

# Welcome!

Preprinted Advent cover

PRELUDE            “See Amid the Winter’s Snow”            John Goss

INTROIT

PASTORAL WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE: Peace

Today we light the candle of peace, along with the candle of hope. Lighting this second candle reminds us of the possibility of what it means to have peace this year.

**With a year full of uncertainty, anxiety, and fear, the peace candle invites us into a holy space where we can linger in the presence of God.**

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.**

*As the Hope and Peace candles are lit, the congregation is invited to sing the following:*

*Now we light the candle two,  
Bringing peace to me and to you,  
Bring us the light of holy peace,  
Let all war and strife now cease*

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

**And on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.**

HYMN            “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”            see insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace, today we once more celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, in whom we 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. Allelu. Amen.*

**A MOMENT FOR ILLUMINATION**

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

GOSPEL READING:    Luke 3:4-6

A TIME FOR GOD’S CHILDREN    Kathey Turnbull

SPECIAL MUSIC                      “Pass the Advent Light”                      Liebergen

OLD TESTAMENT READING    Malachi 3:1-4

SERMON    Pastor Joel Puntigam  
    “Refined and Purified”

HYMN                      “We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom”                      see insert

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH    The Apostle’s Creed  
**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Offertory                      “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”

**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:**

**God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives. Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

*Please step up to the microphone to make your announcement so everyone (including online guests) can hear what is being said.*

HYMN                      “Prepare the Way, O Zion”                      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**

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!*

**POSTLUDE**

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

**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Following Along in Worship**

1. Last week we learned about the importance of hope. Why is hope in the Lord better than all other things we might place our hope in?
2. Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Why is the celebration of Advent so important to our celebration of Christmas?
3. What was the Time for the Children about today?
  - a. Hungry Hearts
  - b. God has more work to do in us
  - c. Christmas Tree Showdown: real vs artificial
4. What's something you would like God to transform in you? Don't forget to pray!
5. In the sermon, Pastor Joel will teach from Malachi 3:1-4. Circle all that are true about this passage:
  - a. Before the Lord arrives, first there will be
    - i. Miracles and signs and wonders
    - ii. A messenger who will prepare the way
  - b. But when the Lord comes,
    - i. There will be no change – everything is a-ok
    - ii. There will be so much change! Everything will be refined
  - c. Jesus refines all of us so that:
    - i. We can talk and chew gum at the same time
    - ii. We can do whatever we want, perfectly
    - iii. We can finally bring our righteousness to him

**Serving in Worship**

- Greeter: Kathey Turnbull  
Ushers: Mary Baum, Patty Kreitmeyer  
Worship Assistant: Linda Houghtby  
Advent Readers: Muriel and Ron Martin  
Keyboard: Paula Boegner  
Technology: Scott Gaines  
Safety Officer: Dennis Delezenne  
Tellers: Paula Boegner, Bob Taylor  
Fellowship Hour: Bring your favorite soup

**Weekly Bible Studies**

**The Big “?” Bible Study – Sunday at 12:30 pm**

Questions for this study: *Who was Herod before and after his Interaction with the Magi? What was his relation to Herod in Jesus adulthood? All are welcome in Fellowship Hall.*

**Zoom Bible Study – Monday at 12:00 pm**

We will be rotating between Psalms and the minor Prophets.

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

**Zoom Bible Study – Tuesday at 1:00 pm**

We are studying the book of Acts.

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

**Adult Weekly Bible Study – Thursday - 9:30 am**

Our study is on the passage that Pastor Joel will be preaching on December 15 - Isaiah 12:2-6.



Chancel Flowers



Lord's blessings to everyone...

Bob and Kimmy Taylor

# Celebrating



## **Birthdays:**

December 8

Bob Taylor

December 14

Patty Kreitmeyer

## **Anniversaries:**

No anniversaries this month.

The 2025 Flower Chart is up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Lots of space is available for those special dates!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, December 11 – Ladies Outing to Meadowbrook**

**Saturday, December 14 – Christmas Salad Luncheon**

**Sunday, December 15 – Congregational Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Service**

**Wednesday, December 25 – Moravian Love Feast**

**Saturday, December 28 – Puntigam Open House**



Cookie Exchange! On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, bring 2 dozen of your favorite cookies or treats to exchange during fellowship.



## Warming Tree

Our warming tree is once again located in the Narthex. All items are welcome, whether made by hand or purchased. Thank you to the STARS for setting it up. The tree will be available to receive donations until Sunday, December 8. We live in a cold winter climate and many people have to be outdoors. Hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and socks are getting expensive but are so necessary to keep warm in a Michigan winter. Items are needed for all ages. If you have a need, please help yourself. If you are able to donate, thank you. The items will be donated to Hope Clinic or Samaritan's Purse. Thank you from your Deacons.



## Christmas Morning Moravian Love Feast Breakfast

10:00 am

Please join us for a St. Timothy Family Christmas Celebration. We will read and listen to the Christmas Story. There will be opportunities for each of you to share your favorite personal story or a favorite poem.

We will also be singing some Christmas carols.

A light continental breakfast will be served – remember to bring your favorite mug.

Feel free to wear your pajamas!

**Sign-up on the bulletin board in fellowship hall.**



Community Opportunity Center (COC)  
“Friendship Club Opportunities to Serve”

COC has a craft day on January 8 and they are looking for folks to help. Wednesday, January 8 at 10:00 am. (All craft days are on the first Wednesday of each month except for holidays.)

*Questions? Please reach out to Mary or Dennis.*



December 15<sup>th</sup> – Congregational Meeting right after service to elect our leaders (Elders, Deacons and Officers) and approve Pastor Joel’s Terms of Call.



Faith Circle invites you to add a Christmas Card to the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. It is a nice way to share “season’s greetings” with our church family and friends.



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

Date: Saturday, December 14, 2024

Time: 11:00 am to 200 pm

Please bring: a salad to share

Tickets \$3.00 – currently on sale

Entertainment: fun games

Music Entertainment: Tim Chanko/Matt Johnson

Invite: your friends and family



**Advent Devotionals and *table advent wreaths* are available on the table in the narthex.**



**Cassy Sautter enjoys being part of the Farmington Chorus and invites you to one of their Christmas performances.**

**“Do You Want to Build a Snowman”**

**The concert dates are:**

- **Friday, December 13th at 8 pm @ The Hawk Auditorium**
- **Saturday, December 14th at 4 pm @ The Hawk Auditorium**

**Tickets are now on sale via The Hawk website – \$15.00 if purchased ahead of time and \$20.00 at the door.**



Spotlight Players at Village Theater in Canton has a performance that our Tim Chanko is involved with – December 8.

- “Who Killed Ebenezer Scrooge?” Tim has a role in this performance.
- Details and ticket information are at the Information Station and on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.



Our own Matt Johnson invites you to his Xmas concerts:

- December 8, 3 PM Christmas Concert, Historic Trinity Lutheran, 1345 Gratiot, Detroit 48207
- December 13, 7:30 PM Christmas Concert, Ascension of Christ Lutheran, 16935 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills, 48025
- December 14, 7 PM Christmas Concert, Christ Our Savior Lutheran, 14175 Farmington Rd, Livonia 48154

### Church Weekly Schedule

Sunday 12/8	9:20 AM	Handbell Rehearsal
	9:45 AM	<i>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</i>
	10:30 AM	Family Worship
		<a href="https://video.sttimothyusa.org">https://video.sttimothyusa.org</a>
	After Worship	<i>Fellowship Hour</i>
	12:30 PM	Big "?" Bible Study
Monday 12/9	12:00 PM	Zoom Adult Bible Study
		<a href="https://study.sttimothyusa.org">https://study.sttimothyusa.org</a>
	5:30 PM	<i>Men's Association Dinner</i>
	6:00 PM	TOPS
Tuesday 12/10	6:45 & 8:15 AM	Prayer and Praise Call
		202-926-1029 - access code 235645
	9:00 AM	STARS
	1:00 PM	Zoom Adult Bible Study
		<a href="https://study.sttimothyusa.org">https://study.sttimothyusa.org</a>
	4:15 PM	<i>Worship Committee</i>
	5:30 PM	Faith Education
	6:30 PM	<i>Nominating &amp; Personnel</i>
Wednesday 12/11	All Day	Ladies Meadowbrook Outing
	6:30 PM	<i>Strategic Planning</i>
Thursday 12/12	9:30 AM	Thursday Morning Bible Study
	5:55/ 7:00 PM	<i>Handbell/Chancel Choir Rehearsals</i>
Friday 12/13	All Day	Salad Luncheon set up
Saturday 12/14	11:00 AM	Christmas Salad Luncheon
Sunday 12/15	9:45 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	<i>Family Worship</i>
		<a href="https://video.sttimothyusa.org">https://video.sttimothyusa.org</a>
	11:30 AM	Congregational Meeting
	After Meeting	<i>Fellowship Hour</i>
	After Fellowship	The Big "?" Bible Study

## **On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken,  
for he brings glad tiding of the King of kings!*

*Then cleansed be every life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within, and let us all our hearts  
prepare for Christ to come and enter there.*

*We hail you as our Savior,  
Lord, our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and  
decay.*

*Stretch forth your hand; our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more. O let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.*

## **We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom**

*We wait the peaceful kingdom,  
when wolf and lamb shall lie in gentleness and friendship  
without a fear or sigh,  
when lion shall be grazing, when snake shall never strike;  
a little child shall lead us both strong and weak alike.*

*Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start?  
We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart.  
Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home:  
we pray that all creation will one day find shalom.*

*When wars of desolation and hate come to an end,  
when nation meets with nation and calls the other "friend,"  
still peace in all its fullness will only have begun:  
shalom for all creation begins with justice done.  
(continued on next page)*

*That little child shall lead us to walk the chosen way,  
to share the peaceful kingdom, to greet God's newborn day.  
The child born in a stable is sent to break our chains,  
to bring through word and table the day when justice reigns.*

## **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, fore-told 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.*