



*Following Christ and Being His Beacon in Our Community*



Sunday, December 20, 2020

10:30 a.m.

## **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

### **Piano Prelude:**

*“Carol of Christmas”* by Peterson  
*“Mary Did You Know?”* by Gaither  
*“Night of Miracles”* by Peterson

### **Call to Worship**

### **Opening Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath:**

Peggy & Jim Gordon

### **Senior Choir Selections:**

*“A Wintry Noel”* by Harlan  
*“Were You There On that Christmas Night”* by Sleeth

## Announcements & Opportunities to Serve the Lord

### Sharing of Joys, Concerns & God Sightings

### Pastoral Prayer

### Tithes and Offerings

There are offering boxes at each exit for you to continue giving to God's work at Little Britain. If you prefer to give electronically, please visit our website and scroll to the bottom of the main page and click on "Give".

### Prayer for Illumination

#### Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. <sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature<sup>[a]</sup> God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature<sup>[b]</sup> of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

#### Response to the Scripture:

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Message:** Pastor Tom Milligan

*"Becoming Nothing"*

**Closing Carol:** #127 (Verses 1, 3, and 5)

*"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"*

### Benediction

**Congregational Response:** #242

*"While We Are Waiting"* (Verse 1)

While we are waiting come. While we are waiting come.

Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.

**Organ Postlude:**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"* arr. DeCou

Words to all music are printed permission of CCLI# 1963054

**In His Service Today:**

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Milligan  
Ministers: The Congregation  
Administrative Assistant: Peggy McCauley  
Choir Director: Peggy Gordon  
Organist: Rick Rineer  
Nursery: Open but not staffed

**Contact Information**

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**Announcements & Opportunities to Serve the Lord**



Join Pastor Tom this advent season with his sermon series “**The Most Inconvenient Christmas**”. Here are the upcoming sermon titles in this series:

- Thursday, December 24, 2020: “No More Gloom”



**Altar  
Flowers**

Today’s altar flowers are given to remind all of us of “The Reason for the Season”. Thanks be to God.



Join us on **Thursday, December 24, 2020** as we will hold two Christmas Eve Services!

- **5:00 p.m.** we will hold a service outside (weather permitting). Bring a chair and a blanket as we celebrate Christ’s entrance into the world in the great outdoors!
- **7:30 p.m.** we will hold our traditional candlelight service in the sanctuary and on Facebook Live (and possibly the social hall if needed). The prelude will begin at 7:00 p.m. with some sounds of the Christmas season! Please note masks will be required.

**PLEASE!!  
NOTE**

Pastor Tom will be on vacation **December 25–31, 2020**. On **Sunday, December 27, 2020** we welcome Dennis Regitz to the pulpit. Dennis and his wife Carol ministered at Washington Boro Church of God.

**Friday Prayer Time:** You are welcome to join us each **Friday at 2:00 p.m.** for a time of prayer through Zoom. Please see Pastor Tom for more information.

**There’s an App for That:** Well no not really, but the church bulletin is available under the resources tab of the church website if you prefer an electronic version over a paper copy.

# Special Offering

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming special offerings:

- **December 24, 2020:** Our Christmas Eve offering will go to support Solanco Neighborhood Ministries
- **December 27, 2020:** An offering will be taken to support retired EPC ministers and missionaries in need.

*Please Be Seated?* As we get adjusted to worshipping indoors we will remain seated during the singing of hymns and praise songs. Thank you in advance for your flexibility!

*Time of Sharing:* Following the Postlude, we will have a time for sharing additional announcements and prayer requests that were not able to be shared during the worship service.



Please check out the Sharing Table for baked goods. Donations will be given to the Food Bank. The Sharing Table is located by the main entrance on the first floor.



*Announcements?* If you have anything for the announcements please call or email the church or you can email Rick Rineer directly at [jriner2@comcast](mailto:jrineer2@comcast). Please have announcements for following week in by **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday**. Thank you!

