



Boulevard Presbyterian Church
Worship On The Lord's Day
December 19, 2021 10:00 A.M.
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Boulevard Church's Session met and voted to abide by the established CDC guidelines for masks. The CDC has created four measures for community spread of the COVID virus: blue, yellow, orange, and red. Franklin County is currently in the red zone. The CDC has recommended that both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons be masked.

We ask for your cooperation in masking while at Boulevard. We will let you know about any additional changes in policy should Franklin County move to orange or return to yellow or blue. Thank you.

Steve Hills - Chair, COVID Committee

**please stand, if able*

PRELUDE

*"A Virgin Most Pure"
"All My Heart This Night Rejoices
A Lovely Rose Is Blooming"*

*arr. Noel Rawsthorne
arr. David Johnson
Johannes Brahms*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Shawn, Susan, and Mary Ebert

Leader: Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen,
to a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope.
Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth,
to a girl called Mary, with a light of joy.
Mary went to a place called Bethlehem,
to a stable called a nursery, with a light of love.

Leader: As we light our fourth Advent candle,
People: we rejoice with Mary, for love has been born in Bethlehem.
Leader: Come now, O Child of Mary.
People: Come now, O Prince of love.

*HYMN 102

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

*Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 4th cent; English trans, stanza 1, William Moore Reynolds, alt;
English trans, stanzas 2-4, Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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*Savior of the nations, come; virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
From God's heart the Savior speeds; back to God his pathway leads;
Out to vanquish death's command, back to reign at God's right hand.
Now your manger, shining bright, hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue; let our faith shine ever new.
Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnated Word!
To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally.*

OFFERING OUR BROKENNESS TO GOD

Leader: In our waiting and our preparation, we come to rest, again, at the foot of the cross. Even in this season of anticipation, we see the fullness of God's promised redemption in the waters of baptism.

As those who are fully known and redeemed, we confess our sin before God and one another.

People: O God, giver of all good gifts, we come before you as children in need of your wisdom and grace. Our fears and our hopes are braided together in the rhythm of daily life. Our visions of the future depend only on our own hands and ability. We keep our expectations reasonable and within our control.

Break into this tangle of fear and hope, bringing peace to our souls. Break into our vision of the future, returning us to your hands. Break into our expectations, awakening us with curiosity and wonder. (time for silent prayer) Amen.

Leader: Christ's coming is certain. God's promise is true. Trust in the transformational power of God's forgiveness and receive the gift of God's love. Friends, believe the good news:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

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

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

People: **And also with you.**

Please symbolically share the peace of Christ with those around you.

***RESPONSE: HYMN 583**

"Gloria, gloria"

Text: Trad. liturgical text. Public domain.

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-45

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:46-55

SERMON

"God's Daring Plan"

A sermon by Barbara Brown Taylor

Cindy McKay

***HYMN 100**

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

Text: Rory Cooney © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense A-702458

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?*

*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!*

*Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.
My heart shall sing...*

*From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.
My heart shall sing...*

*Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.
My heart shall sing...*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe:

God shows mercy to everyone at all times and in all situations.

**God will upset the world order that values power and wealth,
and will lift up the poor and powerless.**

God will fill the hungry with abundance.

God keeps the promise that he has made to be our God, and for us to be God's people.

OFFERTORY "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" traditional
Emina Osborne, cello

*DOXOLOGY "Thank You, God, for Your Creation" (Tune: Regent Square) Stephens
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.

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.

*HYMN 93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"
Text: Georg Weissel. Public domain.
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING
Leader: May God's blessing be ours:
People: **a blessing of loving kindness,
a blessing of hope and courage,
a blessing of listening and love.**
Leader: God's blessing be ours always.
People: **Amen.**

POSTLUDE "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" arr. Noel Rawsthorne

+ + +

Worship Leaders: Melissa Schmidt, Stefanie Osborne
Elder of the Month: Linda Wilton

+ + +

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.

+ + +

Friday, December 24 – Outdoor Luminaries Set-Up, 4:00 p.m.

Please come help set up outdoor luminaries around the church property for Christmas Eve. The church and the luminaries always look so cheerful and inviting on Christmas Eve. Boulevard's unique triangle-lot location makes us very visible to passers-by. Come help us shine our lights for the community! Please call Alex McCormick to volunteer (614-747-1082)



**Please call the church office at 614-486-0267
to include someone on this Prayer List.**

CALENDAR

Prayers for Joy and Concern

For the family and friends of Gwen Jackson who passed away Tuesday morning, December 14
Paul McCalla – in the hospital because of a fall
Amelia Hamilton – safe travels with mom, Beth, to Philadelphia for a check-up (Charmaine and Mike Hamilton's granddaughter)
Devon – diagnosed with breast cancer (friend of Sue and Tim Harvey)
For the family and friends of Deb Kackley who passed away (Allyson Engdahl)
David Conner's father, Dean Conner – has been moved to Wesley Glen
Douglas Conner, son of David and Jane and brother of Rachel – at home
Craig and Gail, his wife – Craig diagnosed with stage 4 cancer (friends of Lamar and Sandy Zigler)
Joni Brehens – extremely ill in ICU (friend of Pastor Charlotte)
Peggy and John Odum – Peggy is very ill with cancer and John has Parkinson's (Bonnie Grimm's cousin and husband)
For Merri Bame's family – her mother, Sue, is being released from a facility to live at home
Steve – recovery from back surgery (Sandy Zigler's brother)
Lee and his daughters' family – for healing (Lamar Zigler's brother)
Newborn twins of Carol and Chad Clawson – born premature, now home! (friends of Tim and Sue Harvey)
Employees of small stores in Columbus area targeted for armed robberies
Bill Frase – prayers of thanksgiving – cancer free!
Tom Neff (Sally Neff's son)
Rodger Lynch – recovery from surgery to remove cancerous mass (Charmaine and Mike Hamilton's friend)
David Reynolds – diagnosed with aortic aneurism (Pat Nicholson's great-nephew)
Jim Treadway – stage 4 colon cancer; chemotherapy (Jim and Kathie Bailey's nephew)
Former members Dan and Mary Headapohl and their daughter, Miranda
Eva Hills – recovery from stroke (Steve and Martha Hills' daughter-in-law)
Aunt Irma and Jennique – recovery from car accident (Mike Hamilton's 90-year-old aunt and cousin)
Wilmadeen Rieser – healing well and at home! (Mike McKinney's mother)
Terri Randal – cancer has recurred (Bill Bell's friend)
Karla Holton – treatment for lung cancer (Charmaine Hamilton's friend)
Grace Parks – continued recovery from shingles
Spencer Schalip – medical concerns (Charmaine Hamilton's brother)
Tim Parks – Parkinson's disease (Jim Parks' son and Grace Parks' brother)
Maggie Evans – cancer (teenage friend of the Hamilton's)
Terry McFadden – Allen Oakwood Correctional
Jerry Braun – cancer (Mike McKinney's brother-in-law)
Tim McLane – continuing health issues (Mikie Bowles' brother)
Mark Nelson – for healing, comfort, and peace (Mikie's Bowles son-in-law)

Prayers for Our Special Care List

Glenn and Sara Beaber – at home
Ellen Buzzelli – Brookdale Senior Living
Barb Frautschi – Westminster-Thurber
Evelyn Hannaway – Friendship Village of Dublin
Helen Hoehl – memory care, Hilton Head Island, SC
Norma Kibbey – Westminster-Thurber Assisted Living
Brita and Norman Knapp – at home
Betty Sikking – at home

Sunday, December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Worship: Sanctuary
In-person and live-streamed on Facebook
Decorate the Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary following worship
11:00 am Coffee Hour: Lounge
11:00 am Classes for All Ages:
The Wonder of Christmas

Monday, December 20

6:30 pm Scouts BSA: Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 21

7:30 pm AA: Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 22

7:30 pm NA: Room 111

Thursday, December 23

7:30 pm GA: Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Candelight Service with Communion

Sunday, December 26

First Sunday of Christmas

Significant Six Sunday

10:00 am Worship: Sanctuary
In-person and live-streamed on Facebook
11:00am Coffee Hour: Lounge
Thursday, December 30
4:00 pm Open Shelter Lunch Packing:
Fellowship Hall

Attendance, December 12, 2021: 64

Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Charlotte O'Neil
Office Manager: Carol Fry
Music Coordinator: Mary Ann Stephens
Preschool Administrator: Mikie Bowles

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Email: office@blvdchurch.org
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***Poinsettias are given
in honor or memory
of the following:***



Given by:

Shawn, Susan, and Mary Ebert

Bill and Katy Frase

Charlotte and John O'Neil

Ian and Kyme Rennick

Beth Walli

Lamar and Sandy Zigler

Given by:

Shawn, Susan, and Mary Ebert

Alaina Engdahl

Bill and Katy Frase

Jody Huggins

Pat Nicholson

Charlotte and John O'Neil

Ken and Judy Pierce

Ellen Rennick

Michael, Melissa, and Katie Schmidt

Beth Walli

Jacqie Walli

Lamar and Sandy Zigler

In honor of:

Errol and Mary Edith Sambuco;

and Sharon Ebert

our family: Michael, David, Lisa,

Laureen, and Ryan

their children: Patrick, Ella, and Garrick

our children and their spouses

Gaige Davis Perciful, actively serving in
the US Navy

Our children and their families: Brian,

Lydia, Amelia, and Vivian Zigler;

Jason, Lindsay, Ethan, and Evan Dray;

David and Jennifer Zigler

In loving memory of:

Richard Ebert

Deb Kackley

our parents: William and Mary Frase;

William and Florence Goshorn

R. L. and Alice Nungester

Jim Nicholson and Mark Nicholson

their parents: Frances, Bob, Jean, and Jack

their parents

Ted Rennick

Michael Schmidt, William Herpel,

and Katharina Jung

Jack and Peggy Davis

her sister, Jayne Davis

our parents: Glen and Wilma Zigler;

Clinton and Bobbie Yerkes

Advent and Christmas at Boulevard

2021 Advent Devotional

The devotionals are available in the Lounge. Thank you to those who organized, authored, typed, collated, assembled, and helped in any other way with this year's edition. It's truly a gift!



The Blessing Tree

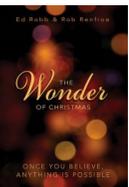
Please take a moment to add your own wish to the Blessing Tree located in the Lounge. Let's fill it with thoughts and prayers, and pause to read and reflect on what others have shared.

TODAY ~ Decorate the Tree!

All are invited, both young and 'young at heart', to help decorate the Sanctuary Christmas Tree with Christmas ornaments following worship. You can grab a quick treat from the Lounge, help decorate, and still attend one of the ongoing Christian Education classes being offered for all ages. So, come and make it a family affair!



"The Wonder of Christmas" Book Study ~ through TODAY, December 19



Sometimes, as adults, we lose the wonder of Christmas. This year, in the craziness of shopping, wrapping, baking, decorating and more, give yourself the gift of a few minutes to breathe, clear your mind and focus on the true wonder of Christmas. Join your fellow "wonder seekers" in the Chapel after worship from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. to stop, refresh your minds and allow the wonder of Christmas to once again dominate your heart and thoughts as we watch a short video and have a discussion led by Cindy McKay. There are classes for all ages!

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve Worship, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, Child Care Available

Christmas Eve Worship returns with a candlelit "Lessons and Carols" service with Communion. For the service this year, you are invited to bring, wrapped in white tissue paper, gifts of personal hygiene items, toilet paper, tissues, feminine sanitary products, and diapers. Like the wisemen, you will have the opportunity during the service to come forward with your gifts and lay them by the manger to make a big, snowy pile. This will be a terrific 2022 jump-start to our ongoing "Significant Six" contributions to NNEMAP!



December 26 ~ First Sunday of Christmas



You may be inclined to stay in your matching holiday p.j.'s, but come celebrate Christ's birth on this last Sunday in 2021 with a casual worship service and carol sing. Grab a hymnal and call out your favorites! Kids (and their parents) may be tempted to bring blankets and settle in for a story right by the Sanctuary Christmas Tree!

January 2 ~ Happy New Year! First Sunday in 2022!! Epiphany!!!

It's the start of a new year with all the possibility of the fresh hope of God's promises. Look forward to receiving a "Star Gift" during worship. A star gift is simply a star-shaped piece of paper with a word printed on it. You are asked to reflect on that word for the coming year. You are invited to ponder what personal significance this word might have, and how God might be speaking to you through this simple message. Often the words seem very timely, as if they were indeed designated for the recipient. It is this sense of providence and wondering that reminds us how God might be working in our lives throughout the year.



Ongoing Collection



Linda Mahoney is so happy to relay the aluminum tab collection is still going great! Another 20# of tabs were delivered to Ronald McDonald House last week. Special acknowledgments to whomever left a red shopping bag full and another person who left a cardboard box full! *A prosperous New Year to all of you!*

Nursery Care Available Now for Worship!

The Nursery is now available from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings during the worship service. The Nursery is not currently available during the education hour. With more volunteers, we will be able to provide care in the Nursery for the second hour. To volunteer, please contact Carol Agler (614-537-5811) or Sue Harvey (614-216-5884). Thank you for caring for our most precious members.



Announcements

Prayer Warriors, Arise!



The Faith Formation Committee is looking for people who are interested in starting a prayer group who will meet weekly to pray for the future mission/vision of Boulevard, our pastor nominating committee (both for those who will be called and to support them when their mission begins), and for the person whom God will call as our next pastor. This group would meet weekly in the Chapel, though people could attend as their schedules allowed. Day and time could be flexible depending on those who are interested in being involved. The time involved will probably be an hour at most and will be a time of meditation and prayer. If you are interested please contact Martha Hills at marthahills@mac.com or 614-364-5303. You can also indicate your interest on the friendship pads in the Sanctuary or by contacting the church office.

White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity by Robert P. Jones

Mark your calendars for 2022 * January 2, 9, 16, and 23 (come to one or all)
11:00 am - Noon in the Chapel. Led by Kathie Bailey

Books can be purchased at your local book store, on-line, or checked out at the library. Please join us even if you do not have an opportunity to read or finish the book.

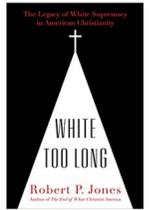
With the unrest related to the Black Lives Matter movement of 2020, where do we stand on the issue of race in our church? Why is race still an issue in our country? Does the church play a part in the ongoing racial strife? If so, how?

The author has a PhD in religion from Emory University and an MDiv from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a frequent guest commentator on religious issues for The Atlantic, NPR, The New York Times, MSNBC, The Washington Post, and others. Come and let us explore this extremely volatile issue.

This class will be publicized to the Grandview Heights community. Please invite a friend.

MASKS ARE MANDATORY

Questions? Please contact one of the Faith Development Committee members: Alaina Engdahl, Charmaine Hamilton, Martha Hills, and Jill Hooley



Westside Free Store Ministries Clothing Collection for Fall and Winter



Boulevard is now collecting fall and winter clothing for the Westside Free Store. WFSM is a faith-based organization designed to share resources, build relationships, and create community on Columbus' west side. Since opening their doors in August 2004, they have become known as a hospitable community resource. Meals are served and guests may shop for clothes and small household items the three days a week they are open.

The Westside Free Store is always taking donations for gently used clothing and shoes for women, men and children, as well as small household items. Most needed right now are men's pants, blankets, and towels. New pillows and undergarments are always appreciated. Remember to donate clean clothing with all buttons, working zippers, and no stains. You may leave your items in the blue bin in the Lounge. For more information, contact Charmaine Hamilton at charmainehamilton@hotmail.com or 614-579-0622 (call or text).



On-Going Contributions and Projects

Donate Plastic Bags for Plarn Mats



Layette Project Helps New Parents in Our Community

Support Boulevard When You Shop at Kroger



Use Your Amazon Purchases to Benefit Boulevard Presbyterian Church