

Ashland Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



First Sunday of Advent~ November 28, 2021 ~Live Stream 11 am

A n n o u n c e m e n t s

Welcome to Ashland Christian Church Live Stream & In-Person Worship~ We give thanks you are worshipping with us today! *If you are worshipping online please share the link to worship with others, give the service a thumbs up & leave a message in the comment section so we know you are here!*

Worship & Wonder~ Every Sunday in Advent at 10:30 am. Masks are required.

Angel Tree~ Please pick up an angel from the tree in the colonnade. Wrapped gifts with the angel attached are due to be returned to church by December 12.

The Online Angel Tree is available: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050449ABA72DA64-accangel> Click the link to select virtual angels.

Hanging of the Greens~ Today we are beginning the season of advent with Hanging of the Greens service.

Poinsettias Orders~ Orders now being taken. The cost is \$12.50 per plant with the last day to place your order Wednesday, December 8. **Email** Agnes to place an order in honor or memory of a loved one.

Help with Live Stream~ if you're interested in helping with the LiveStream see Alex or Larry Byrne.

November 2021 Offerings~ November 7~\$2,030.00; November 14~ \$2,185.00;
November 21~ \$1,345.00

O r d e r o f W o r s h i p

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Barbara Cameron

Introduction to Advent

Shannon Stockwell

The Hanging of Greens is a service for the first Sunday of the Season of Advent, which is the season of waiting, longing, and hoping.

Advent is the four Sundays prior to Christmas, which end on Christmas Eve. This season helps us prepare for the coming, or "advent" of the Christ child at Christmas.

Advent calls our attention to the anticipation of the birth of the promised Messiah; and is the time we prepare our hearts, minds, and souls to celebrate the mystery of Christmas.

During this Season we remember Israel's hope for the coming of God's Messiah to save, to forgive, and to restore the world. We remember our need for a Savior to save and forgive us and bring God's healing and wholeness to the brokenness in our world.

Let us now begin our time of preparation.

***Trumpet & Processional Hymn**

Chalice Hymnal #119

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Call to Worship

Barbara Cameron

One: How shall we prepare this house and our hearts for the coming of the Christ child?

Many: With paraments of purple, which reminds us to prepare our hearts through repentance.

One: How shall we prepare this house and our hearts for the coming of God's mercy?

Many: With Christmas flowers of bright red that reminds us of God's love. Red also reminds us of new beginnings we are offered through Christ.

One: How shall we prepare this house and our hearts for the coming of the promise of life everlasting?

Many: With wreaths of evergreens telling us of Christ's passion, death and resurrection. Green reminds God's people of everlasting life.

One: How shall we prepare this house and our hearts for the coming of the Light of the World?

Many: With lights upon the Christmas tree that remind us of the words of the prophet, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on them a light has shined.

***Invocation & Lord's Prayer**

***Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN*

Lighting the Advent Candle

Ethan & Lucy Lynne

One: During Advent, God illuminates a weary world. God's promise of love comforts us and give us hope.

Many: "Comfort, O comfort my people."

One: In times of fear, we longly wait for God's promised peace.

Many: "A voice cries out:"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

One: In times of grief, we place our hope in God's chosen one who comforts us.

Many: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

One: In times of wondering, we place our hope in Jesus the Christ.

Many: "The glory of God shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,

One: This morning we light the first candle of Advent, which is called the Candle of Hope. This candle reminds us that our hope is in the everlasting God who prepares a way for people through the wilderness and levels the uneven ground before us.

Sung Response

Chalice Hymnal #128

"One Candle is Lit" —v 1

Morning Prayer

Prayers for Loved Ones:

† Steve Jones; Rick Dennehy.

Prayers for God's World:

† Our Veterans who suffer with injuries seen and unseen; healing for the division in our nation; all who have lost their lives to COVID-19 and their loved ones who mourn; the fighting in Gaza and the tremendous loss of life; Those fleeing Afghanistan and seeking refuge and those left behind who live in fear.

Continued Prayers for Loved Ones:

††

††† Lucy Vaughan (Susan Postel's granddaughter); Mitchell and Sue Forrester (Mert & Judy Jones); Geoffrey Weeks; Walter Baughan; Hannah Moore, Luke Moore & Sue Schmied (Pat Moore); Phyllis Terrell; Maureen and Richmond Jones, (parents of Kimberly Gryder); Nancy Munden; Sue Pallett (Donna Grant); Tillie Mignogna; Lindsey Pinkelman "for health—spiritual, mental and physical." (Carroll LaHaye); Pat Ermold (Suz Morrison); Paul Flint and wife Martha; Liz Stephens Schaller (Sandra Smith); Gail Bryant Clifford (Sandra Smith); Jimmy Smith (Sandra Smith); Don Boor (Barbara Boor).

*The names of those we pray for will be listed in the bulletin for three weeks.
Please contact the church office to remain on the prayer list indefinitely.*

Hymn of Response

"Creator of the Stars of Night" — Chalice Hymnal #127 v.1

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

I am about to grant [Israel] a cure and a healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them a wealth of true peace. 7 I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel, and rebuild them as they were at first. 8 I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me. 9 And this city[b] shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them; they shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.

14 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

One: The inspired stories of God for the people of God.

Many: **Praise be to God.**

Choral Anthem

ACC Choir

"Lift Up Your Heads"— written and arranged by Larry Shackley

A Time of Giving

To give online to [Ashland Christian Church](#); You can also give online to our [Virginia Regional Church](#), which provides pastoral care for Virginia ministers and congregational leaders as well as much needed resources for our congregations thriving especially during this difficult time. Links to give online to these important ministries [Feed More](#), [ACES](#), [Week of Compassion](#) and [Hanover Habitat for Humanity](#).

Hymn of Giving

"My Soul Gives Glory to My God" v 5— Chalice Hymnal #130

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN.*

Blessing of the Gifts

Celebration of the Lord's Table

As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome ALL to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

Communion Hymn

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" —Chalice Hymnal #429 vv 1 & 2

Communion Meditation

Prayer for the Bread

Elder, Sandra Smith

One: On the night Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and after he blessed it, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said,

All: "This is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me."

Partake of the bread.

Prayer for the Cup

Elder, Andy Lynne

One: Likewise, after supper Jesus took the cup and said,

All: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, even that which is poured out for you; this do in remembrance of me. "

Partake of the cup.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn of Invitation

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed" — Chalice Hymnal #140

If anyone desires to identify with Christ through confession of faith or transfer of membership to Ashland Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), or have dual membership, please come forward during the first verse of the final hymn.

Benediction

Postlude

Organist, Dr. Harold Rohrs

"Voluntary on 'Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" -- C.E. Witt/arr G. Macchia