

✠ ✠ ✠ RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD ✠ ✠ ✠

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER:

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS & TITHES:

OFFERTORY: "Christmas Improvisation on 'Ukranian Bell Carol'"

\* THE DOXOLOGY:

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" # 250

[1] O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

[2] For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together Proclaim the holy birth;  
And praises sing to God, the King, And peace to men on earth.

[3] How silently, how silently The wondrous Gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still, The dear Christ enters in.

[4] O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend on us, we pray.  
Cast out our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell.  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord, Emmanuel.

CHARGE & BLESSING:

POSTLUDE: "Love Came Down at Christmas"

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the North Liberty Presbyterian Church is to **serve Christ**. We seek to **introduce Jesus** as the Christ and **become disciples** so that together we are enabled to **love one another** and **share His love** with those around us.

NORTH LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

209 N. Liberty-Plain Grove Road, Grove City, PA 16127

Web: <http://www.northlibertypc.org>

Church Office 724-794-4383



**King Jesus Is Lord!**

The Rev. Albert Rhodes Stuart, pastor  
Michele Bonnici, Pianist || Mark Bonnici, Videographer  
Josiah Stuart, Soloist

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS:

✠ ✠ PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD ✠ ✠

PRELUDE: "The First Noel"

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Tina & Josiah Stuart & Vera Crump

Scripture Passage: Isaiah 61:1 - 4 & 8 - 11

Meditation: **Reader:** We want everything to look nice: , . . . . . O Come,  
O Come Emmanuel!

Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verse 3

[3] O come, Thou Wisdom from on high  
And order all things, far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And cause us in her ways to go.  
[Refrain]  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

CALL TO WORSHIP:

**Pastor:** You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to You, O LORD, for though You were angry with me, Your anger turned away, and You comforted me. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation."

**People:** With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known His deeds among the nations; proclaim that His Name is exalted."

**Unison:** Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

HYMN: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" # 251

[1] It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven's all-gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

[2] Still thro' the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats O'er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.

[3] And ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way With painful steps and slow,  
Look now! for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road And hear the angels sing.

[4] For lo! the days are hast'ning on, By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years Shall come the time foretold,  
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song Which now the angels sing.

CALL TO CONFESSION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Unison:** Eternal God, in Whom we live, move and have our being; Whose face is hidden from us because of our sins, and Whose mercy we have forgotten in the blindness of our hearts; Cleanse us, we pray, from all of our offenses and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires which we have nurtured deep within us. Grant that with reverent and humble hearts, we may draw near to You, and that in confessing our faults and clinging to Your grace, we might find our true refuge through Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION:

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

\* GLORIA PATRI:

✠ ✠ ✠ HEARING THE WORD OF GOD ✠ ✠ ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

CHILDRENS' MESSAGE:

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Luke 3:7 - 18

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

ANTHEM: "Angels Sing Gloria!"

SERMON: "Stumps & Stones:  
Whose Children Are We Really?"

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Hospitalized

Bob McGhee || Friend of Tony & Janice McElhinny  
Bob Barger  
Bill Johnston

### Upcoming Surgery

Dr. Sherrick & Son  
Ed Turnbull (Rotator Cuff Repair)

### Recuperating

Jim Swisher [Rusty's Uncle]  
Cathy Hemmerlin || Foot surgery & had a fall  
John Petrack || Stem Cell trans. recovery  
Chris Shaw (Surgical Recovery)  
Rick Shaner || Tumor - Ear Canal  
Jason Weyerich (To Rehab / TBI)  
Linda Beatty  
Johnny Hubel (TBI Home Recovery)  
Barb Linko (Heart Surgery – Waiting)  
Ed Buchert (Recovering & PT)  
Brittany Glace (Double Lung Trans from COVID )  
Dorry Sankey  
Lee Covert  
Ginny McClymonds

### Cancer Warriors

John Petrack (S. Black's B-in-L || Dvlping. new blood)  
Adam Shields (Leukemia)  
Sally Riddle (No Cancer || Still has trach in place)  
Allan Morris (Evelyn K's cousin || Colon & Pros.  
Matt Porter (Brain || Joyce Youshock's Cousin)  
Donnie Porterfield (recovering from COVID)  
John McElhinny  
Dave Dunkerly  
Evelyn Koprivnikar (secondary tumor & treatment)

### Health and Other Concerns

Sharon Magalis || Spot on Pancreas w/ testing  
Michael Henderson || Long Recovery | Heart Attack)

Phyllis Buchanan | CHF & Blood Clots  
Dean Kildoo || Move to Grove Manor  
Rick Sankey || ALS & Parkinsons  
Bob Kedanis || Work accident  
Garalynn Barlow ( Parkinson's)  
Bob Barger & Joann Barger  
Brandy Brown  
Pat Burns (Anne Treanor's Sis-in-law)  
Nancy Clark  
Thomas Cooper (Dorry's nephew)  
Kay Dannels (friend of Beth Black)  
Mike Yuricha  
Martha Dunlap  
Dick Dunlap  
Ray Hoagland (M. McCreight's Dad | 101 years |  
breathing difficulties)  
Carter Kerr (Carolyn Rizza's Cousin)  
Linda Knight  
Tony Nicoletto  
Theresa & Stephanie Snyder (Joyce Youshock's  
cousins)  
Avery Reynolds  
(Friend of Marie Duncan)  
Kaitlyn Spinoso  
(Pastor's Bob McCreight's granddaughter)  
Sam Williamson  
Helen Sevin  
Paul Bonnici (Mark's brother)  
Julie Roberts  
Scott Burns (Stroke recovery)  
Jack Hemmerlin (Eye Press. Good | still has Double  
Vision post-surgery)  
Gwen Best (COVID)  
Trish Turnbull ( Kidney Dis. / Foot recovered)  
Paul Rizza (Long-term yeast infection)  
Larry Shannon (improving)  
George Pokrant  
John & Edna Mae Tissue (John's health issues)  
Al || Homeless Gent. (Move to Apt in Parker)  
Paul Eperthener || COVID & Anemia

Marion Wood || Dementia onset

### Bereavement

Kathy Jarvie Family || Erin Stoops' Aunt  
June McClellan Family

### Special Prayers

The State of the Nation  
COVID Vaccinations & cases  
Police, Fire, EMS, Med. Personnel  
Afghanistan

### Thanksgiving

### Joy

### Work & Worship of the Church

Presbytery of Shenango (re-organization & new  
officers | Sue Black, Vice-Mod.)  
Sunday School Teachers  
CE & Liberty Lambs & Lions

### Shut-ins

**Erma Campbell –Rm 316B**  
Orchard Manor  
20 Orchard Drive  
Grove City, PA 16127

### **Joan Dickey**

Lakes of Jefferson  
7271 W. Market St.  
Mercer, PA 16137  
724-418-4446

### **Dick Schultz – Room 518**

Butler VA Healthcare  
353 North Duffy Road  
Butler, PA 16001

### **Lillian Jeffrey**

Home 2 Me  
600 Slippery Rock Road  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

### **Jackie Bowser**

407 North Liberty Road  
Grove City, PA 16127

### **Martha Dunlap**

354 North Liberty Road  
Grove City, PA 16127

### **Dean Kildoo**

Grove Manor || Room 118  
435 North Broad Street  
Grove City, PA 16127

### Mission

### **Kidnapped Missionaries in Haiti**

### **Pecos Valley Hispanic Ministries**

### **Presbyterian Church in N. & S. Sudan**

(New churches planted | COVID | Reconciliation )

### **Dominican Republic Mission Partners**

Shenango Pres DR Team 2022 Trip Planning

### FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY



### **Kyle Campbell**

(Alex's brother)

### **Jake & Jessica Corey (Lockheart) Orman**

(Erin Stoops' Cousins)

### **Kirby Buchanan**

(Tom & Nina Cooper's Grandson)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This Week in Brief

- TODAY: 9<sup>:45 AM</sup> — Prayer Time  
10<sup>:00 AM</sup> — Sunday School  
11<sup>:00 AM</sup> — Worship Service  
3<sup>:00 PM</sup> — Christmas Caroling for Nursing Home Residents & Shut-ins  
with cookies, hot chocolate & friends || Fellowship Hall  
7<sup>:00 PM</sup> — Screening of The Chosen. || Trinity Lutheran Ch.
- MONDAY: 6<sup>:00 PM</sup> — GriefShare || Support Group  
Leesburg Presbyterian Church || Open mtg  
7<sup>:00 PM</sup> — Deacons' Meeting
- TUES.: 7<sup>:00 PM</sup> — Choir Practice
- Next  
SUNDAY: 9<sup>:45 AM</sup> — Prayer Time  
10<sup>:00 AM</sup> — Sunday School  
11<sup>:00 AM</sup> — Worship Service  
7<sup>:00 PM</sup> — Screening of The Chosen || All Saint's Lutheran

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The Offering is collected in the offering plates on the center table in the Narthex. It will be brought forward during the Offertory for the prayer of Dedication. On Communion Sundays there are two different plates out. The Standard offering goes in the gold plates.

Please remain seated through the end of the postlude.

- **Children's Church has resumed.** The children will be dismissed from the service following the Children's Message. Additional volunteers to staff Children's Church would help immensely; if anyone would like to help with Children's Church, please contact either Joyce Youshock or Dorry Sankey. Thank you, in advance.
- December Items for Bob's Food Cupboard:  
☒ Salt, Pepper                      ☒ Basic Spices

NOTICE: We have returned to "Normal" in attendance & gathering restrictions. Masking is not required, though it is suggested for those who are unvaccinated or have chronic illness or autoimmune conditions that make them more vulnerable to COVID-19 or one of its variants. We video record worship services for distribution on DVD and on the Church website & YouTube channels; Our short range AM signal around the building also continues for those who wish to attend, but cannot come inside to expose themselves.

Video recordings of services available via YouTube & the Church website.

Albert Stuart Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgskXHNKPjvAwEeH6CKeQNA>

North Liberty Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzi4d3I8gQuFwtER3o6xFyA>

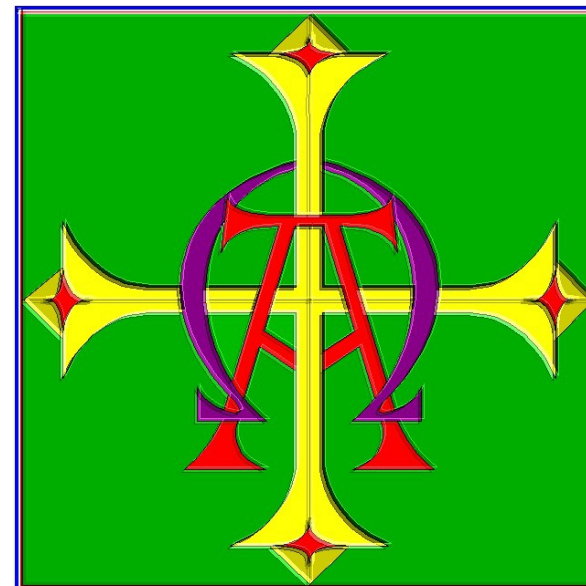
Church Website:

<http://northlibertypc.org/blog/highlights-upcoming-events/>

or:

<http://www.northlibertypc.org/category/recordedsermons/>

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Luke 3:7 - 18

<sup>7</sup> He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”

<sup>8</sup> Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” <sup>12</sup> Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup> As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in His hand, to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

As we look at our prayer list each week, we should also remember our college students. Please pray for them, and send them a card or two. They really are excited from us and know that we are praying for them.

NORTH LIBERTY COLLEGE STUDENTS

Alexis Barger  
6001 University Blvd.  
Student Mailroom  
Moon, PA 15108

Chelsea Mahaffey  
3424 Dawson Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Patrick Shea  
711 East Beaver Avenue  
Apt. #26  
State College PA 16801

Rachel Hemmerlin  
91 N. Liberty–Plain Grove Road  
Grove City, PA 161227

Lennon Pierce  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Box #1186  
40 Rowland Avenue  
Deleware, Ohio 43015

Sydney Stringert  
243 Mill Road  
Clarks Mills, PA 16114

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91 N. Liberty–Plain Grove Rd.  
Grove City, PA 16127

Emma Sankey  
2850 Mercer–Butler Pike  
Grove City, PA 16127

Mason Stull  
323 Edgewood Avenue  
Grove City, PA 16127

Alex Hemmerlin  
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24 Redifer Commons  
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