



The Beckley Presbyterian Church
203 South Kanawha Street
Beckley, West Virginia 25801



December 15, 2019
3rd Sunday of Advent

The mission of Beckley Presbyterian Church is to glorify God through the nurturing and equipping of our congregation to manifest our faith throughout God's creation with love, joy, hope, and open hearts."

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*If you are able, please stand for items marked **
Portions in bold type are for congregational participation.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Divinum Mysterium

Malcolm Archer

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Ann Worley and Allison Fox:

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy. With Mary and Joseph, we rejoice.

All: For the Mighty One has done great things for us.

How holy is God's name!

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive, from Psalm 146)*

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

Who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

INVOCATION

* HYMN 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Holy God, guiding Light, take us out into the wilderness of your love, where we are purged of false pride and consuming greed. Take us this Advent into the depths of your love so we

may hear our names, find our true calling and live lives of radiant joy and flowing compassion. Take us into the silence of our hearts so we can hear your voice and find your words which are ours to speak. Holy God, take us into the depths and make us whole. Amen

* **KYRIE** *Lord Have Mercy* **551**
Lord, have mercy; Christ Have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

* **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

* **GLORIA** *Glory Be to the Father* **581**
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, Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM *Ding Dong! Merrily on High* arr. John Ferguson

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Nancy Hageman
The Lord's Prayer (*Together*) Page 35

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 35: 1-10 Page 663

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

THE NEW TESTAMENT Matthew 1:18-25 Page 1

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* **AFFIRMATION** from A Brief Statement of Faith (*Together*)

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* **HYMN 121***O Little Town of Bethlehem***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****INVITATION TO THE OFFERING****OFFERING**

Offertory *Maria Walks Amid the Thorns* arr. David Cherwien

* **DOXOLOGY** *Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow* 606

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Him all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly Host;
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

* **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN 140**

Once in Royal David's City

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **CHORAL RESPONSE**

The Lord Bless and Keep You

Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Paeon on *Divinum Mysterium* (excerpt) John Cook

GO IN PEACE!

THE POINSETTIAS

*in the sanctuary are placed this morning
To the Glory of God and*

In Celebration of

*The birth of our Lord Jesus and the beauty and joy of the
Christmas season by Marcia Fairlie*

Grateful for the birth of Jesus by Martha and Bill Rucker

*Family friendship and life of Susan Stevenson Landis
by Judy, Shannon and Andrew Harrah*

*The life and friendship of Karen Berg Gallagher
by Judy, Shannon and Andrew Harrah*

In Honor of

*My children daughter Missie White and son Paul White and his
wife Raye by Peggy White*

The birth of our Lord and Savior by John and Patricia Lester

My children and grandchildren by Nancy Kissinger

Our families by Terry and Cheryl McGill

Patricia Rucker by Bill and Martha Rucker

Madalyn DiGiulian and her work in Africa by Leslie and Lena Cox

In Loving Memory of

*Our parents Tom Elkin, Peggy Elkin Hughes and Ronnie Hughes
by Nancy and Dave Sotak*

Our parents Steve and Wilma Sotak by Nancy and Dave Sotak

Ned and Pauline Ragland by Buzz and Judy Ragland

Clarence and Sarah Kesler by Buzz and Judy Ragland

Thomas C. Bailey Jr. by Toni Bailey

*Our parents Jean and Miles Hogg and Bill and Lucille Cameron
by Nancy and Bill Cameron*

*Raymond and Mary Judson and Alan and Leona Hageman
by Ross & Nancy Hageman*

*My beloved husband Bill, daughter Paula, sisters Mildred & Joanne,
brother Paul and my mother & dad by June Morris*

My husband Art Shaffer by Susan Shaffer

*Mr. Sam Jones, Jr. and Mr. & Mrs. Wanless Goodson
by Don & Debbie Goodson*

My parents George and Freda Wilgus by Nancy Kissinger

Charlie and Laura Beth Mitchell by Monte and Jennifer Mitchell

Gene and Betty Mitchell by Monte and Jennifer Mitchell
Cam and Susan Lewis and Cam and Odessa Lewis by Marie Lewis
My parents Rev. Robert S. Newcomb and Martha Newcomb
by Marie Lewis
My father Roderick Branford and my grandmother Robbie Cartwright
by Kedric Branford
My mother Effie McElmurray by Martha & Bill Rucker
Bobbie Bair Short by Cathy Akers
Hazel P. Mogee, Carolyn's mother and Chuck's "best friend"
by Chuck and Carolyn Lucas
My parents Harry & Marjorie Callaway by Dwight & Becky Smith
My parents J. W. "Woody" & Merle "Kewpie" Smith
by Dwight & Becky Smith
Leslie and Christine Lilly by Judy, Shannon and Andrew Harrah

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, Dec 15

Cents-Ability Offering
 9:45 a.m.-Sunday School
 10:55 a.m. - Worship
 7:00 p.m.-White Christmas
 7 p.m. Worship on 99.5 FM Radio

MONDAY, Dec 16

Noon - AA Meeting - Ed. Bldg.

TUESDAY, Dec 17

9:00 a.m.-The Shepherd's Center
 8:00 p.m. - AA Meeting - Ed. Bldg.

WEDNESDAY, Dec 18

Noon - AA Meeting - Ed. Bldg.

THURSDAY, Dec 19

Noon - AA Meeting - Ed. Bldg.

FRIDAY, Dec 20

8:00 p.m. - AA Meeting - Ed. Bldg.

SATURDAY, Dec 21

SUNDAY, Dec 22

9:45 a.m.-Sunday School
 10:55 a.m. - Worship
 7 p.m. Worship on 99.5 FM Radio

STAFF

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Roberta Brock, Nursery Supervisor

Sharon Volpe, Host

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRIENDSHIP PADS are located at the end of the row. Please sign and pass it along your pew as we prepare for worship.

WHITE CHRISTMAS is at 7:00 p.m. today. Bring nonperishable canned goods wrapped in white tissue paper or a monetary gift in a white envelope to be placed at the front of the sanctuary during the service. Envelopes will be available at the back of the church. The collection will go to local charities.

CENTS-ABILITY offering will be taken up today after the service at the back of the church.

TEMPORARY ADDRESS as Dave awaits his lung transplant at Duke Medical Center:

Dave and Nancy Sotak

3710 Cole Mill Road

Durham, NC 27712

THE DOUGLASVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR, from Douglasville, Georgia, will present a special concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29th, in the sanctuary. The choir is on its way to Washington to perform at the Kennedy Center and is stopping here along the way to grace us with their talent as we continue in the holiday spirit.

OUR THANKS to Nancy Estep for cookies in the Witherspoon Room, to Ross Hagemen, lay reader; Nancy Hageman, Time for Young Disciples leader; Robin Feldhake, nursery assistant, and to this week's greeter, Nancy Estep.

MADALYN DIGIULIAN address in Africa for cards or letters:

Madalyn DiGiulian PCV

Corps de la Paix Americain

01 BP 971

Cotonou, Benin

Afrique de l'Quest (West Africa).

Her email address is: madalyndigiulian@hotmail.com