

December 24, 2023
4th 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@sttimothypcusa.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.sttimothypcusa.org>

Welcome!

PRELUDE

INTROIT “O Little Town of Bethlehem” Brooks/Redner

PASTORAL WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE: Love
Today we light the candle of love, along with the candle of hope, the candle of peace, and the candle of joy. On this last Sunday in Advent, we invite the fruit of love to enter our hearts.

We remember that love surprises us from the darkness of the womb and the tomb. Love is with us, a saving love that transforms the world.

This candle reminds us that love has no bounds, even in a time like this. The active, intentional lighting of the candle of love helps us to remember that love came down at Christmas.

We remember that love has comforted us this year. And we are thankful that God’s love never fails!

*Light the Advent Candle Four; Think of joy forever more;
Christ Child in a stable born, gift of love that Christmas morn
Candle, candle burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

1 John 4:7 declares: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Let us pray:

Holy God, we thank you for this gift of love that is found in Christ Jesus. Remind us of this love in our lives as we prepare our hearts for Christmas. Amen.

HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” see insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we often turn away from you and walk our own path. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever. Amen.

**Sunday, December 24th
Following Along in Worship**

1. How many Advent candles did we light today? What is the theme of the candle that was lit today?
2. What has been something that you have learned about God during this Advent Season?
3. What was the topic of today's time with the children? Circle the correct one:
 - a. Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!
 - b. The Love of God
 - c. Why Christians shouldn't eat ham or bacon
 - d. Christmas Trees: real, or artificial?
4. Why is God's love so amazing?
5. Today, Paula Boegner will preach on Luke 1:26-38. Circle all that are true:
 - a. God sent an angel to
 - i. Someone in Ohio
 - ii. A virgin named Mary
 - b. Mary was told that God was with her
 - c. And that she will
 - i. Start eating pork sandwiches
 - ii. Have a baby
 - d. How could this be?
 - i. Nobody knows
 - ii. God would do it
 - e. For nothing is impossible for God!

Serving in Worship This Morning

Greeter:	Dennis Delezenne
Ushers:	Lou Suveg, Mary Baum
Worship Assistant:	Scott Gaines
Advent Readers:	Melanie Gumz and Jim Tindall
Duet:	Cassy Sautter, Paula Boegner
Violin:	Sue Zabell
Trumpet:	Jillian Sautter
Keyboard:	Linda Delezenne
Technology:	Melanie Gumz
Safety Officer:	Kathy Turnbull
Tellers:	Paula Boegner, Kim Gaines
Fellowship Hour:	

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 – see you on January 8, 2024

We continue our study on the book of Job.

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

Zoom Bible Study – see you on January 2, 2024

We are studying the book of Luke.

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

Adult Weekly Bible Study, Thursday – see you on January 4

Our study is on the passage that Pastor Joel will be preaching on January 7 – Mark 1:4-11.



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). Join us January 9!

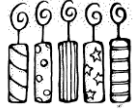


Chancel Flowers



In thanksgiving for family during Christmas,
Lou and Jean Suveg

Celebrating



Birthdays:

December 30

Scott Gaines

Anniversary:

No anniversaries this week

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Saturday, January 13 – Hope Clinic Bag Lunch Packing
Wednesday, January 17 – Friendship Club Worship



2024 Chancel Flower Chart

The new chart is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up for a Sunday or two. Adding some beauty and color to our sanctuary on Sunday mornings is so special! One Sunday left in December – the 31st.



Friendship Club Worship Service
January 17 at 11:00 am
Everyone is invited!

Joy

Fellowship Hour “Joy” Scriptures

Galations 5:22-23

“²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self control. Against such things there is no law.”



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Upcoming events:

Saturday, January 13th 9:00 AM - 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)



Church Weekly Schedule

Sunday	9:20 AM	Handbell Rehearsal
12/24	9:45 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	<i>Family Worship</i>
Monday		Christmas Day!
12/25		<i>Office Closed</i>
Tuesday		<i>Office Closed</i>
12/26		
Wednesday		<i>Office Closed</i>
12/27		
Thursday		<i>Office Closed</i>
12/28		
Friday		<i>Office Closed</i>
12/29	6:00 PM	Special Olympics Cheer
Saturday		
12/30		
Sunday	9:45 AM	<i>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</i>
12/31	10:30 AM	Family Worship
		https://video.sttimothycusa.org



The Mission & Outreach Committee will be packing 100 lunches for Hope Clinic on Saturday, January 13th from 9 am-12 pm. Hope Clinic hands out about 500 lunches weekly. This is another opportunity for us to help those in need. Brunch will be served to the volunteers. Please sign up on the bulletin board in fellowship hall. You can also donate monetarily.

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 every nation,
joy of every 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.*

Away in a Manger

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes,
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.*

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

*Infant holy, Infant lowly,
for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
noels ringing, tidings bringing;
Christ the Babe is Lord of all,
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.*

*Flocks were sleeping,
shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow"
Christ the Babe was born for you.
Christ the Babe was born for you.*