

Celebration of Worship

Second Sunday in Advent

December 8, 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

Minute for Mission

Reflection

The joy of God's promise fulfilled stirs us to hope, faith and action. Just as Mary and Elizabeth rejoiced in the promise of Christ's coming, we are invited to live in anticipation of God's presence and work in our lives today.

Ringling 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.

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

Carson Family

Pastor: The Advent season invites us to Christmas.

Family: Re-light the first candle of Advent – the Prophet's Candle.

People: What God does brings hope.

Family: Today we light the second candle of Advent – the Angel's Candle.

People: What God does brings peace.

Family: Peace for neighbors and for strangers;

People: Peace for friends and for enemies;

Family: Peace for the sick and for the healthy;

People: Peace for the seemingly lost and for the seemingly found;

Family: Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace for all people.

All: Christ is Christmas.

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who fulfills promises and fills us with joy!

People: We come, like Mary and Elizabeth, filled with hope and expectation.

Leader: Rejoice, for the Savior is near!

People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hymn

Prepare the Way

13

Invocation

Leader: Gracious and eternal God, we come before You today with hearts full of thanksgiving for the promise of Your presence. As we reflect on the joy of Mary and Elizabeth, may our worship honor You and prepare us for the work of Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, we confess that we often doubt Your promises and live as though Your kingdom is far away. Forgive us for our lack of faith and our failure to trust in Your timing. Renew our hope and open our hearts to the ways You are working in and through us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Leader: Let us take a moment to bring our hearts before God in silence. In this quiet time, may we reflect on the ways we have fallen short, the ways God calls us to trust in His promises, and the assurance of His grace that meets us in every moment. Let us pray silently.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! The same God who was faithful to Mary and Elizabeth is faithful to us. In Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God! 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

Comfort, Comfort You My People

3

Scripture Readings

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 3:1-6

Anthem

Advent Promise

Douglas Wagner

Chancel Choir

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 world thou art,
 Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Prepare a way, make straight the path, proclaim so all may know
 The valleys shall be lifted up, and all the hills made low.
 Awake, for the morn is breaking forth. We wait for the coming light
 To comfort sorrow, banish pain, and pierce the dying night.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
 Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Sermon

The Joy of God's Fulfilled Promise

Luke 1:39-45 and 2:1-5

Rev. Jarmani Dozier

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

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: Gracious God, accept these gifts, and may they be used to
further Your kingdom on earth. Bless each giver and each
gift, that they may bring hope, healing and help to those in
need. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

8

Benediction and Choral Response

Postlude

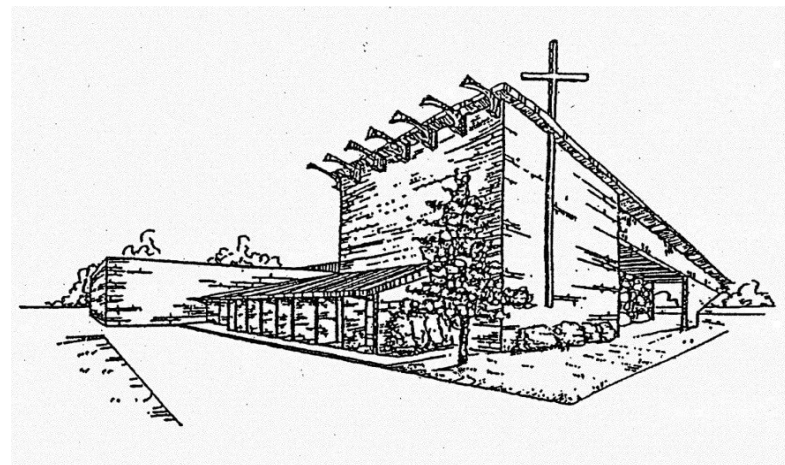
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Memory Verse

*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

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

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

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
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 617 in Room 9/10

Monday, December 9

- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 752 in the Memorial Room
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting in Room 9/10 and on Zoom

Tuesday, December 10

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 1:00 P.M. Garden Club in the Memorial Room
- 5:15 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10
- 6:30 P.M. Girl Scout Service Team in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. Trustees' Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, December 11

- 6:30 A.M. Breakfast & Bible Study at Golden Boys' Restaurant
- 1:00 P.M. Naomi Circle at the home of Diane Cole
- 5:00 P.M. Scout Troops 715 & 195 in the Memorial Room
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 510 in the Basement Room
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

Thursday, December 12

- 7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells' Concert at Chapel Oaks
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Friday, December 13

- 9:00 A.M. Flying Club in the Social Room
- 10:30 A.M. Book Study on Zoom
- 6:45 P.M. Cub Pack 262 in the Social Room

Saturday, December 14

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom
- 1:00 P.M. Girl Scout Event in the Social Room

Sunday, December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 10:45 A.M. Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary
- 11:15 A.M. Adult Ed. - Book Discussion in Room 9/10
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 344 in the Social Room
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 489 in the Memorial Room

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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. A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called by Session for next Sunday, 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.
3. ADULT Ed. – Today 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.
4. 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, with a few additional copies on the table.
5. 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 next Sunday
6. ANGEL TREE GIFTS to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center are due back, unwrapped, today.
7. \$10 GIFT CARDS for Christmas for the Men at Grace House are being collected until next Sunday. 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. CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - During December and early January we will again be collecting donations for this annual denominational PCUSA offering. 50% of this offering is used for emergency financial assistance for former and current pastors and church workers and their families. The other 50% is used for scholarships and other aid for students of color at Presbyterian-related colleges that are primarily for students of color. Envelopes are in the chair racks for this worthy cause.

Lectionary Passages

	<u>December 8th</u>	<u>December 15th</u>
Old Testament	<i>Malachi 3:1-4</i>	<i>Zephaniah 3:14-20</i>
New Testament	<i>Philippians 1:3-11</i>	<i>Philippians 4:4-7</i>
Gospel	<i>Luke 3:1-6</i>	<i>Luke 3:7-18</i>