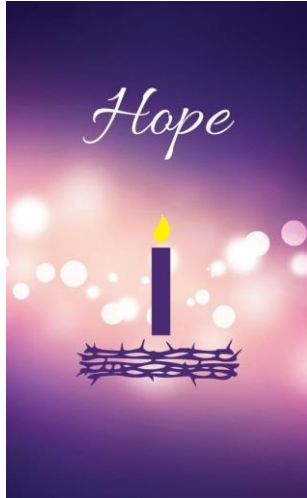


December 3, 2023
1st Sunday of Advent



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

PASTORAL WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

Today, we once more begin the Season of Advent – a season of longing, of waiting, of remembering.

Advent reminds us of the promises of God.

As we turn to God, we come laden with expectations,

And we come filled with hope!

*Light the Advent Candle one: Now the waiting has begun;
We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas Day.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Psalm 147:11 declares “the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.”

Indeed, we delight in the Lord, who fills us with a living hope.

HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” see insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God-with-us, even in Advent, we confess that you can seem far away. You are hidden when we need you near. In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to you; instead, we lash out—against you, our neighbor, even those we love. Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us! Let your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins are faded, and our hope is restored. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The grace of God, given to us in Christ Jesus, strengthens us to the end so that we may be blameless when Christ comes again. Thanks be to God, who is faithful and has called us into the fellowship of the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord! In Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Amen and Alleluia!

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 64:4-9

SPECIAL MUSIC “Will We Know Him?” Besig/Price

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Linda Houghtby

GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:24-37

SERMON Pastor Joel Puntigam
“Hope in Dark Times”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Shorter Catechism*

Q53: What is the Third Commandment?

A: The Third Commandment is, “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.”

Q54: What is required in the Third Commandment?

A: The Third Commandment requires the holy and reverent use of God’s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

Q55: What is forbidden in the Third Commandment?

A: The Third Commandment forbids all profaning or abusing of anything by which God makes himself known.

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

Faithful God, we thank you that Christ is being revealed in every time and place until he comes again in the fullness of glory. Strengthen our testimony and spiritual gifts; increase generosity in us, we pray, as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN “Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread” see insert

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

This morning we will be receiving Communion in the pews. An usher will come to your pew to distribute the elements. Eat the bread individually when you are ready. Then wait until everyone has been served the cup and we will drink together as a congregation.

THE CELEBRATION

The Invitation

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Consecration

The Bread

The Cup

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 “Savior of the Nations, Come” see insert

SENDING AND BLESSING

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 2*

Sunday, December 3rd
Following Along in Worship

1. Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means coming. Whose advent are we looking forward to?

2. How many Advent candles did we light today? What is the theme of the candle that was lit today?

3. What was the topic of today's time with the children? Circle the correct one:
 - a. Shopping is so much fun.
 - b. I can't wait for Christmas!
 - c. Hope in the Lord

4. What is your favorite thing about the Advent Season?

5. In the sermon, Pastor Joel taught from Mark 13:24-37. Circle all that are true:
 - a. Jesus will come back one day
 - b. I am ready for him to come back
 - c. We need to be alert for his return
 - d. Everyone knows when Jesus will return
 - e. There will be signs when Jesus is about to return:
 - i. Free ice cream for all
 - ii. The world will be in darkness
 - iii. The Lions win the Super Bowl
 - iv. Stars will fall from the sky
 - f. Advent is about Christmas
 - g. Advent is about Christ

Serving in Worship This Morning

Greeter:	Dennis Delezenne
Ushers:	Kathy Turnbull, Ron Martin
Worship Assistant:	Matt Johnson
Advent Readers:	Dorothy Sanchez, Sue Zabell
Communion Servers:	Cassy Sautter, Tim Chanko
Keyboard:	Paula Boegner
Technology:	Melanie Gumz
Safety Officer:	Lou Suveg
Tellers:	Paula Boegner, Bob Taylor
Fellowship Hour:	Mission & Outreach

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.sttimothypcusa.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.sttimothypcusa.org>

Adult Weekly Bible Study, Thursday – 9:30 am

Our study is on the passage that Pastor Joel will be preaching on December 10 – Mark 1:1-8.



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.

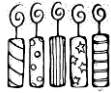


Chancel Flowers



In memory of Jim Chapp,
Jean Chapp

Celebrating



Birthdays:

December 7
December 8

Janice Wickersham
Bob Taylor

Anniversary:

No anniversaries this week

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, December 8 – Set up for Salad Luncheon
Saturday, December 9 – Faith Circle Salad Luncheon
Saturday, December 16 – Christmas Caroling
Sunday, December 17 – Congregational Meeting
Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship

CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

December 17th – 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.

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you again for your support of Operation Good Cheer (Foster kids) and for your Thanksgiving Donations. Those donations are deposited into the Mission & Outreach food ministry account and will be used for packing lunches for Hope! More details soon.



Friendship Club Worship Service
December 20 at 11:00 am
Everyone is invited!



St. Timothy Faith Circle invites you to their annual Christmas Salad Luncheon

Date: Saturday, December 9, 2023

Time: 11:00 am to 1:30 pm

Please bring: a salad to share

Tickets: \$3.00 tickets are on sale

Entertainment: fun games

Music Entertainment: Our Music Man – Tim Falk

Invite: your friends and family



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



Thanks to all who stayed last Sunday and helped hang the greens! The church looks beautiful and festive.



The Deacons invite you to come Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 16th. 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.



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!



Matt Johnson is part of the Detroit Lutheran Singers and their Christmas Concert Series are on the dates listed below. For more information, check out the poster on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

- Sunday, December 3rd at 3:00 pm
- Friday, December 8th at 7:30 pm
- Saturday, December 9 at 7:00 pm



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

SAVE THE DATES!

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.

Church Weekly Schedule

Sunday	9:45 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
12/3	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
12/4		https://study.sttimothyPCUSA.org
	1:00 PM	<i>Kindred Spirits Quilting Guild</i>
	6:00 PM	TOPS
Tuesday	6:45 & 8:15 AM	Prayer and Praise Call
12/5		202-926-1029 - access code 235645
	9:00 AM	<i>STARS</i>
	12:15 PM	Zoom Adult Bible Study
		https://study.sttimothyPCUSA.org
	4:15 PM	<i>Worship Committee</i>
	5:30 PM	Faith Education
Wednesday	5:00 PM	Mission & Outreach Committee
12/6	6:30 PM	<i>Session</i>
Thursday	9:30 AM	Thursday Morning Bible Study
12/7	11:30 AM	<i>Ladies Luncheon</i>
	6:00 PM	Compassionate Friends
	5:55 PM/7:00 PM	<i>Handbell/Chancel Choir Reh</i>
Friday 12/8	All Day	Faith Circle Xmas Luncheon Set-up
Saturday	All Day	Faith Circle Christmas Luncheon
12/9		
Sunday	9:20 AM	Handbell Rehearsal
12/10	9:45 AM	<i>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</i>
	10:30 AM	Family Worship
		https://video.sttimothyPCUSA.org
	11:30 AM	<i>Fellowship Hour</i>
	12:15 PM	Adult Bible Study

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*O Come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight,
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Desire of nations,
bind All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
Fill all the world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

*Be known to us in breaking bread,
but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us,
and spread your table in our heart.*

*Here share with us, in love divine,
your body and your blood,
that living bread,
that heavenly wine by our immortal food.*

Savior of the Nations, Come

*Savior of the nations, come;
virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,
that the Lord chose such a birth.*

*From God's heart the Savior speeds;
back to God his pathway leads;
out to vanquish death's command,
back to reign at God's right hand.*

*Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.*

*Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the Holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally.*