



Poland Presbyterian Church founded May 3, 1802  
First Sunday in Advent – November 29, 2020 10:00 AM  
**The Hanging of the Greens ~ Worship Service**

Meditation before Worship

At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern.

-Mother Teresa

Prelude

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Arr. Mackal

Welcome and Announcements

The Advent Wreath

Lighting of the Advent Candle

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

L: This day, in warmth, reverence and wonder, we adorn our Sanctuary for the coming of the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Prince of Peace! Let us prepare Him room!

**P: We prepare for the King with branches of cedar, the tree of royalty!**

L: We prepare for the eternal Christ with garlands whose leaves are ever living, evergreen!

**P: We prepare for the Savior with holly and ivy, telling of His passion, death and resurrection!**

L: We prepare for the Son of God with the prophets' message, announcing the saving work of God!

**P: God sent the Son into the world that the world through Him might be saved!**

L: Let us worship God.

Musical Interlude

“People Look East”

\*Prayer of Confession and silent time of personal confession (unison)

**O God, You have promised us strength for our daily needs, yet we continue to worry. You have promised us light to live by, yet we stumble around in the darkness. You have promised us forgiveness for our sins, yet we cannot let go of our guilt. Help us to put our full trust in You and live completely in the knowledge of Your love...**

\*The Good News of God's Grace

L: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel!

**P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Gloria Patri

The Evergreen

Anthem

“The Holly and the Ivy”

Malcom Arnold

The Poinsettia

Musical Interlude

“Come, Thou Long -Expected Jesus”

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 35:1-2; 11:6

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. This is God's Word, Amen

Musical Interlude

“Rejoice! Rejoice! Believers”

New Testament Lesson: John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Musical Interlude

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

The Christmas Tree

Anthem

“The Perfect Tree”

Ray Boltz

The Chrismons

The Lights ~ Lighting the Tree

Musical Interlude                      “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

Musical Interlude                      “The People Who Walked in Darkness”

Benediction

Postlude                                      “Postlude on Divinum Mysterium”                      Arr. Diamont

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Music provided by Steve Pridon, Director of Music

The Hanging of the Greens service is based on an old English custom of decorating the church with evergreens and other symbols of our faith during Advent as we prepare for Christmas.

The service takes place at the start of Advent. It is designed to welcome the Advent season, a time of joyous preparation for Christmas. The service provides the worshipers with insights about the Christmas decorations having to do with Jesus’ birth. The readings are reminders that each of the decorations point to Jesus and the Good News of His birth.

***In Our Prayers...***

***Mike Simington*** (The Inn at Poland Way)

***Jeanette VanBrocklin*** (Hampton Woods)

***Phyllis Benton*** (Home)

***Paula Lidle*** (Home)

***Sandy Nittinger*** (Park Vista)

***Verda Byler*** (Beeghly)

***Jan Harper*** (Home)

***Cloy Stewart*** (Hampton Woods)

***Brandon Todd Aldan*** (Rehab)

***Art Bouwers*** (Home)

**Christian Connection Zoom Cooking Class** Join some of our PPC Members at 1:00 p.m. today on Zoom as they demonstrate some of their favorite holiday recipes. Go to Zoom.us, click on "Join a Meeting", enter Meeting ID:883 6275 5106, Passcode 060215.

**Thomas Group**- The men are reading, *"The Courage to See"*, by Greg Garrett and Sabrina Fountain. All men of the church are invited to attend via Zoom on Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. Contact Dr. Anderson if interested in more information or class link.

**Dry Pantry** needs boxes of tissues. You may put your donations in the box marked Dry Pantry on the second floor of the Christian Education building or leave on the front porch of the Parish House.

**Handel's Pint Cards** Support our Christian Ed. Programs by purchasing Handel's pint cards by Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$5 per pint. Sunday is the last day to order cards through our website. Cards will be mailed out in early December. Money is due with order. Please mail payment to the church office w/ "Handel's cards" on memo line.

**Advent Bible Study** - Come Zoom with staff during Advent (Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, and 21) at 6:00 PM for Bible study. We will be using the curriculum *Our Greatest Gift A Wonderful Life in Christ*; written by Travis Scholl. This is a four-session study created for the Advent season. The study is biblically based and centers on the classic movie *It's a Wonderful Life*. Attention will be given to how Christ 'makes our lives precious.' (*Creative Catalog* quote). Cost for participant book is \$6.00. The link was sent out via Mailchimp to all who signed up. If you wish to attend the class and did not get the link, contact Erika or Tammy.

**Giving "Tree"**: Thank you to everyone who signed up to buy gifts or donate money this year for the Giving Tree. Gifts are to be in by Sun., December 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact Erika Carcelli to arrange a time to drop off gifts.

**Salvation Army Red Kettle** - "In lieu" of Salvation Army bell ringing please consider sending a check to the church office by Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. Check should be made out to **Salvation Army** with **Red Kettle** in the memo line.

**O, Come, All Ye Faithful**- On Sun., December 13, at 4:00 p.m. we are going to "re-air" the 2018 *O, Come, All Ye Faithful*. Steve will post it on Facebook and add a "donate button" for the Rescue Mission. The video will also be posted on our website and sent out in this Mailchimp program for those who are not on Facebook. Donations to the Rescue Mission can be mailed to the church made payable to the Rescue Mission or PPC with "Rescue Mission" on the memo line of the check.

**Calendar for the week of November 29, 2020**

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

10:00-Video Hanging of the Greens Worship Service

**Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**

6:00-Advent Bible Study, Zoom

**Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

8:00-Tuesday Evening Group Zoom

**Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9:00-Zoom Staff Meeting

6:30-Mission Committee Zoom Meeting

**Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

7:30-Thomas Group Zoom Meeting

12:00-Zoom Luncheon

4:00-Grief Support Group Zoom Meeting

**Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

***Deacons Giving Tree Gift due back to Church***

10:00-Video Worship Service

1:00-Zoom Confirmation Class