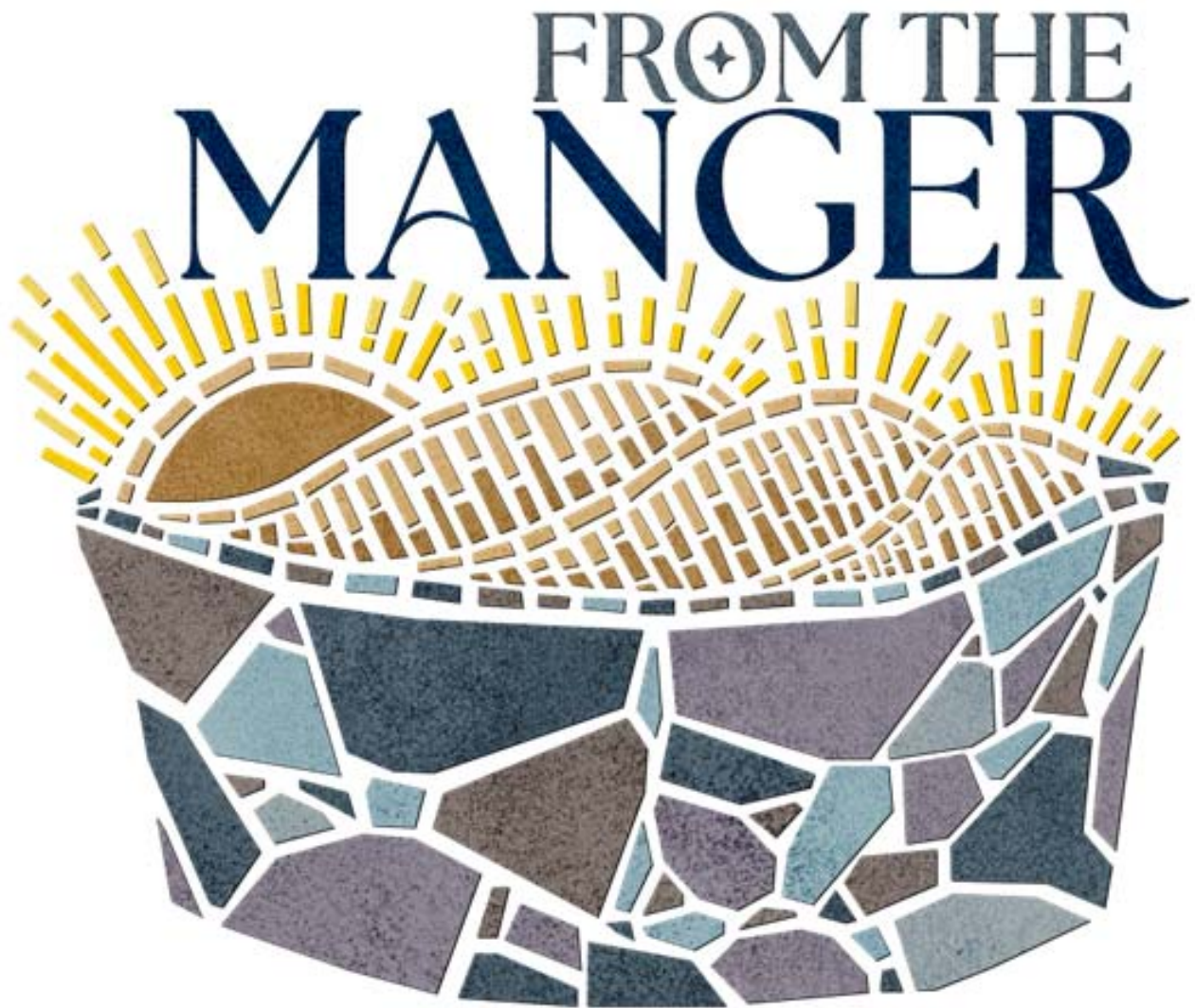


*Sunday, December 1st, 2024*



ADVENT ONE: HOPE GROWS

*The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury  
352 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702*

# December 1st, 2024

## First Sunday of Advent

Our PCAS Vision: "To be a Light by Living, Loving, Learning,  
and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Order of Worship  
*(\*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

setting by David Lantz III

### **Advent Candle Lighting**

**\*Hymn** From the Manager (Verse 1, sung twice) (see insert)

### **Call to Confession**

Leader: Let us confess the ways in which we have reacted to the needs of the world with hopelessness and invite God to guide us differently.

### **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**God who cares for every sparrow and every child,  
we confess the enormity of the world's hunger feels overwhelming.  
We do not know what to do about famine and starvation,  
so we look away and distract ourselves from suffering people and  
all creatures, great and small. We confess we neglect small acts of  
generosity because the problems seem so big. We confess we shrink  
back from true solutions because the sacrifices seem too great.  
May your hope compel us to make choices reflecting our love for  
our neighbors and creation. You take our feeble efforts and magnify  
your glory. May the world be fed with hope. Amen.**

### **Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Hear the good news: God is a loving parent with endless compassion who desires all people to flourish. Even when our hope falters, and we feel helpless to address the hunger in our world, God's steadfast love emboldens us to persevere so all creation can be fed. Receive God's pardon and be at peace.

## Prayer for Illumination

**First Scripture Lesson:** Luke 2:1-7 pg. 58 NT  
This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

## Children's Message

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns

### Prayers of the Church

### Passing the Peace

Leader: Hope compels us to make peace with others because we know we will be serving alongside one another to meet everyone's needs. So take this moment to pass peace to your family, friends, and neighbors, for we cannot make this long Advent journey to the manger alone. May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*Hymn #82** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

**Second Scripture Lesson** Matthew 14:13-21 pg. 16 NT  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

**Sermon** "From the Manger....Hope Grows!"

## Offering

## Offertory

Coventry Carol

setting John Purifoy

## Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise \*him, all crea-tures  
here be - low; praise \*him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## Prayer of Dedication

## **Invitation to the Lord's Supper**

### **Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Prayer continues...who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the  
highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

*Prayer continues....Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:*

**Christ has died; Christ has Risen; Christ will come.**

*Prayer continues...Continue with the prayer Jesus taught"*

**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.**

### **Words of Institution and Sharing of the Elements**

*Communion is served today by intinction. You are invited to come  
down the aisle to the servers at the head of your aisle, take the  
bread, dip in the cup. Gluten-free bread and a separate cup are  
available for those who need them. Servers will go to those needing  
to be served in the pews.*

### **Prayer after Communion (unison)**

**Gracious God, in this holy moment of communion, you have  
fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. May the  
nourishment we have received sustain us as we journey forth  
in hope and faith. We thank you for the mystery of Christ's  
presence among us, born in Bethlehem, the "House of Bread."  
From the creation of the cosmos to the baby in the manger to**

**this moment in worship, you have been faithful, filled with loving kindness. Guide us, Holy Spirit, as we go from here, empowered to embody the simplicity and compassion of Christ, sharing your abundant love with a hungry world. Amen.Hymn**

#460 Break Thou the Bread of Life

**Benediction**

**Postlude** Sarabande G. F. Handel

*The flowers today are in celebration of Lori Levy's birthday!*

**Worship Leaders**

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>Rev. Katja Gruening</b>
<b>Director of Music Ministries:</b>	<b>Marcello Velame</b>
<b>Liturgist:</b>	<b>Bob Suarez</b>
<b>Advent Candle:</b>	<b>Bob Suarez</b>
	<b>Cari Suarez</b>
<b>Communion Servers:</b>	<b>Linda Zucaro</b>
	<b>Bob Suarez</b>
	<b>Sean Starke</b>
	<b>David Apy</b>
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>Peter Bruguere</b>
	<b>Rich Vodhanel</b>
<b>Zoom Hosts:</b>	<b>John Palframan</b>
	<b>Jim Wright</b>
<b>Social Hour:</b>	<b>Facilities Management</b>

From the Manger

Words and Music by Amanda Meisenheimer  
Arranged by Andrea Hamilton



1. A qui - et town called House of Bread,
2. A star - ry sky breaks forth with light,
3. From grass - y field to Je - sus' side
4. Mar - y's ba - by close - ly held,



a new-born ba - by falls a - sleep;  
the an - gel says, "Be not a - fraid."  
a hum - ble shep-herd runs back home.  
wrapped up in sweet ex - pect - an - cy.



a bed of hay be - neath his head,  
Glor - i - a to the high - est heights,  
For - ev - er changed one ho - ly night,  
Now the Mes - si - ah is un - veiled,



Im - man - u - el be - gins to dream.  
hea - ven - ly hosts are sing - ing praise.  
com - pelled to make these won - ders known.  
em - bod - ied for the world to see.



For all cre - a - tion to be fed;  
You'll find him as the an - gel said;  
From pas - tures green will all be fed;  
So all cre - a - tion can be fed;



hope from the ground\_ to the break - ing of bread.  
peace from the heav'ns\_ to the break - ing of bread.  
joy from the fields\_ to the break - ing of bread.  
love will be found\_ in the break - ing of bread.



From the man - ger\_ hope grows; he will  
From the man - ger\_ peace grows; he will  
From the man - ger\_ joy grows; he will  
From the man - ger\_ love grows; he will



be God with us\_ From the man - ger\_ hope  
be God - with - us\_ From the man - ger\_ peace  
be God - with - us\_ From the man - ger\_ joy  
be God - with - us\_ From the man - ger\_ love



grows: Bread of Life, Je - sus\_ \_  
grows: Bread of Life, Je - sus\_ \_  
grows: Bread of Life, Je - sus\_ \_  
grows: Bread of Life, Je - sus\_ \_

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.



## Break Thou the Bread of Life 460

1 Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
2 Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now un - to me,

as thou didst break the loaves be - side the sea.  
as thou didst bless the bread by Gal - i - lee.

Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek thee, Lord.  
Then shall all bond - age cease, all fet - ters fall.

My spir - it pants for thee, O liv - ing Word!  
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.



## Wreaths Across America



REMEMBER the Fallen...

HONOR those who Serve...

TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

On December 14, 2024 at 11:00 am (Wreath Placement Immediately Following Ceremony), Wreaths Across America will be at The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance Wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud.

Thank you so much for supporting the effort at The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury and Wreaths Across America! We look forward to seeing you there.

Follow the below link to the PCAS wreath sponsorship page.

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/166296/Overview/?relatedId=0>

**Deadline for ordering is December 1st**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

# Spirit of Christmas Gathering

December **7** 11:30 - 2:00 open house

Presbyterian Church  
352 Sycamore Ave  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Make your own *ornament* with Kirsten & Nancy  
Design your own holiday greens *centerpiece* with Kim & Michele  
(we will have some containers and plastic liners available; but feel free to bring a container and liner you might like to use)  
Christmas *photo* opportunities  
Chili and cornbread *lunch* sponsored by the Deacons  
Yummy Christmas *cookies* sponsored by Dorcas  
Christmas *Bingo* at 1:00 with Debbie & Sherri  
*Sing Carols* at 1:30 with Kay

Everyone is welcome  
We can't wait to see you!



**CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS  
ORDER FORM**

*I would like to order #\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia plants @\$5 each  
to be placed in the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve Service  
Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) in memory of to be listed in the Church Bulletin:*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_*

*\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to pick up my poinsettia(s) after the  
Christmas Eve Service.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I will leave the poinsettia(s) at the church.*

*You can also email PCAS@verizon.net, call 732.747.3557 or  
mail your order and payment to:  
Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury  
Attn: Deacons  
352 Sycamore Ave  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702*

**DEADLINE TO ORDER: SUNDAY DECEMBER 15TH**

