

*HYMN (tune: Hyfrydol, No. 2)

Psalm 126

When the Lord brought home our treasure, all delights were like a dream;
In defeat, a shout of vict'ry; in the sand, a flowing stream.
Mouths that once were parched with anguish now with shouts of joy are filled;
Laughter now displaces sadness for the goodness God has willed.
Bring us back to former glory, lost through years of exile's pain;
Generations long forgotten seek God's favor to regain.
Those who plant their seeds with grieving, wetting soil with falling tears,
Shall rejoice in time of harvest, reaping hope for all their years.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "Christian, Awake" Noel Rawsthorne

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The flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of Linda Wilton's birthday today.

Christian sympathies to Lamar and Sandy Zigler and family
on the death of Lamar's brother, Lyle, in Texas.

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Psalm 126: from the *Psalter for Christian Worship* by Michael Morgan. Used by permission of Witherspoon Press, a Ministry of the General Assembly Council, Congregational Ministries Division, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202.

Public Domain: O Little Town of Bethlehem Text: Phillips Brooks. While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night Text: Nahum Tate. Thank You, God, for Your Creation Text: Mary Ann Stephens
Solo:

*Please stand if you are able.

<u>Staff</u>			
Pastor:	Preston Shealy	Office Manager:	Carol Fry
Music Coordinator:	Mary Ann Stephens	Building Manager:	Mark Key
Choir Director:	Brady Brennan	Preschool Admin:	Mikie Bowles
Childcare Provider:	Nancy Henning		

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Boulevard Presbyterian Church

Worship On The Lord's Day

December 17, 2017 11:15 A.M.

3rd Sunday of Advent



Today's congregation continues strong traditions of:

- Living faith through worship, mission, education and fellowship with the vision of "Reaching Out to Make Disciples."
- Following the path laid out by God through his son, Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit;
- Sharing the inclusive love of God to all of God's children and God's creation;
- Exposing the light of Christ to the world through music, words, prayer and actions.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Please sign the friendship pad and pass it to those near you.

PRELUDE "Ave Maria" Jacob Arcadelt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Lighting of the Advent Candles The McFadden Family

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*OFFERING OUR BROKENNESS TO GOD
Merciful God, you seek justice for all people, yet we live in prejudice and seek self-fulfillment. You give us the gift of your Spirit, yet we turn from the Spirit's guidance and presence. Your word is there for us, yet we turn away to our own desires. You sent your light into the world, yet we choose to live in darkness. Forgive us, we pray, and restore us so that we may continuously live for you. Amen.
Silent Confession

*Please stand if you are able.

Response (No. 44; v.4)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

*RECEIVE GOD’S HEALING

*SHARE GOD’S PEACE

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

People: And also with you. *Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.*

*SING GLORY TO GOD (No. 59; v.6) *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night*

**All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace:
Good will to all from highest heaven begin and never cease!
Begin and never cease!**

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (Pew Bible p. 832)

Luke 1:46-55

WORD FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Children 4 years of age through 3rd grade are invited to attend Wee Worship, a children’s worship-education program. Children go to Room 113 (downstairs) after the Children’s Message, and should be picked up there directly after worship. Children 3 years of age and younger are invited to the Nursery in Room 208 (off the Lounge). All children 10 years and older should return to their seats in the Sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING (Pew Bible p. 603)

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

SERMON

Winners and Losers

Pastor Preston Shealy

RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN No. 600

Song of Mary

*PROFESSING OUR FAITH

Nicene Creed (Ecumenical Translation)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

(continued on next page)

**Please stand if you are able.*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SHARING OUR HEARTS WITH GOD

Following each petition, God’s people respond:

Leader: Loving God,

People: Hear our prayer.

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.

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory Solo

“Do You Hear What I Hear”

by Noël Regney and Gloria Shayne Baker

Lilly Frazitta

*Offertory Response (tune: Regent Square, No. 22) *Thank You, God, for Your Creation*

Thank you, God, for your creation; Bless, O Lord, these gifts we bring.

Thank you, God, for Christ the Savior, your own precious offering.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Bless, O Lord, these gifts we bring.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Please stand if you are able.*

Please call the Church Office or Pastor Shealy to include someone on this Prayer List. (614-486-0267)

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Ruth Ferrari, for healing and strength following a stroke (Linda Wilton's aunt)
Ginny Achtermann, at home
Joanne Taylor, Boulevard Preschool teacher, recovering from surgery
Julie Wall, at home (Kyme Rennick's mother)
Eda Mikolaj, at home (Heather Mikolaj's mother)
Barbara Frautschi
Gay Hadley
Barbara Rine, breast cancer
Bruce "Smitty" Smith
Carol McFadden, breast cancer
Ella, back at Boulevard Preschool
Fred Ferris, for healing
Rick Cotter, recovering from car accident (friend of Michael and Charmaine Hamilton)
Michael Frase, for remission from infection
Suzanne Trombley, Carol Fry's sister-in-law
Gary (relative of Becky Metzler)
Tim McLane, for balance and healing for foot (Mikie Bowles' brother)
Corey Sander, cancer (Pat Nicholson's granddaughter's husband)
Kate Whitmore, cancer (Marty Grimm's daughter)
Jerry Braun, cancer (Mike McKinney's brother-in-law)
Julie DuSablón, recuperating at home
Mark Nelson, for healing, comfort, and peace

Prayers for Our Special Care List

Dorothy Rout, Westminster-Thurber
Evelyn Hannaway, at home
Virginia Schlitt, at home
Becky Metzler, at home
Leni Leypoldt, at home
Brita Knapp, for continued remission
Norman Knapp, healing and strength
Peggy Pasko, Woodview Care and Rehab

CALENDAR

Today

3rd Sunday of Advent
9:00 am Worship: Chapel
10:00 am Advent Class: 111
Pre-K thru Teens: Neighborhood Christmas Door Hanger Invitation Distribution
11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary
12:15 pm Deliver Christmas Boxes

Thursday, December 21

6:00 pm Music Team: Chapel
6:30 pm Bell Practice: Balcony
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice: Sanctuary

Friday, December 22

Poinsettia Delivery

Sunday, December 24

4th Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve

10:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Luminary Set-up
5:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Service
7:30 pm Cookies, Cocoa, and Caroling
8:00 pm Candlelight Lessons and Carols Service

Monday, December 26-Monday, January 1

Office closed.

STEWARDSHIP IS . . . delivering Christmas Boxes around Columbus!

We Rejoice and Give Thanks

Sunday, December 10, 2017

General Sunday Offering: \$6,989.00
God's People Gathered: 109

Worship Leader: Terry McFadden

Greeters: Sally Neff and Mary Ann Stockum

Wee Worship Teacher: Grant Stephens

Nursery Volunteer: Kathie Bailey

Elder of the Month: Debbie Shealy

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Large print bulletins, hymnals, and Bibles are available from the ushers.

The sound system has hearing assists for those with hearing difficulties and may be used anywhere in the Sanctuary. Please see an usher for help.

Nursery for Children 3 Years and Younger ~ Room 208 (off the Lounge)
Wee Worship (3-5 years) ~ Room 301 (upstairs)

The Lord's Supper is celebrated the first Sunday of every month at the 11:15 AM service and weekly at the 9:00 AM service.

Announcements

Be sure to order your Poinsettias! ~ Absolute last day TODAY!

The poinsettias will serve as memorials or in honor of loved ones whose names will be printed in the worship bulletins on Sunday, December 24, and will beautify our church for the Christmas season. If you would like to donate a poinsettia, we will accept orders through **today**. The poinsettias will be on display through all Christmas Eve services, and may be taken home following the 8:00 PM Candlelight Lessons and Carols service. The cost of each plant will be \$9.00. Envelopes are available in the Lounge.

Advent Devotional ~ available in the Lounge

Pick up your copy of the Advent Devotionals created by the Boulevard Family for you to enhance your spiritual practices during this holy season.

Filling, Placing and Lighting Luminaries ~ Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 PM

Our Christmas Eve luminaries are a beautiful addition to our neighborhood. Help is needed to place, fill and light the Christmas Eve Luminaries. Luminary activities will begin at 4:00 PM and we will be finished in time to warm up before the 5:30 PM service. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Alex McCormick at 614-747-1082.

Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 24 — Christmas Eve

4th Sunday of Advent — One Morning Service at 10:00 AM

Celebrate the last Sunday of Advent in the morning. Prepare with hymns, scriptures, and communion for the birth of Jesus who comes to save us all.

Family Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 PM

This service will feature a worship experience where the whole family is invited to participate. Please plan on bringing your family and join us for this service of story and carols!

Cookies, Cocoa, and Caroling at 7:30 PM.

Candlelight Lessons and Carols Service with Communion at 8:00 PM

Join us for a joyful and intimate candlelit service as we celebrate the birth of Christ. This year's service will be filled with scripture, carols, choir and traditions that highlight our Christmas season.

Sunday, December 31 — New Year's Eve

First Sunday after Christmas Day — One Morning Service at 10:00 AM

Prepare to ring in the new year with our morning service, which will include communion, continuing the celebration of the birth of Jesus, our Savior!

Open Shelter Lunch Packing ~ Thursday, December 28 - 6:00 PM and/or 6:30 PM

On **Thursday, December 28**, we will be packing 200 brown bag lunches for the Open Shelter. We will have sign-up times for people to arrive at 6:00 PM and 6:30 PM. If possible, please sign up on the list on the table in the Lounge, but last minute volunteers are always welcome! Ideally we would like to have 10-15 people signed up to participate. Thank you for your help!

Church and Office Closed

The church and office will be closed **December 25-29, and Monday, January 1**. Our normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2017.

Congregational Meeting ~ December 31 following 10:00 AM Worship Service

All Boulevard Presbyterian Church members are encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting on December 31 to elect Officers—Elders and Deacons—for the Class of 2020.

Confirmation Class Will Begin in January

Boulevard will begin a Confirmation class in January for our youth. Please contact Pastor Preston Shealy (614-486-0267 or BoulevardPastor@aol.com) with your interest. Schedules will be set around the participants' calendar.

Bean Soup Project ~ Sunday, January 21 at 10:00 AM

We are opening up the bean soup project to the entire congregation this year. We will be assembling the mixes on Sunday, January 21, in Fellowship Hall and are hoping for a lovely mix of children and adults working together. For many years now, our children have been making these soup mixes. They are delivered to the NNEMAP food pantry, and are very well-received by the clients there.

Kids, let's show the adults how it's done! Adults, come and enjoy this wonderful winter mission project!

Besides helping on that morning, you can help by bringing in dry beans on Jan 7 and 14. We need bags of pinto beans, Great Northern beans, black beans, red kidney beans, and green split peas. We are making a layered mix, so please no bean mixtures. There will be a soup pot in the lounge for your donations.

Thank you all and see you then. If you have any questions, contact Jan Plas (614-486-7510).

Boulevard Rummage Sale in the Spring

If you plan to downsize your holiday décor after the holidays are over, please remember the May 5, 2018 rummage sale that will benefit the cost of international travel for a Boulevard Mission Trip in 2019. The mission committee will start accepting items in January that are clean and in good condition. No TV's or clothing. A detailed list of requested items was posted in the October newsletter and will appear again in the January newsletter. For additional information, please contact Charmaine Hamilton at 614-488-4710 or charmainehamilton@hotmail.com.

Amazon Purchases Also Benefit Boulevard Presbyterian Church

If you are an Amazon shopper you now have an easy way to also support Boulevard when making purchases through Amazon. Boulevard receives a 0.5% charitable donation on all eligible purchases made through Boulevard's link to Amazon.Smile.

Find the link on the upper left side of Boulevard's webpage: **Support Boulevard Presbyterian Church / Shop at smile.amazon.com**. Click on these words and you will automatically be linked to Amazon and can begin shopping.