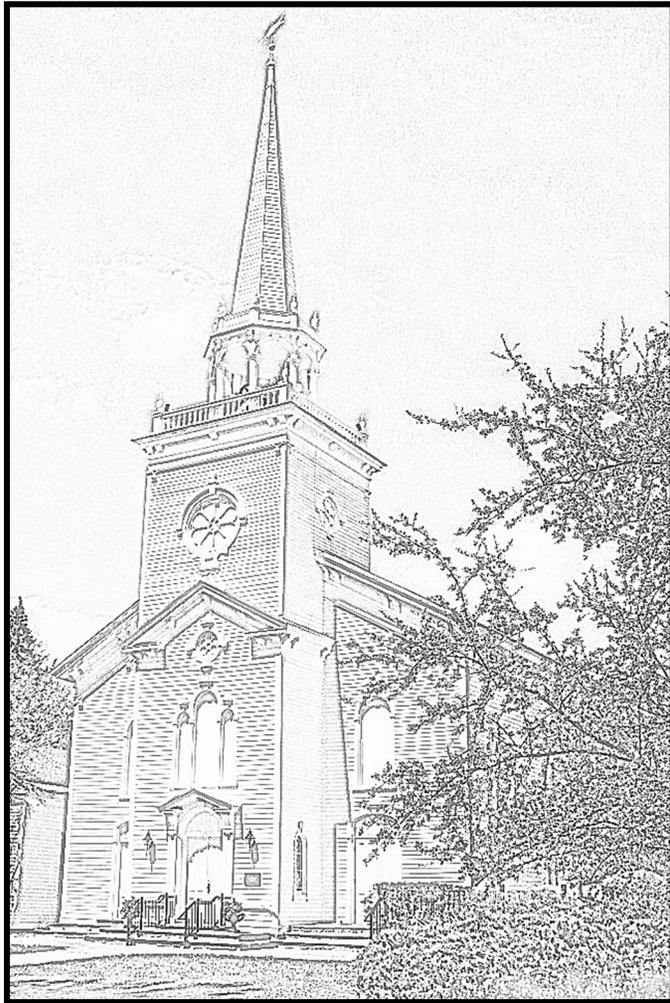


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Cazenovia, New York

In the Heart of the Village

www.cazpres.org

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

November 29, 2020

PRELUDE "Savior of the Nations, Come" Buttstedt

WELCOME & COMMUNITY SHARING

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY (Responsive)

Advent is a time to remember the wonders of our faith.

God has done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Advent is a time to be amazed at God's wondrous love.

God has done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Advent is a time to retrace our past, and reclaim the hope of our future.

God has done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Advent is a time to be awed by God's unfolding plan for creation.

God has done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Lighting the First Advent Candle

RESPONSE "The Wonder of Christmas" Raney

There is wonder in the hope
of the birth of a king,
there is wonder in the sound
of the angels as they sing.
O come, O come, Emmanuel.
and join us here.

ADVENT PRAYER

God in Heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, re-ignite our sense of wonder. Help us move beyond what is familiar to your indescribable glory. Allow us to be still, in the midst of what our minds cannot fully grasp, and what our lips cannot fully explain. Fill our hearts this Advent with restored amazement for what you have done, the love you have shown, and the gift you have given, in Christ's name. Amen.

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 9

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

3 O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like a faded, dry leaf that the wind blows away, our sins dry us up; faded and brittle, we are carried off by the wrongs we have done. Yet God loves us still and is able to restore and renew us with the water of life. Trusting God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God-with-us, even in Advent, we confess that you can seem far away. You are hidden when we need you near. In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to you; instead, we lash out – against you, our neighbor, even those we love. Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us!
Let your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins are faded, and our hope is restored. After all, we belong to you, and in your hands, we can be made new.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The grace of God, given to us in Jesus, strengthens us to the end so that we may be blameless when Christ comes again. Thanks be to God, who is faithful and has called us into the fellowship of the Son, Jesus our Lord!
Thanks be to God.

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

God has enriched us in every way – in speech, knowledge, and spiritual gifts. From the fellowship of Jesus, we are sent out to share with thanksgiving what we have received. Let us give with joy!

Offering Plate is in the Narthex, or may give online through our website, cazpres.org.

DOXOLOGY

No. 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Faithful God, we thank you that Christ is being revealed in every time and place until he comes again in the fullness of glory. Strengthen our testimony and spiritual gifts; increase generosity in us, we pray, as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

HYMN

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”
(verses 1, 2 & 4)

No. 345

1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

2 In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word,
Rise up and follow Thee.

4 Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, heaven and earth will pass away, but your words will not pass away. May we be attentive so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we remember your ways and gladly do right, meeting you wherever and whenever you appear. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 64:1-9

64 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
² ^[a] as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴ From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵ You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.^[b]
⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷ There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered^[c] us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

²⁴ "But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he^{is} near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³² "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert;^{for} you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

SERMON "A Time of Lament"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN "Born in the Night, Mary's Child" No. 30

1 Born in the night, Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.

2 Clear shining light, Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
Light of the world, Mary's Child,
dawn on our darkened day.

3 Truth of our life, Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
yes, it is true, Mary's Child,
shown on your cross of wood.

4 Hope of the world, Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Toccata in C Minor" Walther

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