

Celebration of Worship

December 1, 2024

9:30 A.M.

*We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing
the love of God through faith and action, welcoming all.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Reflection

Winston Churchill

*"We can make a living by what we get.
We can make a life by what we give."*

Ring of the Bell

Gathering Song *While We Are Waiting, Come*

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.
Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Call to Worship & Lighting the First Advent Candle Carson Family

Pastor: The Advent season dawns today, inviting us to Christmas.

Family: We light the first candle of Advent, the Prophet's Candle.

People: What God does brings hope.

Family: Where do you find hope?

People: In a distant star and a lowly stable.

Family: Where do you find hope?

People: Wherever we see swords being beaten into plowshares.

Family: Where do you find hope?

People: In a child, a newborn child, lying in a manger.

All: Christ is Christmas. Let us worship God!

Hymn *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* Insert

Invocation

Leader: As we gather in this house built by human hands, may we remember that it is upheld by God's love for us and our love for each other along with the enduring promise of our salvation through Jesus the Christ. May we always listen for the Spirit that guides us and be willing to go wherever it leads us.

Prayer of Confession

All: God of all the saints and of all the sinners, hear our prayer. We try to be loving, patient saints, but sometimes we end up more like sinners when we fail to live as you have commanded. We are flawed, but we keep trying. Sometimes we make you cry and sometimes we make you smile. In all of this, forgive the wrong we have done, and bless the good we have accomplished. Keep on loving us, and helping us, and molding us more and more into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, the good news is this: While we were yet sinners, Jesus Christ came to forgive, to redeem, and to restore us to right relationship with God.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia. Amen.

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. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Children's Time

Hymn *The Days Are Surely Coming* Insert

Scripture Reading *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

Anthem *An Invitation for Advent* arr. Douglas Nolan
Chancel Choir

Come to us, Emmanuel. Come to us, Lord Jesus.
Come to us, Emmanuel; come and set us free.
We lift our longing hearts to you. Come and bring us peace.
Come to us, Emmanuel. O come, Lord Jesus, come.
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
Come to us, Emmanuel. Come to us, Lord Jesus.
Come to us, Emmanuel. Come and bring us your light.
From darkness we have called to you, praying in the night.
Come to us, Emmanuel, O come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come to us Emmanuel. O come, Emmanuel.

Scripture Reading *Luke 21:25-36*

Sermon *Be Prepared*
Commissioned Elder Carl DelleFave

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Acknowledgement of our Offerings

Please place your offering in the plates at the exit doors,
mail your gifts to the church, or click the WPC website "Give" button. Thank you!

Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Christ, all people here below;
 Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
 Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Blessing of the Offering

All: All that we are, all that we have, and all that we will ever be
is by the hand, will, grace and love of God. What we give
back is only a small portion of the many blessings we have
been given. They are the building stones of your Kingdom
here on earth, waiting for you to place them with loving
purpose. May they be a blessing to all that they touch.

Service of Holy Communion

Hymn *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* # 2

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

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Memory Verse

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14

Lectionary Passages

December 1st

December 8th

Old Testament *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm *Psalm 25:1-10*

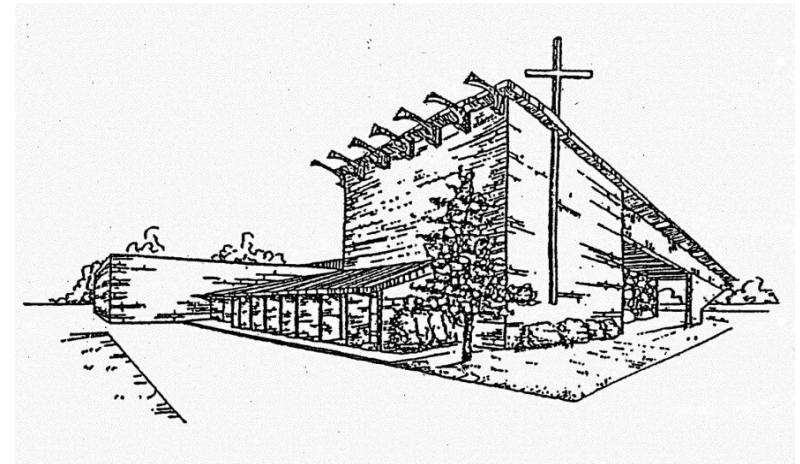
New Testament *1 Thessalonians 3:9-13*

Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel *Luke 21:25-36*

Luke 3:1-6

WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*We are followers of Jesus Christ,
living and sharing the love of God
through faith and action,
welcoming all.*

Webster Presbyterian Church

550 Webster Road

Webster, NY 14580

585-265-9700 www.websterpres.org

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastor: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west, and from north and south to sit at table together in the Kingdom of God. According to the Scriptures, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast He has prepared.

Pastor: Let us pray: God is with us!

People: We are not alone!

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description. Father, Son and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love, you are creative and self-giving, generously moving. In all the near and distant corners of the universe, nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

Even when we turn away from you, you are with us; your presence never fails us; your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, eternal as your love, our bond to one another. We rejoice with all your people of every time and place, and with angels and archangels, to proclaim the glory of your name:

(Sung)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest; hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place. In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread, blessed it, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat, each of you. This is my body given for the forgiveness of all; whenever you do this, do it in remembrance of me."

And in the same way after supper, Jesus took the cup and poured it and blessed it, saying, "This is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for the forgiveness of all. Do this in remembrance of me."

And so we do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again. In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pastor: Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to transform these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us. Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower, so that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we may taste and see your goodness, so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another. Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor praise and glory are yours, God most holy, now and forever.

The Distribution of the Elements

You will be receiving the elements in your seats today.

When you receive the bread, hold it so we can all partake together at the same time.

Please do the same with the cup after you receive it.

Gluten-free elements are available upon request to the server.

Sharing the Meal

The body of Christ, the bread of life. (The bread is taken together.)

The lifeblood of Christ, the cup of blessing. (The cup is taken together.)

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts. We are now commissioned to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

2

Benediction, Choral Response & Postlude

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent - Communion

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK - 5th Grade in Room 3
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. DVD series "An Unlikely Advent" in Room 9/10

Monday, December 2

- 10:00 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship with Missionary Jody Clark
- 6:00 P.M. ROC Ringers' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room

Tuesday, December 3

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 5:15 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, December 4

- 6:30 A.M. Breakfast & Bible Study at Golden Boys' Restaurant
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10
- 6:45 P.M. Scout Patrol Leaders in the Memorial Room
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

Thursday, December 5

- 7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 7:00 P.M. Stewardship & Finance Committee in Room 9/10

Friday, December 6

- 9:00 A.M. Flying Club in the Social Room
- 10:30 A.M. Book Study on Zoom
- 3:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 425 Overnight in the Social/Memorial Rms

Saturday, December 7

- 8:00 A.M. Girl Scout Event in the Social Room
- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom

Sunday, December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK - 5th Grade in Room 3
Youth Christian Ed. in the Youth Room
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. DVD series "An Unlikely Advent" in Room 9/10
Children/Youth Pageant Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 5L00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 617 in Room 9/10

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether in person or by live-streaming. You can live-stream at 9:30 or later at your leisure using:
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/> or
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
2. ADULT Ed. – Today & next week join us for the DVD series, *An Unlikely Advent*, by Rachel Billups, taking a close look at some of the unlikely people we encounter in the stories about Jesus's birth.
3. ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS are available on a table in the Narthex for you to take home. The children will be receiving their booklets in their Shine class, while a few additional children's copies are also available on the table.
4. YOU ARE INVITED to join us tomorrow morning at 10:00 for coffee and fellowship with missionary Jody Collinge, who is with the Ministry of Community Health Evangelism in Mexico, working to see communities and lives transformed by Christ. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex to let us know you are coming.
5. PARADE OF LIGHTS - Join us this Saturday at 6:30 pm to walk down Main Street as part of Webster's annual Christmas parade. We are coordinating with other groups to show community togetherness. For questions see Alissa Mayer, Heather Hewlett, Elissa Burke, or Kathy Barbehenn.
6. ANGEL TREE GIFTS to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center are due back, unwrapped, by next Sunday. If you have not yet picked up a gift idea and would like to participate, please do so today.
7. \$10 GIFT CARDS for Christmas for the Men at Grace House are being collected until Sunday, December 15th. Preferred cards are for WalMart, Chick Fil A, Wendy's and McDonalds, which are within walking distance of Grace House. Donations may be placed in the shoebox on the table in the Narthex, or they can be brought or mailed to the church office.
8. POINSETTIA ORDERS are being taken for plants to be displayed at the 4:00 Christmas Eve service. Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office to submit your \$15 order, (checks made out to PWC). When ordering, you may include a dedication in memory or honor of a loved one. Poinsettias may be taken home after the service or donated to a Friends at Home individual. Deadline to order is December 15th.
9. A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called by Session for December 15, 2024, after worship for the purpose of (1) nominating and electing church officers for 2025, (2) approving an amendment to the church by-laws, and (3) if the way be clear, receiving nominations and electing a Pastor Nominating Committee.