



The Second Sunday of Advent | words for the beginning  
**We can't go alone** Ruth 1 | Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SANCTUARY

December 8, 2024 10:00 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"  
By Robert Powell

Organ, Tom Kolar  
Flute, Diane Catran

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Sandy Ferguson & Martha Hills

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

**B:** Let us begin together. Let us begin arm in arm.  
Let us begin by holding each other up, instead of tearing each other down.  
Let us begin with words of peace.

**A:** Yes, let us begin with peace.

**B:** Today we light the candles of hope and peace.  
May these lights remind us of what could be.  
May these lights mark a new beginning.  
May peace flow like a river, and may it start with us.

**A:** Arm in arm, hand in hand, side by side. May we begin again. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tiffany Komasa

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder George Ells

In a world that is lonely, **we will save a seat for you.**

In a world that is anxious, **we will light candles against the gloom.**

In a world that is weary, **we will sing songs of joy and truth.**

I am not alone. **We are not alone.**

For here in this place, God is weaving us together.

**Light the candles! Sing with joy! We are a three-cord strand, not easily broken.**

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Tiffany Komasa

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

I have tried to make my own way. I have tried to lace my own shoes, to build my own house, to kindle my own faith. I have said a thousand times, "*turn back,*" as if I am fine on my own. But the days are long and I am forgetful. I need your help. Can you remind me?

**We will remind you of this everlasting truth: You are not alone.**

**Where you go, God goes. You are held in grace. Trust in this good news.**

Thanks be to God! I remember. I believe.

**Now we need your help. We, too, have tried to make our own way. We have tried to lace our own shoes, to build our own houses, to kindle our own faiths. We have said a thousand times, "*turn back,*" as if we are fine on our own. But the days are long and we are forgetful. We need your help. Can you remind us?**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I will remind you of this everlasting truth: You are not alone. Where you go, God goes. You are held in grace. Trust in this good news.

**Thanks be to God! We remember. We believe. Alleluia! 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.**

MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

“Life Check!”

Rev. Tiffany Komasaara

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder George Ells

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Ruth 1: 15-18*

- 15** So she said, “Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”
- 16** But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you, to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go, where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God.
- 17** Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!”
- 18** When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.



**BINDING BRAIDS**  
by Nicolette Peñaranda  
Inspired by Ruth 1

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING *Ecclesiastes 4:9-12* (538)

- 9** Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor:
- 10** If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.
- 11** Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone?
- 12** Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.



**FROM THE THREE**  
by Hannah Garrity  
Inspired by Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

MESSAGE

“I Am With You”

Rev. Tiffany Komasaara

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Martin Butler, NSI

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Elder George Ells

OFFERTORY

“We Are Trav'lers on a Journey”

Chancel Choir  
Darius McBride, Director

\*HYMN OF THANKS 652

“A Grateful Heart,” stanza 1

**A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering.  
Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God of abundance, we thank you for taking the parts and pieces of our lives that we offer, and for delivering us from the things we hold on to. Use it all - and us - for your glory and grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Rev. Tiffany Komasaara

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you!**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

**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.**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Nourishing God, sometimes we tell ourselves that too much has taken place to begin again. We think the world is too far gone. We think we have made too many mistakes. We tell ourselves that we couldn't possibly begin again. But then we come to this Table and we get a glimpse of your kingdom. We come to this Table and all are welcomed, all are seen, all are fed. And just like that, we have hope. Just like that, we begin again. Thank you for the gift of this fresh start. Thank you for planting hope deep in our bones. Thank you for meeting us in ordinary bread and juice to remind us that it's never too late to build your kingdom here. We are grateful. We are so grateful. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN 87**

**"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**"Veni, Emmanuel"**  
By Flor Peters

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: George Ells Usher Captain: Bill Bell Elder of the Month: Tim Harvey  
Worship Service Attendance for December 1, 2024 – 55

**BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** (Bldvchurch.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 Komasaara – pastor@bldvchurch.org  
Office Manager: Jeanette Gonzalez– office@bldvchurch.org  
Music Director: Darius McBride Organist: Tom Kolar

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

## PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

Prayer asked from:	For:
	MAJOR PRAYERS FOR HEALING ARE NEEDED: Nancy Human, Alex McCormick's grandson and nephew, Noah King: has been diagnosed with epithelial cancer in four organs. He will immediately be starting targeted radiation in his brain. Hopefully he will be transferred from Charleston, SC to The James in the next few weeks.
	Sue Harvey: prayers for healing
Sandy	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

## THIS WEEK AT BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

12 /8) Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship service in-person & live-streamed on Facebook; <b>-Food Collection: black or baked beans</b> or any item from the previous (last of the collection) -Faith Development after worship: learn more about our mission partner <b>Neighborhood Services (NSI)</b> - <b>Director Martin Butler</b> talks about the impact of Christmas Food Boxes and more! -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.			
12/9) Monday 9:30am Pre-School Rehearsal in Sanctuary 6:30pm Cub Scouts	12/10) Tuesday 9:30am Pre-School Rehearsal in Sanctuary 6:30pm Worship Committee 7:00pm EDA 7:30pm AA	12/11) Wednesday 9:30am Pre-School Rehearsal in Sanctuary 9:00 Quilters 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:30pm NA	12/12) Thursday 9:30am Pre-School Rehearsal in Sanctuary 7:30 GA Meetings
12/13) Friday 10:00am Stretch with Marlin		12/14 Saturday	
12/15 Sunday 10:00 am worship service in-person & live-streamed on Facebook;			

**IT’S STEWARDSHIP SEASON** This Fall, your pledges will put leaves back onto our Stewardship Tree as we together aim for our goal of \$275,000 to support our 2025 operating budget. As of Nov. 30, we have received 44 pledges committing over \$135,000 towards that goal!! Please prayerfully consider the value of Boulevard Church to you, your household and our community and make your pledge. Additional pledge packets are available in the lounge or contact the church office.

<b>Operating Budget Snapshot for October 2024</b>					
	<b>Month of</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>2024 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2024 Total</b>
	<b>October</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Total Revenue	\$ 9,804.60	\$ 19,075.00	\$ 193,837.49	\$ 190,750.00	\$ 228,900.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 31,703.22	\$ 30,048.74	\$ 286,529.21	\$ 300,487.40	\$ 360,585.00
Net	\$ (21,898.62)	\$ (10,973.74)	\$ (92,691.72)	\$ (109,737.40)	\$ (131,685.00)
October 2023 Comparison					
	<b>Month of</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Total</b>
	<b>October</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Total Revenue	\$ 15,363.45	\$ 18,948.00	\$ 194,610.64	\$ 189,480.00	\$ 227,377.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 27,083.71	\$ 26,454.00	\$ 247,219.22	\$ 263,100.00	\$ 315,977.00
Net	\$ (11,720.26)	\$ (7,506.00)	\$ (52,608.58)	\$ (73,620.00)	\$ (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

### CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY CARE PACKAGES

Thank you for your support of the Christmas Box Project. This undertaking would not be a success without the generosity of our congregation. Our final item for collection is **black or baked beans** or any item from the previous weeks. Please deliver all donations to Fellowship Hall and place them on the table marked "CHRISTMAS BOX DONATIONS." Or if doing so is difficult for you, please put them in the wooden box by the mission bulletin board in the lounge and we will move them to Fellowship Hall. Monetary donations are also welcome if that is easier. Please mark your check "Christmas boxes" and place it in the offering or drop it off at the church office. Thank you so much for supporting this important ministry. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Jane Swinford at [swinfordjane@gmail.com](mailto:swinfordjane@gmail.com).



### 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](mailto: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.



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/>.

