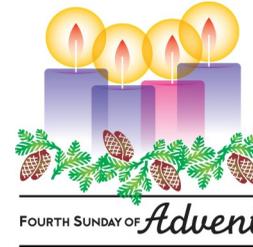


\*SONG

He came down that we may have love; (peace; joy;)
He came down that we may have love; (peace; joy;)
He came down that we may have love; (peace; joy;)
Hallelujah forevermore.

He Came Down



Boulevard Presbyterian Church

Worship On The Lord's Day

December 24, 2017 10:00 AM

4th Sunday of Advent



\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

"Hallelujah, Amen"

G. F. Handel

Five small cross symbols arranged horizontally.

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Public Domain: Thank You, God, for Your Creation Text: Mary Ann Stephens

\*Please stand if you are able.

Table with 2 columns and 5 rows listing church staff: Pastor (Preston Shealy), Music Coordinator (Mary Ann Stephens), Choir Director (Brady Brennan), Childcare Provider (Nancy Henning), Office Manager (Carol Fry), Building Manager (Mark Key), and Preschool Admin (Mikie Bowles).

Boulevard Presbyterian Church
1235 Northwest Boulevard, Grandview Heights, OH 43212
614-486-0267 Fax: 614-486-2342
Email: office@blvdchurch.org / website: www.blvdchurch.org

- 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.

PRELUDE

"Mary, Did You Know"
Bells Te Deum

arr. Patricia Sanders Cota

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Schmidt Family

\*HYMN No. 12

People, Look East

\*OFFERING OUR BROKENNESS TO GOD

Faithful God, we know you are always present with us to guide us in life. We, however, often prefer to make plans without looking to you and then discover that our human agendas are far from your will for us. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us so that our lives may follow the paths you put before us. Amen.

\*RECEIVE GOD'S HEALING AND SHARE GOD'S PEACE

Song of Praise

Gloria, Gloria

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia!

\*Please stand if you are able.

SCRIPTURE READING (Pew Bible p. 555)

Isaiah 9:2-7

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 (across from the Chapel). All children 10 years and older should return to their seats.*

PSALM 96 (Hymn No. 217)

*O Sing a New Song*

SCRIPTURE READING (Pew Bible p. 832)

Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

Emmanuel... God With Us

Preston Shealy

\*HYMN No. 30

*Born in the Night, Mary's Child*

\*PROFESSING OUR FAITH

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

SHARING OUR HEARTS WITH GOD

*Following each petition, God's people respond:*

Leader: Loving God;

People: Hear our prayer.

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

*"The Coming of the Lord"*

*Pepper Choplin*

*Lift up your heads, O gates, and make the highway straight, prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord.  
Your waiting soon will end, God's glory will descend, rise up and welcome in the coming of the Lord!*

*Prepare the way for the coming of the Lord! Prepare the way of the coming of the Lord!  
The ancient words foretell, God with us, He will dwell, Christ, our Emmanuel,  
and all will see the glory of the Lord!*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel. (O come, prepare the way of the Lord.)  
And then the deaf will hear, the blind will see Him clear;  
the mute will find their voice, the lame will leap for joy,*

*Prepare the way of the coming of the Lord! Prepare the way of the coming of the Lord!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, our God, will come to us. Prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.*

\*Offering 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

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Thanksgiving

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.**

Communion

*Communion is by "intinction." The server will give you bread to dip in the cup as we all share "one bread, one cup." Servers disinfect their hands prior to communion, and only they handle the bread. Please come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisles. Gluten free bread is available next to the servers. If you cannot come forward, communion will be brought to you.*

Communion Song

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.**

**God with us, reveal'd in us, his name is called Emmanuel. (repeat)**

Prayer

*\*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**

**Ward Porch**, 18-month-old, cancer (child of local Presbyterian ministers, Trip and Brittany Porch)

**Katherine Radersdorf**, recovering from surgery (Daniel Rennick's fiancée)

**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 Leyboldt**, at home

**Brita Knapp**, for continued remission

**Norman Knapp**, healing and strength

**Peggy Pasko**, Woodview Care and Rehab

**CALENDAR**

**Today**

**4th Sunday of Advent**

**Christmas Eve**

**Food Collection Sunday**

10:00 am Worship Service—Sanctuary

4:00 pm Filling and Lighting Luminaries

5:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Service

7:30 pm Cookies, Cocoa, and Carols

8:00 pm Candlelight Lessons and Carols

**Monday, December 25**

**Christmas Day**

**Monday, December 25-Monday, January 1**

**Office closed.**

**Thursday, December 28**

6:00 pm Open Shelter Lunch Packing:

Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 31**

**1st Sunday after Christmas Day**

10:00 am Worship Service—Sanctuary

11:00 am Congregational Meeting to elect

Officers for the Class of 2020

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**STEWARDSHIP IS . . .** an extra gift to the Christmas Joy Offering!

**We Rejoice and Give Thanks**

**Sunday, December 17, 2017**

General Sunday Offering: \$5,018.00

God's People Gathered: 109

*Worship Leader: Mike Eberle*

*Greeters: Phil and Megan Miller*

*Wee Worship Teacher: Alex McCormick and Martha Hills*

*Elder of the Month: Cindy McKay and Debbie Shealy*

† † † † †

Nursery for Children 3 years and younger ~ Room 208 (across from the Chapel)

Wee Worship for Children 3-5 years ~ Room 113 (downstairs)

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

**Announcements**

**Filling, Placing and Lighting Luminaries ~ TODAY 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*

**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 carols 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.

*December 31 ~ 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!

### **Food Mission Sunday ~ TODAY, December 24**

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. NNEMAP is also 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.

Please place your donations in the large wooden cabinet in the narthex with the "Food Mission" sign on it. ***A BIG THANKS FROM NNEMAP!***

### **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, 2018.

### **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!

### **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**

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.

### **Save Your Aluminum Pull Tabs**

Boulevard Presbyterian Women continues the project of collecting pull tabs from pop, vegetable, fruit, pet food or any other type pull tab cans. The tabs are given to The Ronald McDonald House at Nationwide Children's Hospital. They in turn receive reimbursement for each pound of tabs which they use for expenses of the house. The Ronald McDonald house provides housing and other services for families who have children as patients at the Nationwide Children's Hospital. The collection container, a white "house" with a red roof, can be found in the lounge. There are also some small "houses" with blue roofs for individuals to use at home. Questions can be directed to Linda Mahoney [djllmahoney@gmail.com](mailto:djllmahoney@gmail.com) or 614-291-5725.