.



Now pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista, Arkansas, Judi says “since we can’t always predict when we might need financial assistance, knowing that there’s a safety net there is both lived grace and love.”

“At a time when I was scared and unsure, the Christmas Joy Offering filled the gap. This was God’s doing. I was so very thankful for the work of Christmas Joy and for the concern of my colleague and the generosity of our denomination.”

50%

of your gifts prepare students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



LaTrell Clifford Wood came to Stillman College as a business and fine arts major but was drawn to history and its practical application for her as an aspiring scholar and leader, and she soon realized that social justice was her calling. One of her many achievements at Stillman was to co-found the college's Sustainable Healthy Food Initiative Task Force. Not long after graduating, she served as an intern in Washington, D.C., with the Congressional Black Caucus

Foundation. Now she is the hunger policy advocate for Alabama Arise, advancing public policies to improve the lives of Alabamians who are marginalized by poverty, truly carrying "The Stillman Way" into the world by "providing an environment that delivers the pursuit of intellectual excellence, the development of personal honor, and a commitment to the common good."

"I see the Christmas Joy Offering as a way to support restorative justice," said LaTrell. She also believes that schools like Stillman prepare the way for more changemakers in the future.

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!**



 **CHRISTMAS JOY**
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

12136-24-306



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While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Verse 1:

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around,
And glory shone around.

Verse 2:

“Fear not!” said he; for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind,
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind,
To you and all mankind.

Verse 3:

“To you, in David’s town this day,
Is born of David’s line,
The Savior who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:
And this shall be the sign:

Verse 4:

“The heavnly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in Swathing bands,
And in a manger laid;
And in a manger laid.

Verse 5:

“All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace:
Good will henceforth from heav’n to men,
Begin and never cease,
Begin and never cease.”

Text: Nahum Tate

Music: *Christmas*, George Frederick Handel; from Weyman’s, *Melodia Sacra*, 1815

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Verse 1:

Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Verse 3:

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy host above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.
Amen.

Text: Charles Wesley

Music: *Beecher*, John Zundel; Choral setting arranged by David Allen

Away in a Manger

Verse 1:

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Verse 2:

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes,
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Verse 3:

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Text: Source unknown, stanzas 1, 2; John Thomas McFarland, stanza 3

Music: *Away in a Manger*, by James R. Murray

For Unto Us a Child Is Born

For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given,
Unto us a Son is given:
And His name shall be call-ed
Wonderful, Counselor,
The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

Text and Music: *For Unto Us*, George Frederick Handel;
based on Isaiah 9:6, 7; arranged by Tom Fettke
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Silent Night! Holy Night!

Verse 1:

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse 2:

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

Verse 3:

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, translated by John F. Young

Music: *Stille Nacht*, by Franz Grüber