

December 10, 2023  
2nd Sunday of Advent



St. Timothy Presbyterian Church  
16700 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154  
734-464-8844  
Office Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm  
Friday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm  
email: sttimothy@sttimothycusa.org

Staff

Pastor - Joel Puntigam  
Music Director & Accompanist – Tim Falk  
Office Manager – Shelly Walldorff

St. Timothy Mission Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to: seek God, follow Christ, serve and love our neighbor.

Worship is also available via Live Stream just before 10:30 am or later in the afternoon as a video. Just use this link for both options:  
<https://video.sttimothycusa.org>

*Welcome!*

PRELUDE

INTROIT “Rise, O People, and Bring Good News” Choplin

PASTORAL WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE: Peace

Today we light the candle of peace, along with the candle of hope.

**With a year full of uncertainty, anxiety, and fear, the peace candle invites us into a holy space where we can just be.**

As we light the candle of peace, we acknowledge the times this year when peace has felt too far away to grasp for ourselves.

**We acknowledge our shared desire for God’s presence of peace as we continue in our Advent journey.**

*Light the Advent candle two: Think of humble shepherds, who filled with wonder at the sight of the child of Christmas night.*

*Candle, candle burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;*

*Candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

In John 14:27 Jesus declares: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” Let us pray:

**Holy God, we thank you for the gift of peace that is found in Christ Jesus. Remind us of your glorious peace in this Season of Advent. Amen.**

HYMN “Prepare the Way, O Zion” see insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace. Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins, that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name. Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God in repentance. Once more, let us find peace with God.

**We give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever!**

RESPONSE "Gloria Patri" # 623  
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

#### A MOMENT FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet, and a Light unto my path.

**People: Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet, and a Light unto my path.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:1-5

SPECIAL MUSIC "Waiting, Wandering, Wondering" Schram

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Matt Johnson

EPISTLE READING 2 Peter 3:8-15a

SERMON Pastor Joel Puntigam  
"Peace in the Midst of Patience"

HYMN "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" see insert

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Shorter Catechism*

Q57: What is the Fourth Commandment?

**A: The Fourth Commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."**

Q60: How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?

**A: The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.**

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Doxology # 625  
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ your steadfast love and faithfulness have met and your righteousness and peace have kissed. May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation. Amen.**

#### CALL TO PRAYER

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send Your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to Your children praying, Send us love, Send us pow'r, Send us grace.*

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" see insert

#### SENDING AND BENEDICTION

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to: seek God, follow Christ, serve and love our neighbor.**

#### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

#### POSTLUDE

*\*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1.*

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Following Along in Worship**

1. Today is the second Sunday of Advent. What are you looking forward to during the advent of Jesus?
2. How many Advent candles did we light today? What is the theme of the candle that was lit today?
3. What do you need to be filled with God's peace?
4. What was the topic of today's time with the children? Circle the correct one:
  - a. How hot is too hot: Florida vs Hot Sauce
  - b. Jesus: vegetarian?
  - c. Patience!
5. What do you think God wants you to know right now?
6. In the sermon, Pastor Joel will teach from 2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Circle all that are true:
  - a. We are not to forget one thing:
    - i. Taco Tuesday is awesome
    - ii. One day is like 1000 years to God and 1000 years is like one day
  - b. The Lord is never on time with anything
  - c. The Lord is never slow; he is always on time
  - d. But still, the day of the Lord will come:
    - i. When everyone is aware
    - ii. Like a thief in the night
  - e. Therefore, we are to live holy and godly lives

## Serving in Worship This Morning

Greeter:	Dorothy Sanchez
Ushers:	Mary Baum, Patty Kreitmeyer
Worship Assistant:	Kathy Turnbull
Advent Readers:	Margaret Barsch and family
Keyboard:	Paula Boegner
Technology:	Scott Gaines
Safety Officer:	Lou Suveg
Tellers:	Paula Boegner, Melanie Gumz
Fellowship Hour:	Cookie Exchange plus

### Weekly Bible Studies

#### Adult Sunday Bible Study – approximately 12:15 pm.

We are doing an Advent study in Room 14. All are welcome!

#### Zoom Bible Study – 12:00 pm on Monday

We are studying the book of Job.

This is the link address to join: <https://study.sttimothycusa.org>

#### Zoom Bible Study – 12:15 pm on Tuesday

We are studying the book of Luke.

This is the link address to join: <https://study.sttimothycusa.org>

#### Adult Weekly Bible Study, Thursday – 9:30 am

Our study is on the passage that Pastor Joel will be preaching on December 17 – John 1:6-8, 19-28.



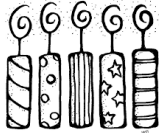
Prayer and Praise meets weekly on Tuesday mornings via phone and it is a great way to start your day. Details about joining are on the calendar (back page of bulletin).



Advent Devotionals are available and on the table in the Narthex under the information station.

 Chancel Flowers   
In memory of Charmaine Johnson,  
Matt Johnson

### Celebrating



**Birthdays:**

December 14

**Anniversary:**

Patty Kreitmeyer

No anniversaries this week

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Saturday, December 16 – Christmas Caroling*

*Sunday, December 17 – Congregational Meeting*

*Wednesday, December 20 – Friendship Club Worship*

*Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship*

CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

December 17<sup>th</sup> – short  
Congregational Meeting  
right after service to  
elect our leaders.



Thank you to everyone who has turned their pledges in.  
Currently, our pledge amount for next year is \$120,448.00.



Friendship Club Worship Service

December 20 at 11:00 am

Everyone is invited!

# Joy

## Fellowship Hour “Joy” Scriptures

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!



How would you like to write just one Christmas card and have the ENTIRE congregation receive it? You can do just that with the Christmas Card Bulletin Board! Bring your card and leave it in the special mailbox on the fireplace or mail it to the church office marked "Attention Bulletin Board." Have a question? Contact Margaret Barsch.



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Thank you for your donations at last week's Fellowship Hour. We collected \$105 for gifts for 7 of our Friendship Club guests.

Upcoming events:

Wednesday, December 20th 11:00AM - Friendship Club Worship Service, all are welcome.

Saturday, January 13th 9:00AM - Hope Clinic Bag lunch packing – All invited, plus workers will be treated to a brunch as well. A sign-up sheet is on the board in Fellowship Hall.

January through February: Presbytery Toilet Paper Drive (Individually wrapped)



Fellowship Hour is such a nice time to gather with everyone after service. Two last special days for this fall:

- December 10 – Cookie Exchange bring two dozen homemade cookies, take two dozen homemade cookies home with you! There will be other food as well.
- December 17 – Bring your favorite soup

For PER CAPITA we have collected **\$1,204.90** toward our assigned goal of \$2,260.30. If you are able to financially help with this cost, drop a check in the offering and in the memo line, write per capita. Thank you!



Cassy Sautter is singing in the Farmington Chorus and they have some performances coming up too.

**SAVE THE DATES – DECEMBER 15 & 16!**

There is a poster on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall that has ticket information. The poster has a QR code and phone number to buy tickets. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Cassy encourages purchasing tickets as soon as possible to secure your seats. This is a very popular show each year and is a great value for nice family holiday entertainment. A cash bar is available at the venue as well.



The Deacon "Warming" Tree is in the narthex and ready to be decorated! Please consider trimming the tree

with the following items:

Socks, Hats, Gloves, Mittens and Scarves  
 Charity TBD, if you have ideas, reach out to  
 Kathey Turnbull



The Deacons invite you to come Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will visit some of our members and bring them Christmas cheer. Greg, Mike and Paul will be providing music for the caroling. Meet at the church at 1:00 pm. Please reach out to Kathey Turnbull for any questions and to RSVP.

## Church Weekly Schedule

Sunday	9:20 AM	Handbell Rehearsal
12/10	9:45 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	<i>Family Worship</i>
	11:30 AM	Fellowship Hour
	12:15 PM	<i>Adult Bible Study</i>
Monday	12:00 PM	Zoom Adult Bible Study
12/11		<a href="https://study.sttimothyPCUSA.org">https://study.sttimothyPCUSA.org</a>
	5:30 PM	<i>Men's Association Dinner</i>
	6:00 PM	TOPS
Tuesday	6:45 & 8:15 AM	Prayer and Praise Call
12/12		202-926-1029 - access code 235645
	9:00 AM	<i>STARS</i>
	12:15 PM	Zoom Adult Bible Study
		<a href="https://study.sttimothyPCUSA.org">https://study.sttimothyPCUSA.org</a>
Wednesday	6:00 PM	<i>Heritage Square HOA meeting</i>
12/13		
Thursday	9:30 AM	Thursday Morning Bible Study
12/14	5:55 PM	<i>Handbell Rehearsal</i>
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday	6:00 PM	Special Olympics Cheer
12/15		
Saturday	8:30 AM	Men's Association Breakfast
12/16		
Sunday	9:45 AM	<i>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</i>
12/17	10:30 AM	Family Worship
		<a href="https://video.sttimothypcusa.org">https://video.sttimothypcusa.org</a>
	11:30 AM	<i>Fellowship Hour</i>
	12:15 PM	Adult Bible Study

## Prepare the Way, O Zion

*Prepare the way, O Zion,  
your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory,  
foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.*

*He brings God's rule, O Zion;  
he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
for grace and joy abounding.  
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.*

*Fling wide your gates, O Zion;  
your Savior's rule embrace,  
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow rejoicing,  
their adoration voicing.  
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.*

## Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

*Watchman, tell us of the night,  
what its signs of promise are.  
Traveler, what a wondrous sight;  
see that glory beaming star.  
Watchman, does its beauteous ray news of joy  
or hope foretell?  
Traveler, yes; it brings the day,  
promised day of Israel.*

*Watchman, tell us of the night;  
higher yet that star ascends.  
Traveler, blessedness and light,  
peace and truth its course portends.  
Watchman, will its beams alone  
gild the spot that gave them birth?  
Traveler, ages are its own;  
see, it bursts o'er all the earth.*

*Watchman, tell us of the night,  
for the morning seems to dawn.  
Traveler, shadows take their flight;  
doubt and terror are withdrawn.  
Watchman, you may go your way;  
hasten to your quiet home.  
Traveler, we rejoice today,  
for Emmanuel has come!*

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a Child, and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.*