

Piano & Organ Music Words

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart!

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

Text: Charles Wesley
Tune: STUTTGART - C.F.Witt;
Arr. by Otis Skillings

For many years our church, as many other churches do, has had a wreath and candles as part of our recognition of the Advent (meaning *arrival* or *coming*) season, a preparation for the Christmas season, which starts Christmas Day - celebrating Jesus, the Word, coming as a human child; coming to dwell in our hearts; and His soon second coming on earth.

The Advent wreath is not connected with Scripture except as a symbol of biblical truths. We will quote Wikipedia: "Advent wreaths are circular, representing God's infinite love, and are usually made of evergreen leaves, which 'represent the hope of eternal life brought by Jesus Christ.' Within the Advent wreath are candles that generally represent the four weeks of the Advent season as well as 'the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus Christ' although each of the candles can be attributed its own significance as well."

In our version of such interpretation this year, the candles each week specifically symbolize the Christian concepts of hope (week one), peace (week two), joy (week three) and love (week four). Many Advent wreaths (including ours here) also have a white candle in the center to symbolize the arrival of Christmastide, known as the Christ candle. It is lit on Christmas Day.

—Adapted from <https://www.covfirstchurch.org/>

GRAPHIC: RDO



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 DECEMBER 5, 2021
 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

STIR up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the ways of Thy Only-begotten; that by his coming we may be worthy to serve Thee with purified minds, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —BCP

Just as God welcomes us all to this sanctuary, let us strive to be in harmony with one another that there may be peace within us and good will toward all. Welcome friends, as we worship the Prince of Peace!

Announcements

- **Christmas Ensemble** practice Monday nights at 7 p.m.
- **December 10** - Conference-Wide Day of Prayer and Fasting.
- **December 17** - 7-9 p.m. - Prayer Night
- **December 19** - 7:00 p.m. - Ladies' Ensemble Christmas Service
- **December 25** - CHRISTMAS - 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
- Anyone who wants to give toward the Thanksgiving Self-Denial Offering for Foreign Missions can see Treasurer Merylin Ellis.
- **The** Christmas card mail sorter is up for "special delivery". We suggest that the money you save on postage be donated to missions or another worthy project.
- Anyone who is interested in helping decorate the church with **poinsettias** for this special season is welcome to do so either by purchasing and bringing them in, or contributing to their purchase price. Make sure to tell Merylin Ellis or Mrs. Owens if you are donating in honor or remembrance of someone special.

Call To Worship

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
 Here we gather, in this place,
We pray for the peace of your people, O Lord.
 May the peace of God fill our hearts and our world,
As we journey toward the return of the One who brings peace!
 —from Psalm 122

SERVICES — SUNDAY: Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Cobleskill 4:00 p.m.— WEDNESDAY: Midweek Service 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Requests

- **This** week we are praying especially for our sister church in Linesville, PA. Trevor Mills is the pastor.
- **Sharon** Peabody, mother of Conference President John Peabody, went to be with Jesus unexpectedly Wednesday. **Pray** for the Peabody family.
- **Pray** for our nation during this uncertain time. **Pray** for the pulling down of the strongholds of evil in our land. (II Corinthians 10:4)
- **Pray** for the persecuted church, and Christians in danger all over the world.
- **Continue** to pray for:
 - Special requests for those on our hearts, especially Byron S., Ethan, Rowan S., Bernie, and Steven H.
 - The village of **Middleburgh**, that we will reach people with hungry hearts and have fruitful results in our ministry.
 - **Missionaries:** Nichole Barr, the Davises, the Easleys, B. Fay, the Himelicks, the Millses, R. Moulton, the Samborskis, Jack Sherman, Judy Sherman, and the T. Shermans.
 - Bible Colleges - GBSC, PVBI, AWC, UBC, HSBC
 - Safety and protection for our Armed Forces.
 - **Our** President, Congress, and Supreme Court, that they may make righteous choices.
- **Pray** for these physical need requests:
 - Mary Braun (Victory Trio), Pastor Gary Mills, Betty Case, the Schreiber family, Stanley Cook, Tiffany Colton, Kendall Straight, Paul Easley, Stephen Cassady, Janet Albertson, Joanna Howell, Rollin Mitchell, Lois Schenck.
- **Online** and phone requests:
 - Jennifer Howell, Cliff
- **From** Early Woodland:
 - Joanne, Pat, Maureen, Betty R., Ronald

Suggested Daily Scripture Reading

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
OT	Hosea 1:1-3:5	Hosea 4:1-5:15	Hosea 6:1-9:17	Hosea 10:1-14:9
NT	1 John 5:1-21	II John 1:1-13	3 John 1:1-15	Jude 1:1-25
PSA	Psalm 124:1-8	Psalm 125:1-5	Psalm 126:1-6	Psalm 127:1-5
PROV	Proverbs 29:5-8	Proverbs 29:9-11	Proverbs 29:12-14	Proverbs 29:15-17
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	Joel 1:1-3:21	Amos 1:1-3:15	Amos 4:1-6:14	Amos 7:1-9:15
	Revelation 1:1-20	Revelation 2:1-17	Revelation 2:18-3:6	Revelation 3:7-22
	Psalm 128:1-6	Psalm 129:1-8	Psalm 130:1-8	Psalm 131:1-3
	Proverbs 29:18	Proverbs 29:19-20	Proverbs 29:21-22	Proverbs 29:23

