



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 8, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

BRASS QUARTET *"In the Bleak Midwinter"* arr. Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"People, Look East"* Brass Quartet arr. Tucker

*Lighting of the Advent Candles: Conway Family

Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Advent means coming. We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace;

who brings good news, who announces salvation.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way; the messenger of the covenant is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Sing aloud, O people, and shout for joy!

The Lord our God is in our midst.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"* # 82

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI # 583

ANTHEM *"Bring Us Hope"* Schram

CHILDREN'S CHAT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT Malachi 3: 1-4

NEW TESTAMENT Luke 1: 68-79

SERMON "The Promise of Compassion"

*HYMN *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"* # 93

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living 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.

Our offerings are a sign of gratitude. Let us join together and sing our praise to God from whom all blessings flow.

*DOXOLOGY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* # 608

*HYMN *"While We Are Waiting, Come"* # 92

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE *"Christmas Fantasy for Organ and Brass"*
Brass Quartet arr. Raney

* Please stand if you are able.

*The flowers are given in loving memory of
Frederick D. Albright and
William G. McCracken, Jr.
by Louise Albright and Carol McCracken*

Prayer: Treese family, Marsha Hansard
Liturgist: Sue Payne Nursery: Amanda Yeager

TODAY	10:15 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Advent Dinner
	2:00 PM	Caroling
TUESDAY	9:30 AM	Mission meeting
WEDNESDAY	6:30 PM	Choir
THURSDAY	11:30 AM	Bible Study
SATURDAY	10:00 AM	Toy Giveaway
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Sunday School
	10:15 AM	Worship

If you have Christmas Cards for your friends at Providence, you may place them in the Christmas Card mailbox that is in Fellowship Hall. The cards will be sorted by Santa's helpers and shared on Sunday, December 22.

Our church is trying something new, and your help is needed. We are looking to assist parents/caregivers in need. We are seeking to partner with our church family and the local community to collect and distribute toys to families during the holiday season. Please donate gently used toys in good shape for kids 0-13 years. These toys will be cleaned by church volunteers. Our event will be on Saturday, December 14 from 10 AM - 2 PM. Families attending the North Pole Giveaway may review and select items for their children. Donations of wrapping paper, bags and tissue paper will also be accepted to offer a wrapping station during the event. Your donations may be placed in the VBS storage room in the basement or downstairs kitchen. **Drop off/Cleaning schedule:**
Sunday, Dec. 8: 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10: 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 11: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Please keep this new ministry event in your prayers and help as you can. Feel free to contact Janelle or Jane Yerty with any questions.



Providence
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2401 Broad Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 944-7258

Rev. Dr. Hilary Livingston

Website: www.providencepc-altoona.org