



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day  
 Stone Presbyterian Church  
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation  
 December 8, 2019 ~ The Second Sunday of Advent



**We Gather to Worship the One Who Is Coming**

PRELUDE "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds us" J.G. Walther  
*(Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)*

INTROIT & POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
**and a branch shall grow out of his roots.**  
 The Root of Jesse will spring up,  
**who will arise to rule over the nations and be the hope of all peoples.**

A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
**"Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight!"**  
 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever.  
**Let us worship God.**

+ HYMN #10 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" WINCESTER NEW  
*(+Those who are able may stand.)*

THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ADVENT CANDLE – PEACE – JOHN AND CHRISTINE MENARD

UNISON PRAYER

Dear God, as we move along our pilgrimage together, deepen our relationship  
 with you, with one another, and with all of your creation.

- Help us
- to make ready a pathway for your coming
  - to clean out the debris in our hearts and in our closets
  - to clear out a space in our calendars
  - to put aside any sense of unworthiness
  - and to focus on the One who comes to love us.

Amen!

+THE ADVENT GIVING – PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY  
 WORLDWIDE PEACEKEEPING & GLOBAL MISSION EFFORTS  
*(You are invited to bring forward your offering of peace.)*



PRAYER OF CONFESSION (first together then in silent reflection)

God of the future,  
 you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.  
 We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,  
 that we have lived casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment,  
 that we have not known the things that make for peace.  
 We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors,  
 abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and *shalom*.  
 Lead us to true repentance.  
 Baptize us with the Holy Spirit and with fire,  
 and in your great mercy,  
 forgive us all our sin and raise us to new life.  
 Let our lives bear the fruits of repentance and forgiveness  
 that we may prepare the way of the one who comes  
 to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found;  
 for his sake we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+A DOXOLOGY (to the tune GLORIA)  
 To the God of Peace we sing,  
 To the Son let praises ring,  
 To the Holy Spirit praise,  
 This our song of grateful praise:  
*Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!*  
*Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!*

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WELCOME

**We Listen for the Word of God**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

*(You are invited to say the concluding "amen" aloud.)*

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

*Isaiah 11:1-10 – A vision of the peaceable kingdom*  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God

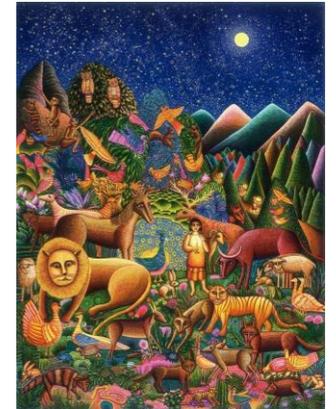
Told by Elizabeth Smith

*Romans 15:4-13 – The gospel is for Jews and Gentiles alike*

ANTHEM

"The God Whom Earth and Sea and Sky"

James J. Chepponis



*Matthew 3:1-12 – John the Baptist announces the coming of the Messiah*

Told by Anne Dunn

SERMON

“As the World Turns”

**We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving**

+ HYMN #2 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (based on the Prologue to the Gospel of John)

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made.**

**What was made in him was life, and the life was the light of humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not been able to overcome it.**

**The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own home, and his own people did not receive him. But to those who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD’S PRAYER & CHORAL RESPONSE

“debts/debtors” (Traditional, *Hymnal*, p. 16)

OFFERTORY “The Advent of Our King” Healey Willan

+A DOXOLOGY ADESTE FIDELES

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!**

**Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!**

**Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**

**O Come, let us adore him, O Come let us adore him,**

**O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We Go Out in the Peace of the Prince of Peace**

+ HYMN (insert) “Prepare the Way, O Zion” ST. LOUIS

+CHARGE, BENEDICTION, CHORAL RESPONSE AND POSTLUDE

**STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP**

**December 8, 2019 ~ Second Sunday of Advent ~ 10:30 a.m.**



*The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ, engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.*

**All the People, Ministers**

Stone Presbyterian Church  
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Clinton, New York 13323  
315-853-2933  
stonepres@verizon.net

Scott Leonard, Commissioned Lay Pastor  
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music  
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus  
Janice LeFrois, Office Administrator  
Jesse Miller, Sexton

[www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org) ~ [www.facebook.com/stonepres](https://www.facebook.com/stonepres)

**“Prepare the Way, O Zion”**

(TUNE: ST. LOUIS, “O Little Town of Bethlehem”)

Frans Mikael Franzen (1771-1847)

Adapted by Dennis Dewey (2001)

- 1. Prepare the way, O Zi—on, your Christ is— drawing near!  
Let ev’ry hill and vall—ey a level—way appear.  
Greet him who comes in glory, foretold on sacred page.  
O Bles—sèd is the one who comes to save this needy age!**
- 2. Christ brings God’s rule, O Zi—on; he comes from— heav’n above.  
His rule is peace and free—dom, with justice—, truth and love.  
All lands will bow before him, their adoration bring.  
O Blessèd is the one who comes, our Savior and our King!**
- 3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi—on, your savior’s— rule embrace.  
And tidings of salva—tion announce in— ev’ry place.  
Let every tongue and people, his praises now proclaim.  
O Blessèd is the one who comes in God’s most holy name!**

**TODAY IS PEACE SUNDAY**, the second Sunday in Advent. Our offering of Peace will be directed to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program in urgent response to the overwhelming culture of violence in our world. Our offering will be used to transform cultures of violence into communities of peace, in part by funding the Presbyterian Peace camp for children. Additionally, your generosity will help the Presbyterian Church USA to develop new approaches to equip God's people to be compassionate and prophetic peacemakers and to assist communities of peace to learn from each other and to take action together for the transformation of the world. As is our custom, this Advent offering will be separate from our regular giving. Please help support these obviously necessary peacemaking efforts.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS:** This afternoon at 4:00 p.m., Hamilton College welcomes the campus community and the public to join in the celebration of the Advent season, anticipating the joy of Christmas, reading together the biblical narratives and singing familiar songs with music provided by the Hamilton College Choir. Officiating over the service will be Rev. Jeffrey H. McArn, college chaplain, with the assistance of readers and clergy (including our Pastor Scott Leonard) and candle bearers from Hamilton College. A reception with Christmas cookies, punch and coffee will follow the service upstairs in the chapel. If you want to sing and hear all the Christmas carols to fill you for the month, this is the service to attend!

**HOPE HOUSE WISH LIST:** Hope House is requesting donations of **men's and women's hats, scarves, mittens and gloves** to be given to their clients on Christmas Eve. If you are able to donate any of these items, please put them in the Hope House basket in the narthex. Contact Ceil Gilbert if you have any questions. Thank you. Also, any donation that you designate for food or personal needs will greatly be appreciated. Any questions, contact Ceil Gilbert (853-8289) or ceilgilbert@yahoo.com.

**THE COUNTRY PANTRY:** Now it is time to think about Christmas. The pantry will be collecting **stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned yams, applesauce, raisins, dessert mixes, fleece throw blankets, dishtowels & pot holders.**

We will collect these items until **December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

**FAIR TRADE SHOPPE:** Vietnamese handcrafts sales fund various community development activities, including clean water projects, vocational training, equipment purchases, teacher wage subsidies, social and health insurance and the opportunity to apply for scholarship funds. Our quilled paper ornaments, made by Vietnamese artisans, are just two samples of the huge selection of handmade gift items from 38 different countries that can be found at our Fair Trade Shop, Stone Presbyterian Church, 8 So. Park Row, Clinton. Purchasing fair trade ensures artisans and small farmers fair wages and healthy working conditions, providing dignity, sustainable development and hope to marginalized people.



**DEAR FRIENDS OF THE PANTRY**, as a way to get the word out to more people, we have started a Facebook page to spread the word about our services. The pantry began in 1975, we are now 44 years old. If you know of someone who is struggling to feed their family, please have them contact us. We serve families in Clinton, Clark Mills, and Westmoreland.

WEB SITE; [www.thecountrypantry.org](http://www.thecountrypantry.org)

PHONE; 315-272-5267

FACEBOOK; [FB.me/thecountrypantry75](https://www.facebook.com/thecountrypantry75)

**MOBILE CRISIS ASSESSMENT TEAM:** There will be a short presentation about the Mobile Crisis Assessment Team after worship on Sunday, December 8th.

MCAT is a program at the neighborhood Center to help people who are experiencing a mental health crisis. Crisis counselors are available 24/7 for phone counseling or face to face assessment. It is strictly confidential.

MCAT is also affiliated with the LifeLine suicide prevention hotline.

So please come join us after worship on December 8th for a Lunch & Learning with Pat Joseph to talk about and learn more about community resources for suicide prevention and ask questions.



**LONGEST NIGHT ECUMENICAL SERVICE,** (the winter solstice), will be on **Saturday, 12/21/19 at 6:00 p.m.** at **St. James Episcopal Church.** The Clinton Area Ministerium is supporting a Longest Night service at for those experiencing grief, loss or hardship during the holiday season. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer, among other things can be difficult. The pain of loss is felt by many at this time of year and this service offers a sacred, gentle space to gather, remember, and comfort. Refreshments following the service in the Parish Hall.



**PLEASE COME JOIN US** for **TAPESTRY**, directed by **G. Roberts Kolb.** It'll be an Italian Christmas concert here at Stone Presbyterian church on **Wednesday, 12/18/19 at 7:00 p.m.** It will include works by Monteverdi, A Gabrieli, Gesualdo, Vivaldi, Rossini, Verdi, and others, plus traditional Italian carols. Hope to see you there!



## THE CALENDAR

Today – 12/08/19:	After Worship	Lunch & Learning w/ Pat Joseph
Today -12/08/19:	4:00 p.m.	Lesson & Carols @ Hamilton College
Monday – 12/09/19:	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
Thursday – 12/12/19:	10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Fair Trade Shoppe
Saturday – 12/14/19	10:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Fair Trade Shoppe
Sunday – 12/15/19:	9:15a.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday - 12/15/19:	10:30 a.m.	Worship

**Want to see what else is on the calendar? Go to our Web page – [stonepres.org](http://stonepres.org) & click on the “CALENDAR ICON”**



**GREETERS:** Judy LaGasse & Barb Greene

**PRAYER CHAIN:** If you would like to add someone to our prayer list or would like to receive the prayer list for daily prayer, please go to our website [www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org) and click on “Prayer Request” or call the church office at 315-853-2933

### **Prayer Request:**

Eugene Lawson  
Debra LaFont  
Christine Tuttle  
Diane Tuttle  
Jason & Tanya Hamshar  
Andrew Bering  
Grace Whittemore  
Jack Cassidy  
Elaine Heekin  
Tiffany Heintz  
Sue Riggles  
Anna Gogel  
David Harris

### **Members/Friends of the Week:**

Mary Chamberlain  
Roger Moore  
Stephen & Catherine Olney

