

Sunday, November 27th, 2022



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

November 27th, 2022

*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 Change My Heart, Oh God Mark Hayes

Lighting of the Advent Candles

People: What will set us journeying in search of the Christ this Advent? How far are we prepared to go out of our way to look for the signs of His coming, and to prepare a path?

Leader: How will we travel through this season? Will we be burdened by responsibilities and tasks, loaded with others' expectations, overwhelmed by their needs? Will we be full of joy or weary of grief?

People: What will guide our steps in these weeks? Will we follow a thread of longing, the hint of an alternative pathway, the words and music of the gathered community?

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, Advent awaits us. Let us place our feet on the road and begin the journey. May we find in familiar words, rituals and customs the birth of the new thing that awaits us.

Lighting of the Advent candle

Leader: The Word of the Lord from Malachi 3:1:

Advent God – we light one candle to begin our journey. Invite our many questions and hopes as we proceed. Kindle in us a longing for your salvation. Meet us along the way with your Word and your messengers to guide our path. Amen.

*Hymn #87 Comfort, Comfort Now My People

"Comfort, comfort now my people;
tell of peace," so says our God.

"Comfort those who sit in darkness,
mourning under sorrow's load.

To my people now proclaim
That my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover,
and their warfare now is over."

For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance
since the reign of God is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise in meeting
and the hills bow down in greeting.

Straight shall be what long was crooked;
and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now on earth is spread abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

Call to Confession

Leader: Recognizing that so many things seek to distance us from God, let us be intentional about drawing near to the God who is always near us.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, you have surprised us with your presence in unexpected ways. In the expectations of our routine, we have missed the treasure that you place before us. We come to worship you in community often expecting nothing more than the usual. We begin our days, our weeks, assuming all will run as it always has. We do not look for the unexpected, for your active presence in our daily lives and for that we confess our sorrow. Forgive us for not allowing our eyes to catch the unexpected, to glimpse your glory in the ordinary. May this season, we see the presence of your Son by the power of your Spirit in new and transformative ways. Amen.

Moment for Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David. Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant.

(Luke 1:68, 69, 72)

People: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors. *(Luke 2:14)*

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Lesson 1 Kings 19:9-13

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn #123 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And we, at war on earth hear not
the tidings that they bring;
Oh, hush the noise, and cease the strife
to hear the angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Second Scripture Lesson Luke 1:5-25

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God**

Sermon **The Holy Angels**

Offering

Offertory God of Grace

S. Logan

Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #109 Song of Zechariah

Blest be the God of Israel
who comes to set us free
who visits and redeems us,
who grants us liberty
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill that promise
and bring the people peace.

God from the house of David
a child of grace has given;
a Savior comes among us
to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald,
forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation,
the harbinger of day.

On those who sit in darkness
the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness
upon the sinner's eyes.
God guides the feet of pilgrims
along the paths of peace.
O bless our God and Savior
with songs that never cease!

*Benediction

Postlude Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

M. Smith

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ, our God, to earth descendeth,
our full homage to command.

*The flowers today are given by Judy Murphy,
"In loving memory of my husband, Robert J. Murphy."*

Blue Christmas Service - Wednesday, December 7th at 7pm

You are invited to join us in time of worship for seeking solace and comfort in the season.

More info to come!

Christmas Coffee Hour at the Manse- Sunday, December 18th

You are invited to join us after worship on December 18th for Christmas Coffee Hour at the Manse, hosted by our Deacons.



REMEMBER the Fallen. . .
HONOR those who Serve. . .
TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

On December 17, 2022 at 11:00 am, 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.

Follow the below link to the PCAS wreath sponsorship page.

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

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.

Meeting Schedule Week of November 27th

27	NOV, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Choir Practice (Social Room)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (FH)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)
<hr/>			
28	NOV, MON	● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Wisdom Tree Yoga (studio)
<hr/>			
29	NOV, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Zoom Bible Study
		● 7 – 8:30pm	Dorcas (FH and Kitchen)
<hr/>			
30	NOV, WED	● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga (studio)
		● 7 – 9pm	Boy Scouts (FH)
<hr/>			
1	DEC, THU	● 4:45 – 5:45pm	Yoga Small Group (FH)
		● 6 – 7pm	Bells (Social Room)
<hr/>			
3	DEC, SAT	● 9:30am – 2pm	Christmas Bazaar
		● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)

Christmas Bazaar 2022

Together for Christmas!

Donations accepted November 1st - 28th



The Annual **Christmas Bazaar** will be held Saturday, **December 3 from 9:30-2:00**. In addition to requesting that you attend the event (and invite friends), we could use your support by working one or more 2 hour shift(s) at a booth, and by donating the following types of items:

Jewelry - Old & new jewelry, small gift boxes. *Please bring jewelry to the church office.*

Fashion Accessories -Hats, caps, gloves, mittens, scarves, handbags, lap blankets, throws, decorative pillows, dresser top items (small mirrors, perfume bottles, etc.).

Please place items in the collection box in the Church House lobby.

Christmas Treasures, Gifts, etc.-new or nearly new Christmas decorations, items of good quality and in working order that can be sold as gifts, small home goods, candlesticks, wood, ceramic, crystal and china, wall art, clocks, etc. Nothing damaged. *Please put items in the PW closet in the Terrace Room in the Church House.*

Toys and Sports Equipment- clean toys in good condition with all pieces. *Please put in the Omega Room.*

Crafts - New homemade crafts items. *Please bring crafts to the church office.*

Greens - decorative containers for the holiday greens arrangements. *Please place items in the collection box in the Church House lobby.*

The week of the bazaar: Bake and Soup Tables - Homemade treats: individual servings of sweets, small breads, pies, cupcakes, cookies, candies, etc. For the soups: please attach a *list of ingredients*. Quart size containers available from Nancy Vodhanel or the Church Office.

Please contact Nancy Vodhanel (nvodhanel@gmail.com or 732-530-7641) or **Linda Talerico** (lindat1140@gmail.com or 732-542-1140) if you have questions about donations or if you can help.



This year you can pre-order your poinsettias to pick up at the Christmas Bazaar on Dec 3, or the week after from the Church office.

You can also buy your poinsettias at the Christmas Bazaar.

DEADLINE TO ORDER: MON., NOVEMBER 28, 2022

I would like to order # _____ **large red**, _____ large white for **\$22 each**

I would like to order # _____ **small red**, _____ small white for **\$12 each**

Total enclosed \$ _____

Your plant(s) can be *picked up* on **Sat. December 3 from 9:30 am – 2 pm** during the **Christmas Bazaar**. Or you can pick it up **after church Dec. 4** or during **office hours Dec 6-9**.

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____