

**GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Morning Worship – 9:30 a.m.**

December 13, 2020

Silent prayer for use in preparation for worship:

Lord, we beseech Thee, give ear to our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Thy gracious visitation; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end, Amen.

*Collect for the Third Sunday in Advent
Service Book and Hymnal of the Lutheran Churches, c. 1958*

PRELUDE *Prelude on Veni Emmanuel* Peter Lutkin

SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Psalm 34:1-3)*

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and be glad.

O, MAGNIFY THE LORD WITH ME, AND LET US EXALT HIS NAME TOGETHER!

***PRAYER OF ADORATION** *(in unison)*

GOD OF OUR SALVATION, OUR HEARTS YEARN FOR THE WARMTH OF YOUR LOVE, AND OUR MINDS SEARCH FOR THE LIGHT OF YOUR WORD. INCREASE OUR LONGING FOR CHRIST OUR SAVIOR, AND STRENGTHEN US TO GROW IN LOVE, THAT AT THE DAWN OF HIS COMING WE MAY REJOICE IN HIS PRESENCE, WELCOME THE LIGHT OF HIS TRUTH, AND RECEIVE THE GIFT OF HIS GRACE. THIS WE ASK IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOREVER, AMEN.

***HYMN** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(first silently, then in unison):*

PURIFY OUR HEARTS, O LORD, AND FIT US FOR THY DWELLING PLACE. AS WE PREPARE FOR THY COMING, FORGIVE US OUR SINS, AND LET US NEVER FAIL TO FIND ROOM FOR THEE. THY SON WAS BORN INTO THIS WORLD FOR OUR SALVATION, AND NOW LIVES AND REIGNS KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. COME AND ABIDE WITH US, THAT THROUGH HIM WE ALSO MAY ABIDE WITH THEE. AMEN. *(A prayer of William Temple, 1881-1944)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***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.*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SPECIAL MUSIC *O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion* G.F. Handel
Olivia Black, Mezzo-Soprano

SCRIPTURE READINGS *Luke 1:46-55
John 1:1-14*

***HYMN** *Song of Mary*

SERMON "MAGNIFICAT ANIMA MEA DOMINUM"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles Creed*

I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND IN JESUS CHRIST HIS ONLY SON OUR LORD; WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY GHOST, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD, AND BURIED. HE DESCENDED INTO HELL. THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD; HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SITTETH ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD. I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY GHOST; THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH; THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY; AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

OFFERING

**Doxology*

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!*

**Prayer of Dedication*

***HYMN** *O Come, Divine Messiah*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Toccatà in e minor* Joseph Callaerts

**(the people standing, as able)*

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Ps. 24:7

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 2. A help - er just he comes to thee, his char - iot
 3. O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the
 4. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 is hu - mil - i - ty, his king - ly crown is
 Rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 ho - li - ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty in dis - tress.
 hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!
 heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.

5. Redeemer, come! I open wide
 my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
 Let me thy inner presence feel;
 thy grace and love in me reveal.

6. So come, my Sovereign, enter in!
 Let new and nobler life begin!
 Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,
 until the glorious crown be won.

ISAIAH 61:1-4, 8-11

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive him.

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

LUKE 1:46-55 (Responsively)

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
 AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR,
 For He has been mindful of the humble estate of His handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all
 generations will call me blessed;
 FOR HE WHO IS MIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME, AND HOLY IS HIS NAME.
 And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
 HE HAS SHOWN STRENGTH WITH HIS ARM, HE HAS SCATTERED THE PROUD IN THE IMAGINATION OF THEIR
 HEARTS,
 He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree;
 HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS; THE RICH HE HAS SENT EMPTY AWAY.
 He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
 AS HE SPOKE TO OUR FATHERS, TO ABRAHAM AND TO HIS POSTERITY FOREVER.

Song of Mary

Magnificat

MORNING SONG CM

Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813
 Harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940

Para. Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God, My
 2. My God has done great things for me: Yes,
 3. From age to age to all who fear, Such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, Pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant Sup -

heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 ho - ly is this Name. All peo - ple will de -
 mer - cy love im - parts, Dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 motes the in - se - cure, Leaves hun - gry spir - its
 ports those in dis - tress, Re - mem - ber - ing past

low - li - ness In man - y mar - vel - ous ways.
 clare me blessed, And bless - ings they shall claim.
 far and near, Dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 sat - is - fied; The rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 prom - is - es With pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

O Come, Divine Messiah

1. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The
 2. O come De - sired of na - tions, Whom
 3. O come in peace and meek - ness, For

world in si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its
 priest and proph - et long fore - told, Will break the cap - tive
 low - ly will your cra - dle be: Though clothed in hu - man

tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.
 fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.
 weak - ness We shall your God - head see.

Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the
 night and show your face, And bid us hail the dawn of
 grace. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The
 world in si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its
 tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.

Text: Venez, divin Messie; Abbe Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663-1745; tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877
 Tune: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE, 7 8 7 6 with refrain: French Noel, 16th C.; harm. by Healey Willan, 1880-1968, © 1958, The Basilian Fathers,
 assigned to Ralph Jusko Publications, Inc.

**GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN
805 MAIN AVENUE
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02886
December 13, 2020**

WELCOME to all who are worshipping in our sanctuary today; welcome, too, to all worshipping with us online! As done these past thirty-seven weeks, the service will be archived and posted @ twenty minutes after the benediction and will be available for viewing and/or downloading for at least one week. A special word of welcome to any and all visiting with us in person or online this morning ... welcome to our fellowship!

Flowers Today are given to the glory of God by Janet Swanson in loving memory of her uncle, Allen T. Granquist, and by Millicent and Rusty Budlong, Lexi, Millicent, Chandler and Trey Budlong-Springer, Bill Springer, Aalijah and Alexander Perez, and Steele Bedard in loving memory of Alexander J. Golanski, cherished father, grandfather, great grandfather and great great grandfather .

THE 2021 FLOWER CALENDAR is now ready in the church office. In light of the current health restrictions, please call (737-1230) to sign up for dates to honor a loved one, mark a special occasion, commemorate the memory of a dearly departed relative or friend and also help beautify our sanctuary for worship. We will fill out the necessary information for you! The cost is **\$15** per bouquet and can be dropped in the collection plate or sent in the mail.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Please join us in visiting some of our shut-ins, sharing the joy of the Christmas season through music! We plan to convene at the church **Sunday, December 20 at 3:00 p.m.** and will caravan in our own vehicles to homes of church members who have been unable to attend worship recently. For health safety considerations we will be singing outside the homes in the fresh air, while appropriately distanced from one another and those we will be visiting. Caroling booklets will be available upon arrival at the church; please email music@gccp.org if you would prefer to receive a PDF to print yourself or read from a tablet or other device.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: We will offer the second of our two Christmas mini-concerts **December 16 at 7:00 p.m.** Special selections will be presented by our wonderful soloists of all ages and our music staff,. This will primarily be a live-streamed event on our Facebook page, with the sanctuary open for those who are not able to access the online broadcast. A freewill (online) offering will be taken to benefit our music program.

HELP NEEDED: If you have technical and/or audio-visual expertise, we are in need of capable volunteers to help with the recording or our worship services! Please see Pastor Clark and/or Matthew Majeika if interested; thank you!

THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN have HAND MADE ADULT AND CHILD FACE MASKS available for sale in Fellowship Hall (\$5 adult, \$4 children, by honor system). All proceeds will go to the Presbyterian Women's Community Outreach Fund.



We invite you to remember and/or celebrate a loved one during the Christmas season with a poinsettia to help beautify our sanctuary. We will be taking orders for plants as well as accepting plants hand delivered by **December 19.** Plants will arrive in 6 1/2 inch pots in three different colors: red, white or pink and need to be picked up after Service of Worship **December 27.** (PLEASE NOTE: THE LAST DAY FOR ORDERING PINK OR WHITE WAS DECEMBER 6.)

Please fill out the attached form and return it to the church office or place in the offering plate with your payment as soon as possible to reserve your plant.

_____ I WILL BRING A PLANT TO CHURCH BY 10:00 AM ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 19

_____ I WILL ORDER A PLANT:

_____ RED PLANT(S) @ \$11.00 = _____ AND HAVE ENCLOSED PAYMENT.

_____ WHITE PLANT(S) @ \$11.00 = _____ AND HAVE ENCLOSED PAYMENT.

_____ PINK PLANT(S) @ \$11.00 = _____ AND HAVE ENCLOSED PAYMENT.

In Memory / Celebration of _____

Given by _____ Telephone _____

THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING RED POINSETTIAS IS TODAY, DECEMBER 13.

FROM THE DEACONS AND 29ELEVEN YOUTH MINISTRIES

As you may remember from past years, STOP & SHOP ® offers a 5% reimbursement of the total cash value of gift cards purchased as their charitable donation to qualifying organizations! We would like to AGAIN take advantage of this offer to benefit both the Deacons' ministries and the annual 29 Eleven summer mission trip.

OPTION 1: DONATE ONE OR MORE \$10 GIFT CARDS FOR HOLIDAY BASKETS!



Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Deacons could not prepare the usual 100-plus Holiday Food Baskets for the needy this Thanksgiving and Christmas. However, we hope to resume this benevolent service the very first holiday after the restrictions are lifted. A \$10 STOP AND SHOP ® grocery gift card is included in each basket to enable the recipient to buy a turkey or some other main course. You may purchase one or more \$10 gift card(s) for donation to the Deacons for this, and Stop & Shop would reimburse 5% of the total cash value of your purchase for the Summer Mission Trip!

OPTION 2: DONATE ONE OR MORE GIFT CARDS OF \$10, \$50 OR \$100 FOR THE DEACONS TO USE IN EMERGENCY RELIEF!



The Deacons are often made aware of crisis situations and/or emergency need among church members, people in the community and/or through the various agencies we support. STOP AND SHOP ® grocery cards are wonderfully convenient to have on hand if the need is imminent. You may purchase one or more cards of \$10, \$50 or \$100 value for the Deacons to distribute at their discretion; Stop & Shop will reimburse 5% of the total value of your purchase for the Summer Mission Trip!

OPTION 3: PURCHASE ONE OR MORE GIFT CARDS FOR PERSONAL USE.



Although this would not qualify as a charitable donation on your part, you nevertheless may purchase STOP AND SHOP ® grocery gift cards for your own personal use ... we all have to buy groceries and other assorted necessities for our everyday living, so why not allow your grocery purchases to benefit a most worthy cause? STOP AND SHOP® will still return their charitable contribution of 5% of the total cash value of your gift!

PLEASE PLACE THIS ORDER FORM WITH PAYMENT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR BRING/MAIL/EMAIL IT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY DECEMBER 21.

(Checks should be written to Greenwood Community Church, with Stop and Shop Cards on memo line. Please write a separate check for each order!)

ORDER FORM

NAME _____

PHONE # _____

OPTION ONE: I'd like to order _____ (# of cards) \$10 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s) for donation to the Deacons' Holiday Food Baskets.

OPTION TWO: I'd like to order the following STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s) in donation to Deacons' Emergency Relief.

- _____ (# of cards) \$10 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s)
- _____ (# of cards) \$50 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s)
- _____ (# of cards) \$100 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s)

OPTION THREE: I'd like to order the following STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s) for personal use. I understand this option does NOT qualify as a personal charitable deduction, but will still secure a 5% donation from STOP AND SHOP® for the 29Eleven Summer Mission Trip Fund.

- _____ (# of cards) \$10 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s)
- _____ (# of cards) \$50 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s)
- _____ (# of cards) \$100 STOP AND SHOP® gift card(s)

(NOTE: A limited number of cards are readily available on a first come, first served basis should you desire to have these by Christmas. Place an X HERE _____ if you need this order by Christmas, and we'll do our best to accommodate. Normally there is a 7-10 day turnaround from Stop & Shop, so the new cards will be ready by the first week of January 2021.)