



Follow me.

Matthew 4:19

"As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat."

William Dix

Fairview Reformed Presbyterian Church

www.fairviewpca.org

724-643-8104 | office@fairviewpca.org

December 15, 2024 | 10:45am

Advent Worship Service

Like the magi came to worship, "So may we with willing feet, ever seek Thy mercy seat."
(William Dix, "As with Gladness Men of Old")

CALL TO WORSHIP – Micah 5:2

"But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days."

*SONG OF WORSHIP "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (No. 192)

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

THE SONGS OF JESUS – Advent Candle Scripture Preparation

"Zechariah's Song" – Josh Sullivan and Micah Oosting

Scripture Reading – Luke 1:67-79

Candle Lighting

Prayer

Advent candle-lighting is like a visual object lesson for Scripture readings during advent. Lit candles one by one remind us of promises and scriptures about Jesus, the light of the world.

BAPTISM OF NATHAN SCOTT SHEPLER

Explanation of Baptism – Colossians 2:11-12

Reading of Covenant Promises

Vows of Believing Parents and Vow of Congregation

Sacrament of Baptism

Songs of Welcome "Covenant Child"
"Away in a Manger" (No. 187)

PASTORAL PRAYER

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12 (p. 1026)

**PRAYER OF ENLIGHTENMENT

MESSAGE Worshiped by the Nations

*SONG OF TRUST "As with Gladness Men of Old" (No. 194)

BENEDICTION

PARTING HYMN ... "As With Gladness Men of Old" (v.4)

*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

**CHILDREN AGES 4 THRU 1ST GRADE,
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE

December 15, 2024

"Jesus Christ for West Beaver County."

Songs for Worship

1 | O Little Town of Bethlehem (No. 192)

1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by,
Yet in they dark streets shineth The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary And gathered all above,

While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.

3. How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!

So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming, But, in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

2 | Covenant Child

1. Covenant child, Water comes as a sign

Of the washing and cleansing Renewing your mind.
Covenant child You are claimed as God's own
You are one of His people His church is your home.

2. Covenant child, We are praying for you

May you stay close to Jesus In all that you do.
Covenant child Grow strong in the faith
Seek after God's Kingdom And walk in His way.

3 | Away in a Manger (No. 187)

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,

But the Little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus! I aske Thee to stay

Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

4 | As With Gladness Men of Old (No. 194)

1. As with gladness men of old

Did the guiding star behold—
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright—
So most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee

2. As with joyful steps they sped,

To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare,

At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ to Thee, our heav'nly King.

4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day,

Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

5 | As With Gladness Men of Old (No. 194)

4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day,

Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

This Week

Welcome

Welcome to worship. We are pleased you chose to worship with us today. If you have any questions about God, the Bible, or our church, or would just like to say hello, please talk with Pastor Jeff.

Nursery is available. See or call JoAnna with any questions. 724-601-7153.

- **Children's Worship**, led by Marie Fowler & Helper Saphira Fowler

The Lord's Day

9:30am – Sunday Education Hour

Sunday School opens at 9:30am in the sanctuary.

Sunday School Superintendent: Kara Masters

Kids and Youth Classes

Toddlers thru Pre-K: Room LL 203 Marie Fowler, Diane Justice & Marci Thoman

K thru 2nd: Room LL302 - Charity & Giles te Velde

3rd thru 4th: Room LL204 – Bre Hooks & JoAnna Zehnder

5th thru 8th: Library – Heidi Shepler

9th thru 12th: joining in with both adult classes

Adult Classes

Conversational Christianity – Led by Jeff Lyden
(Video Room)

Love & Relationships – Led by John Gallo
(Fellowship Hall)

Sunday Worship

10:45am Morning Worship – Matthew 2:1-12 “Worshiped by the Nations.” All of Jesus’ origin story points to his uniqueness and transcendence, the one and only savior for all people. Today, we see that Jesus received glory from visitors far outside the world of the Jews.

6:30pm Vintage Radio Christmas – An evening of a live radio show from Focus on the Family’s Adventures in Odyssey. Retells the classic O’Henry tale, The Gift of the Magi, in a comical way complete with music and live foley artist. The whole evening we will step back in time to experience a classic radio show and Christmas music from a time long ago. We will have a Hot Cocoa Bar afterwards. We are asking the congregation to bring cookies or a snack to share.

Monday

10am Bowling – All are welcome! Calcutta lanes.

Tuesday

7pm Men's Bible Study – We are studying Acts.

Wednesday

6:30pm-8pm Covenant Kids Christmas Party - The Covenant Kids 4yrs. old -5th grade – are invited to come and celebrate Jesus’ Birthday! We will read the Christmas Story, sing Christmas songs, doing some crafts and play games that teach the true meaning of Christmas.

6:00pm – 8:30pm – The Rock Christmas Caroling – The youth will be caroling to our shut-ins, and whoever would like to go sing with them too. If you would like them to come to your home, please call the church and ask for Tony Carroscia, if he hasn’t already contacted you.

6:30 pm Bible Study & Weekly Prayer Meeting – We are using the book of Acts to guide our time of prayer.

Saturday

First Day of Winter

Next Sunday – Advent Continues

9:30am Sunday School & Adult Education Hour – We provide Sunday morning education classes for all ages, toddler through adult. Join us for the opening in the sanctuary before heading off to class.

10:45am Morning Worship – Matthew 2:13-15 “Savior Out of Egypt.” All of Jesus’ origin story points to his uniqueness and transcendence, the one and only savior for all people. Next Sunday, We see that Jesus was the New Moses. He would usher in a new Exodus, out of a more universal slavery.

6:30pm Evening Worship – Come out and choose your favorite Christmas hymns to sing. We will sing, we will hold prayer, and we will have the word proclaimed.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Tuesday December 24, 7:00 p.m.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is a simple but elegant reminder that into this dark world, a great light shines. Jesus is “the Light of the world” (John 8:12). Director of Student Ministries and Pastoral Intern Tony Carroscia will be bringing the message. Offerings received that night will go to the Look/After Fund, for PCA pastors or widows-of-pastors in need, which include missionaries as well as pastors who are in need.

Congregational Announcements

Offering Envelopes – The offering envelopes have been distributed to the mailcans by the Deacons. If you would like envelopes or have any concerns please see a Deacon: Ryan Harteis, Ron Freehauf, Jacob Shepler, Dave D'Angelo, Doug Masters, Ethan Masters & Stephen Hapach.

Angel Tree – The Fairview Missions Committee invites you to bless others this Christmas season by participating in our Angel Tree Project. We help children and their caregivers who live in the Midland area whose loved one is incarcerated. Pick up an angel, read about the need. Purchase a toy and clothing item listed on the card for the child and purchase a personal hygiene item for the caregiver. All gifts must be wrapped and placed under the tree by December 22. If you'd like the blessing of delivering the gifts to families in our area on December 22, please notify the Missions Committee.

Church Christmas Cards – Our Christmas mailbox is located in the vestibule of the church for Christmas cards to fellow members and friends in the church. Young people will deliver the cards to the church "mailcans". A list of all the members and friends of Fairview Church with "mailcans" and addresses is available on the information table in the vestibule.

Wednesday, January 1 *We will not be having any morning or evening activities due to it being New Year's Day. All Wednesday activities will resume on January 8, 2025*

Fairview Food Pantry – For the month of January would like to restock the shelves with chunky soups, crackers, cereal, oatmeal packets, pancake mix, syrup, spaghetti O's, can ravioli, can potatoes, can chicken and egg noodles. Monetary donations appreciated at any time.

Installation of Officers – Sunday, January 5, 2025. We will install the newly retained church officers during the 10:45am Worship Service. Pastor Jeff will come with a special message for the new year. May we make this a time of re-dedication as a church to worship faithfully: to witness regularly, to grow spiritually, and serve one another and Christ with sacrificial hearts.

Treasurers – All church treasurers are asked to turn in their books and reports to the church office by Wednesday, January 8, 2025. The auditors will go over the treasurer books and give a report to the Deacons by the end of the month. We want to thank the treasurers, auditors, and Deacons for their faithful work.

November Financial Report – The Elders and Deacons, in a desire to keep the congregation informed, will include financial summaries each month.

General Fund Budget: \$247,833.63 Mission Fund Budget: \$ 57,750.00
General Fund Income: \$208,776.14 Mission Fund Income: \$ 55,815.05
Over/ (Under) (\$ 39,057.49) Over/ (Under) \$ (1,934.95)

Account balances:

General Fund.....\$ 97,044.77
Missions Fund.....\$ 11,975.24
Deacons Fund.....\$ 26,248.32
Christian Education Fund.....\$ 2,727.71
Food Pantry\$ 4,191.91

Snow Camp – "Back to the 80's" February 14-16, 2025
Speaker: Tony Carroscia; Worship Leader: Pastor Greg Mead, First Evangelical PCA; Directors Kevin & Nikki Hagan, Gospel Fellowship PCA.

Arrival: 6:30pm Friday, February 14

Departure: 1:00pm Sunday, February 16

Location: Laurelville Retreat Center 941 Laurelville Lane Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666.

Pricing \$120 Until December 31, 2024. \$150 January 1 until January 19, 2025. Register online at:

<https://ascensionpresbytery.churchcenter.com/registrations>

Ya-Dult Retreat – College and career young adults ages 18 to 30. Friday, Feb. 28, to Sunday March 2, 2025. Laurelville Retreat Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA. Only \$100/person until Dec. 31; \$120/ person until Jan. 31; \$130/ person after Feb. 1. Singles will use the lodge and marrieds in the motel. Includes 2 nights lodging, 3 meals, 4 worship times, activities & amenities. Register at <https://ascensionpresbytery.churchcenter.com/registrations>

Worship Helpers

Worship LeaderMark Oosting
Audio-VisualPaul Hardesty & Gideon te Velde
Musicians.....Linda D'Angelo, Josh Sullivan
VocalistDan & Rosemarie Sullivan
Children's Worship Marie & Saphira Fowler
Nursery.....Heidi Shepler, Linda Lyden
& Diane Melendez
GreetersJohn & Bre Hooks Family
UshersBrad Billheimer, Gideon te Velde
Josiah te Velde & William Phillips

Next Week's Helpers

Worship LeaderScott Shepler
Audio-Visual.....Gideon te Velde & William Phillips
Musicians.....Linda D'Angelo & Hannah Claerbaut
& Amy Hardesty
Vocalist.....Lindsey Hollabaugh
Nursery.....Abi Carroscia, Bethany Forton
& Emma Masters
Greeters.....John, Christine & Selah Gallo
Ushers.....Ed Shaffer, Josh Chaffee
Stephen Hapach & Chase Thoman

Sermon Notes

"Worshiped by the Nations "

Matthew 2:1-12 (p. 1026)

Prayers & Praises

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." (Romans 12:15)

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

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1852-2024

FAIRVIEW REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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pastorjeff@fairviewpca.org

**Mr. Tony Carroscia, Director of Student Ministries
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