

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory Anthem

“Canticle for Advent”
words by Trilby Carter Jordan

Lloyd Larson

*Advent candles burn with rev’rence; their symbolic flames convey
hope that comforts, hope that strengthens, hope fulfilled in Christmas Day.
Through this season of our waiting, may our wisest prayers increase.
May our lives display compassion, faithful to the Prince of Peace.
Come, hope, come pierce the long night. How lonely the vigil, how harsh winter’s chill.
Come, peace, come heal and unite. We wait, watch and witness God’s promise fulfilled,
Yearning, faithful hearts have gathered, waiting for the chosen One.
Soon, Oh soon, may joy embrace us, joy to welcome God’s own son.
Advent candles tell the story; silent prophets, yet they say:
“Love will crown the King of glory; Love divine come Christmas Day.”
Come, joy, restoring our sight. How lonely the vigil, how harsh winter’s chill.
Come, Love, redeem by your light. We wait, watch and witness God’s promise fulfilled.
We wait, watch and witness God’s promise fulfilled.*

***Offertory Response (tune: Regent Square) 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**

***HYMN (see insert) v.1 - soloist; vs.2,3,4 - All Canticle of the Turning**

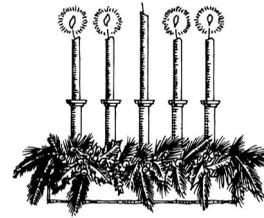
***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE** Postlude on an old English Carol “A Virgin Most Pure” arr. Herbert Colvin

**Please stand if you are able where indicated by the asterisk.*

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

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Boulevard Presbyterian Church

Worship On The Lord’s Day

December 18, 2016 11:15 A.M.

4th 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 “Alleluia” from *Exsultate Jubilate* Mozart
Hollie Briggs and Deborah Chow

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Every Valley” John Ness Beck

CALL TO WORSHIP
Lighting of the Advent Candles Hollie and Jordan Briggs

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 23** **Angels We Have Heard on High**

***OFFERING OUR BROKENNESS TO GOD**

Eternal God, we turn away from you and neglect the needs of your creation. We ignore the plight of your children around the world. Instead of being stewards of your creation, we trample anything that might keep us from getting what we want in life. We do not help our neighbors in need or work for peace among all people. Forgive us, we pray, and guide us so that we may live more gracious lives each and every day. Amen.

Silent Confession

**Please stand if you are able where indicated by the asterisk.*

Response (Hymn No. 44, v. 4)

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!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

***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 (Hymn 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

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. 833)

Luke 2:8-14

SCRIPTURE READING (Pew Bible p. 783)

Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON

The Song of Angels

Preston Shealy

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

(continued on next page)

**Please stand if you are able where indicated by the asterisk.*

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world hath suffered long;
Beneath the angel's-strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong.
And man, at war with man, hears not the love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, all you of strife, and hear the angels sing.

4. And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

5. For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

***PROFESSING OUR FAITH**

The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

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

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.

**Please stand if you are able where indicated by the asterisk.*

CALENDAR

Today

4th Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Worship: Chapel
10:00 am Classes for all ages
11:15 am Worship: Sanctuary
12:30 pm Deliver Christmas Boxes

Tuesday, December 20

2:00 pm Memorial Service for Mary Ann Byers: Chapel
7:00 pm Scout Troop Committee: 300 Bear Den: 111

Wednesday, December 21

9:30 am Quilters: 111
6:00 pm Tiger Den: 111
7:00 pm Webelo 2: 111

Thursday, December 22

11:45 am Staff Meeting: 300
6:00 pm Preschool Christmas Program: Sanctuary
6:00 pm Bell Choir: Balcony
7:00 pm Chancel Choir: Sanctuary

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5:30 pm Family Service
8:00 pm Candlelight Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

Food Mission Sunday

10:00 am One Worship Service

STEWARDSHIP IS . . . An extra gift to the Christmas Joy Offering!

We Rejoice and Give Thanks

Sunday, December 11, 2016

General Sunday Offering: \$7,122.86
God's People Gathered: 110

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Carolyn Williams, upcoming knee replacement
Marty Grimm, recuperating at home

Mark Nicholson

Bruce "Smitty" Smith, recuperating at home
Suzanne Trombley, recovering at home
(sister-in-law of Carol Fry)

Leni Leypoldt

David Hall, cancer (friend of Preston Shealy)

Gary, (relative of Becky Metzler)

Mark Key, cancer treatment

John, recovering from surgery

(Charmaine Hamilton's brother-in-law)

Gay Hadley's **daughter**

Tim McLane, recovering from falls

(Mikie Bowles' brother)

Corey Sander, receiving chemotherapy

(Pat Nicholson's granddaughter's husband)

Eda Mikolaj, at home (Heather Mikolaj's mother)

Kate Whitmore, cancer

(Marty Grimm's daughter)

Lois Braun, cancer (Mike McKinney's sister)

Jerry Braun, cancer

(Mike McKinney's brother-in-law)

Cody Derby, heart valve issues

(friend of the McFadden family)

Julie Wall, at home (Kyme Rennick's mother)

Julie DuSablón, recuperating at home

Mark Nelson, for healing, comfort, and peace

Prayers for Our Special Care List

Martha Agler, at home

Mary Harris, at home

Becky Metzler, at home

Brita Knapp, for continued remission

Norman Knapp, healing and strength

Barbara Frautschi, for continued remission

Peggy Pasko, Franklin Woods Nursing Center

Please call the Church Office to include someone on this Prayer List.

If you would like to receive a visit from the pastor, please call the church office at 614-486-0267 to schedule your visit.

If you have particular concerns that you wish to share, please speak to any of the elders serving on Session. They can be identified by their distinctive nametags which say "Elder".

Worship Leader: Stefanie Osborne

Greeters: Lisa Faulkner and Jody Huggins

Wee Worship Teacher: Grant Stephens

Elder of the Month: Debbie Shealy

† † † † †

The white roses celebrate and give thanks for the lives of:

Ethel Bell who passed away on November 25, 2016;

Joanne Sheets who passed away on December 4, 2016;

Mary Ann Byers who passed away on December 8, 2016; and

Connie Freeman who passed away on December 11, 2016.

† † † † †

We extend Christian sympathies to:

the family and friends of Mary Ann Byers, who passed away on December 8, 2016.

Her memorial service will be Tuesday, December 20, in the Chapel at 2:00 PM.

the family and friends of Connie Freeman, who passed away on December 11, 2016.

† † † † †

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 ~ Room 113 (downstairs)

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.

Sunday School Classes - 10:00 AM

Nursery Care	208
3 years and younger	
Preschool ~ Ages 3-5	201/202
Grades K-3 rd	113
Grades 4 th -6 th	308
Grades 7 th -12 th	107
Adults	111

The Redemption of Scrooge

Advent Devotional ~ available now

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

Advent Adult Study ~ at 10:00 AM in Room 111

The Redemption of Scrooge will show us how the teachings of Jesus can be found in Dickens' Christmas classic. Look at this familiar story through the lens of faith to invigorate our spiritual journeys. This is the last week for a video followed by discussion.

You are invited to help with this rewarding Community Christmas Box activity!

TODAY, December 18st at 12:30 PM Deliver Boxes

Filling, Placing and Lighting Luminaries ~ Saturday, December 24th 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 Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering dates back to the 1930s when the former Presbyterian Church in the United States began an offering to supplement inadequate retirement income and provide supplemental medical insurance for former ministers, missionaries, church workers and their families. In 1991 the 203rd General Assembly changed the distribution of funds to 50 percent to the Board of Pensions and 50 percent to the Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Church and Office Closed

The church and office will be closed **December 26-30, and Monday, January 2**. Our normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Food Mission Sunday ~ Next Sunday, December 25th

Food Mission Sunday is the fourth Sunday of each month. Our nutritional focus is food with a **higher protein** content. If you can, please add these items to your grocery list.

- ◆ Chunky Soup
- ◆ Canned Chicken
- ◆ Peanut Butter
- ◆ Canned Pasta (i.e., Spaghettios)
- ◆ Canned Pork and Beans

Plus - We are adding an Oral Hygiene focus as well. Please consider donating toothpaste and/or toothbrushes (adult or child sizes) along with your food donations.

Please place your donations in the large wooden cabinet in the Narthex, the one with the 'Food Mission' sign on it.

NNEMAP is still accepting the **HOTEL** shampoo, soap, lotion and coffee packets provided to guests. Don't throw these sample products away as they can still be offered to NNEMAP clients when resources for these items are low. And of course, those brown paper grocery bags are always welcomed. ***A BIG THANKS FROM NNEMAP!***

Amazon Purchases Also Benefit Boulevard Presbyterian Church

How many of us shop online at Amazon? Well, if you are an Amazon shopper you now have an easy way to also support Boulevard when making purchases through Amazon. Boulevard is now registered with Amazon as a charitable organization. That means Boulevard will receive a 0.5% charitable donation based on the price of 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.

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"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night" Words: Nahum Tate. Public Domain.

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Words: Edmund Hamilton Sears. Public Domain.

"Thank You, God for Your Creation" Words: Anonymous, Music: Henry David Smart. Public Domain.

Canticle of the Turning

Verses v.1 - soloist; vs.2,3,4 - All



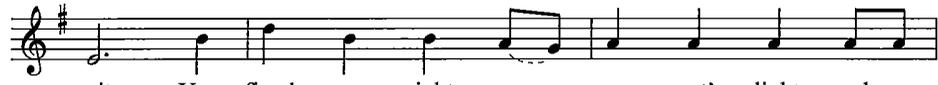
1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



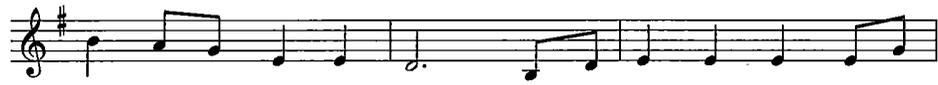
God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, And your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who
 depths of the past to the end of the age to
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing



wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 throne. The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

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!

Text: Luke 1:46-58; Rory Cooney, b.1952, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Tune: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN; Irish traditional; arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952

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