



The Third Sunday of advent | words for the beginning

Do the good that is yours to do

| Luke 3:3-16 | Isaiah 58:9b-12

BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SANCTUARY

December 15, 2024 10:00 a.m.

*Please rise in body and/or spirit as is your preference where you see an asterisk.

PRELUDE

“People, Look East”

Tom Kolar

By Robert J. Powell

Flute, Diane Cattran

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

The Justice Family

A: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? Where do we start?

B: Let us start small. Let us begin with what is right in front of us.

Let us do the good that is ours to do, and let us do it with joy!

A: Yes, let us begin with joy.

B: Today we light the candles of hope, peace, and joy. May these lights remind us of what could be.

May these lights inspire action. May the warmth of these lights fill us with joy.

A: May it be so! Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tiffany Komasa

CALL TO WORSHIP

Allyson Engdahl

“Teacher,” the crowd asked, “What should we do?”

“If you have two shirts, give one away. Hold onto hope. Live like we belong to one another. Speak the truth. Look for God. Do the good that is yours to do.

It’s all that easy, and it’s all that hard.

Let us worship our present and active God.

OPENING HYMN 105

“People, Look East”

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Tiffany Komasa

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liberating God, there are days when the world can feel like it’s crumbling. There are days when I doubt that I can make a difference. I ask myself, what could these two hands do? What could this one voice say?

Shake me free of my own paralysis and self-doubt. Remind me that I am not called to fix everything. I am simply called to do the good that is mine to do. With hope in my heart and a fire in my bones, I pray. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

We are loved. We are forgiven. We are invited to do the good that is ours to do. Thanks be to God for this new beginning. Amen.

*SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

La Paz del señor! Y Tambien contigo! The peace of the Lord be with you! **And also, with you!**

HYMN OF GLORY 584

“Glory, Glory, Glory”

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!

And on Earth, peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.

**¡Gloria, gloria, gloria, en las alturas a Dios!
Y en la tierra, paz a la gente que ama el Señor.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 58:9b-12*

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."
If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

- 10 if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
- 11 The Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

- 12 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING *Luke 3:7-16*

- 7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him,
"You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming
wrath?"
- 8 Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin
to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell
you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.
- 9 Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every
tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into
the fire."
- 10 And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?"
- 11 In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and
whoever has food must do likewise."
- 12 Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?"
- 13 He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you."
- 14 Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money
from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."
- 15 As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning
John, whether he might be the Messiah,[a]
- 16 John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than
I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with[b] the Holy
Spirit and fire.



**FULL LIFE IN THE
EMPTIEST OF PLACES**
by Lauren Wright Pittman
Inspired by Isaiah 58:9b-12



THE GOOD THAT IS YOURS
by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Inspired by Luke 3:7-16

MESSAGE

“Do What Is Yours To Do”

Rev. Tiffany Komasa

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

John the Baptist’s followers once asked him, “What shall we do?” Church, knowing the state of the world, what is your answer?

In the Spirit of Jesus Christ, we say:

Do not be discouraged by the weight of the world. Instead, hold fast to hope. Roll up your sleeves. Feed the hungry. Tend the garden. If you have two coats, give one away.

Do the good that is yours to do. In doing so, you will see God. For this we believe: small acts of love can make a difference. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Allyson Engdahl

OFFERTORY

“Carol of the Advent”
Arr. Philip Dietterich

Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, we thank you and praise you for partnering with us, for taking what we have to offer, though imperfectly given, and using it and us according to your will, for the healing and goodness of all creation. May we continue to give with gratitude, and receive through our giving. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S 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.

*CLOSING HYMN 138

“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“O Come, Emmanuel”
By Daniel Pinkham

Tom Kolar

Liturgy from “Words for the Beginning” by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

TO THOSE HELPING WITH TODAY’S WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship Leader: Allyson Engdahl Usher Captain: Michael Schmidt Elder of the Month: Tim Harvey

Worship Service Attendance for December 8, 2024 – 55

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

Prayer asked from:	For:
	Nancy and Alex asking for prayers for the King Family after the passing of their son Noah, Nancy's grandson and Alex's nephew.
	Sue Harvey: prayers for healing
Sandy Ferguson	Sister Pat: Prayers for healing
Jeanette	Cousin Joe Rosa: cancer has returned. Prayers for healing
	Friends and Family of Mary Ann Stockum on her passing Wednesday Nov. 20th
	Ginny Achtermann: pray for healing
Bill Gamble	Sister's cancer has returned: prayers for healing.
	Michael McKinney: pray for healing
	Judy Pierce: prayers for healing.
Grace Parks	Cousin Julie Bottomley: aggressive stage IV sarcoma. Brother Tim: Parkinson's disease.
Michael and Charmaine Hamilton	Granddaughter: Amelia Hamilton, rare disease of Friedreich's ataxia: brother Spencer and friends, Fred Heald and Karla Holton - ongoing medical concerns.
	Dave Grimm: prayers for healing.
Leah Hanesworth	Pray for healing for Leah's neighbors and friends, Berniece (colon cancer), and John (cancer of the mouth).
Pat Nicholson	Prayers for Granddaughter Stephanie and husband Corey Sander: healing for Corey's brain cancer.
Kathie Bailey	Brother Mike: pancreatic cancer.
Bonnie Grimm	Bonnie's cousin's husband, John Odum: has Parkinson's Disease.
	Terry McFadden: in Allen Oakwood Correctional Facility.
Carol McFadden	Carol's sister, Susan Wright: prayers for healing.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE LIST

Members:		Members:	
Glenn Beaber	Willow Brook	Betty Sikking	Home
Tom Hayes	The Forum-Assisted Living	Katy Frase	Home
Brita Knapp	Home		

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

Date:	Member:	Date:	Member
12/1	Bruce "Smitty" Smith	12/25	Emersyn Hicks
12/4	Linda Mahoney	12/27	Carol Kizer, Kyme Rennick
12/14	Vincent Nobel	12/28	Beryl Bunn
12/17	Linda Wilton, W. Garret Hunt, Sebastian Hunt	12/29	Eric Engdahl
12/23	Garrett Culbertson, Barbara Rine	12/31	Joe Mattiaccy

BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Bldchurch.org)
 1235 Northwest Boulevard, Grandview Heights, OH 43212
 614-486-0267 Fax: 614-486-2342
 Office Hours M-Th 10:00am to 4 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Tiffany Komasa – pastor@bldchurch.org
 Office Manager: Jeanette Gonzalez – office@bldchurch.org
 Music Director: Darius McBride Organist: Tom Kolar

Financial Officer: Valerie Bosworth- finance@bldchurch.org Preschool Administrator: Melissa Schauss

THIS WEEK AT BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

12 /15) Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship service in-person & live-streamed on Facebook; -We Wonder for Ages 4-7. Children attend 10:00 am worship through the Children’s Message, then go to the window room connected to the nursery.			
12/16) Monday 9:15am Pre-K Rehearsal in Sanctuary 6:00 Christmas Celebration In Sanctuary 6:30pm Cub Scouts	12/17) Tuesday 6:30pm Worship Committee 7:00pm EDA 7:30pm AA	12/18) Wednesday 9:00 Quilters 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:30pm NA	12/19) Thursday 9:30am 7:30 GA Meetings
12/20) Friday		12/21 Saturday	
12/22 Sunday 10:00 am worship service in-person & live-streamed on Facebook; -Faith Development: Reception for the Schafer Family n the Lounge, after service			

Operating Budget Snapshot - November 2024

	Month of	Budget	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	2024 Total
	November	November	Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date	Budget
Total Revenue	\$ 41,912.28	\$ 19,075.00	\$ 235,749.77	\$ 209,825.00	\$ 228,900.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 23,516.12	\$ 30,048.74	\$ 310,045.33	\$ 330,536.14	\$ 360,585.00
Net	\$ 18,396.16	\$ (10,973.74)	\$ (74,295.56)	\$ (120,711.14)	\$ (131,685.00)
November 2023 Comparison					
	Month of	Budget	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Total
	November	November	Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date	Budget
Total Revenue	\$ 11,136.07	\$ 18,948.00	\$ 205,746.71	\$ 208,428.00	\$ 227,377.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 23,088.65	\$ 26,454.00	\$ 270,307.87	\$ 289,554.00	\$ 315,977.00
Net	\$ (11,952.58)	\$ (7,506.00)	\$ (64,561.16)	\$ (81,126.00)	\$ (88,600.00)

NURSERY CARE AVAILABLE FOR WORSHIP!

The Nursery is available from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on Sunday Mornings during the worship service. We need more volunteers to staff our nursery so we can offer care after worship and give our regular volunteers the opportunity to attend worship. Please contact Sue Harvey (614-216-5884) if you can give your time this way. All volunteers will be trained on the church’s child safety policy and background checked.

SING WITH US Thursdays 7:15-8:45 Chancel Choir rehearses in the sanctuary. All voice types and levels of musicianship are welcome to join! Questions? Talk to Choir Director Darius McBride.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



HONOR YOU LOVED ONES WITH A POINSETTIA

Poinsettia order envelopes are available in the lounge. The cost of each plant is \$15.00. You can also call the church office at 614-486-0267, dial extension 1. Please remember to write "Poinsettia" on your check. 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. If you would like to purchase or donate a poinsettia, we will accept orders through Monday December 16, 2024. The poinsettias may be taken home after Christmas Eve.

REALM IS HERE Realm is a data management platform for communicating, organizing groups, scheduling meetings and events and sharing documents and other information. If you have not yet received an email inviting you to join Realm, please check your spam folder, or call the office to have a new email sent. You should also be receiving the weekly bulletin by email from Realm. If it's going to your junk mail, try adding notifications@onrealmmail.org to your contacts.

GIVING STATEMENTS were mailed out last week through Realm. Realm participants can also view their giving any time once you set up a Realm account. If you still need a copy of your giving statement, please contact the church office to have one sent to you in the mail.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP AT BOULEVARD Our family friendly "No Rehearsals" Christmas Pageant is back for the 6 p.m. service, with music from organist Tom Kolar and the Boulevard Lounge Singers. At 8 p.m. we'll have our traditional candlelight Lessons and Carols with the Chancel Choir. Bring your family to share this special night with our family of faith.

PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS FOR WHITE GIFT BAGS

For the worship service on Epiphany Sunday, January 5th, you are invited to fill a white gift bag (available in the lounge) with personal care items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, razors, feminine hygiene products, or bath tissue rolls), and place the bag in front of Boulevard's Christmas tree. It will make a great pile of snowy gifts. Personal care items are always requested by the customers of food pantries and are typically in short supply there. All donations will be taken to the NNEMAP food pantry in January. This will assist the pantry meet a critical need for the start of the new year.



Nearly 60 years ago, neighbors from 12 churches in the University District came together to create NSI to address hunger in our community. And while NSI has no religious affiliation, our daily work continues to be rooted in our founders' belief that we must love our neighbors as ourselves.

Food..

Rent assistance...

Help with utilities...

Generosity from friends like you fulfills our community's critical needs. **Will you support your neighbors by making a gift to NSI? In this time of great uncertainty, especially for the most vulnerable in our community, your support is more important than ever!** In this time of great uncertainty, especially the most vulnerable in our community, **your support is more important than ever!** Thank you for your deep care for our community.

For more information, go to <https://www.nsifoodpantry.org/>.