

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you. If you are visiting with us, please introduce yourself to the pastor following the service.

*Congregation standing for those who are able

Our Approach to God

Prelude *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* arr. Carter
One License #116447

Lighting of the Advent Wreath –The Candle of Peace Ruth Estell

On this Second Sunday, the season of Light into our Darkness.

We light this candle of hope. We light this candle for peace.

Hear the good news! The Lord Almighty answers, "I will send my messenger to prepare the way for me. Then the Lord you are looking for will suddenly come to his Temple. The messenger you long to see will come and proclaim my covenant." But who will be able to endure the day when he comes? Who will be able to survive when he appears? He will be like strong soap, like a fire that refines metal. He will come to judge like one who refines and purifies silver. As a metalworker refines silver and gold, so the Lord's messenger will purify the priests, so that they will bring to the Lord the right kind of offerings. Then the offerings which the people of Judah and Jerusalem bring to the Lord will be pleasing to him, as they used to be in the past. (Malachi 3:1-4)

Who brings good news, who announces salvation!

*The Hymn of Praise *Comfort, Comfort You My People* 3
Congregation sings verses 1 & 2

*The Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Covenant God of peace, you send us messengers to cleanse and refine us for your coming, helps us endure the mirror of the prophets' message, that we may see you when you suddenly appear among us, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*The Response *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* 15
Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch in expectation! At midnight comes the cry.

The Special Music *Carols for Advent* arr. Liebergen
Chancel Choir
One License #114291

The Word of God

The Time with the Children

The Gospel Reading Luke 3:1-6 81NT

The Sermon "Walk in the Light" Pastor Philomena

Our Response to Serve

*The Affirmation of Faith (Confession of 1967, 9.19)

The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written. Amen.

The Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory *Go Tell it on the Mountain* arr. Carter
One License #49124

*The Doxology
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.

*The Prayer of Dedication

The Hymn *Prepare the Way* 13
Congregation sings verses 1 & 2

*The Charge and Benediction

*Postlude *Breath of Heaven* arr. Bober

One License #72264

Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (989) 792-1023

December 5, 2021

Our guest musician today is Deanna Patton, piano

Songs and broadcast covered by:

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Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, December 12, immediately following worship, there will be a congregational meeting to elect Elders for the Second Presbyterian Church Session. Please plan on attending.

Elder Nominations:

Karen Schadel – 1 year

Alex (AJ) Makrianis

Pam Moran

Fred Herter

Second Term – 2024

Adam Engel

Billie Bauer

To our friends and family of Second Pres,

'Thank you' cannot begin to express how our hearts felt after the 'sending off' that the congregation gave us a couple of weeks ago. The video messages had us both laughing and crying. We have made lifelong friends and have countless, amazing memories from our years of leading the youth group. It was so heartwarming to see so many faces that we haven't seen in a long time and hear some old stories that we had forgotten about 😊. Thank you for the cards that have been sent, the video messages shared and the reception after service. The Sova Circus will still be around, but we want to thank everyone for the outpouring of love and laughs as we relinquish the reins on the youth.

God Bless,

Tammi and DJ



Seeking and Serving Christ. We are a Place for Growing Christians.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Newsletter Corrections

- 1) The Christmas Eve Service has been changed from 5:30 p.m. to **6:30 p.m.**
- 2) The Florence Gilmour Circle will not meet at the church on Wednesday, December 8 to assemble Thinking of You plates. A luncheon at Sullivan's Restaurant is still planned for 11:30 a.m. Call Carol Poole (989) 793-7485 if you have any questions.

Angel Tree Gifts

The gifts for the Angel Tree collection are due **NEXT Sunday** December 12. There are a few tags still left on the table if you would like to contribute to this wonderful program.

2nd @ Second Adult Education

Join us TODAY at 10:45 a.m. in the library as we reflect on the Gospel of Luke chapters 1 & 2.



Poinsettias



We will decorate the Sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas Season. If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special, please sign up and pay in the office. The deadline to order is **TODAY**. These beautiful poinsettias are \$10.00 each. Take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve services.

SERRV Sale

Beginning TODAY, we will have the SERRV merchandise displayed in the gathering area. We have many new items and wonderful gift ideas. Please consider shopping and supporting the artisans. 25 % of the proceeds will go to support the Mission projects we as a congregation contribute to throughout the year.

Old Town Soup Kitchen

The Mission Committee would like to know if there is an interest in volunteering at the Old Town Soup Kitchen in 2022. Old Town Christian Outreach is a wonderful organization committed to helping those in need.

We would love to be able to get a group of people together to volunteer once or twice a month. If you think this is something you would like to try, put your name on the list. Let us know what day(s) would work better for you -- Monday / Wednesday / Friday from 11am-1pm. It is a lot of fun, a little hard work, great fellowship, and the spirit of helping others. The sign-up sheet is on a clipboard on the Mission table.

Per Capita Apportionment for 2022

At the beginning of each year our Per Capita Apportionment for ecclesiastical expenses comes due. Per Capita is part of being a Presbyterian and connecting to the Presbyterian Church as a whole; it is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. The total 2022 per capita amount is \$8,381.00 for our church or \$29.00 per member (not per household). It goes to General Assembly, Synod of the Covenant, and the Presbytery. If each member pays their Per Capita amount above their regular giving, then pressure on our budget is reduced. Please mark Per Capita on your check or envelope.