



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
Stone Presbyterian Church
A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

December 22, 2024 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Advent



We Gather to Worship the One Who Is Coming

PRELUDE "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come" F. W. Zachau
(Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)

CHORAL INTROIT & POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 80)



LEADER: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim!

PEOPLE: Shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

LEADER: Stir up your might, and come to save us!

PEOPLE: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

LEADER: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

ALL: Let us worship the God.

+ HYMN #12 "People, Look East" BESANCON
(+Those who are able may stand.)

WELCOME



THE 4TH ADVENT CANDLE – GIFT OF LOVE
Sonia Teuchert and Mary Chamberlain

UNISON PRAYER:
God of love, surprise us with your love. Come to us as a babe in a manger when we expect a warrior king. Bring light to parts of our lives that we don't even realize are in darkness. Prod us, encourage us, fill us, sustain us with the love that only you can give. Amen.

+THE ADVENT GIVING – The Country Pantry



SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+A DOXOLOGY (to the tune GLORIA)
To the God of hope we sing,
To the Son let praises ring,
And the Holy Spirit praise,
As this song of hope we raise:
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!



+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We Listen for the Word of God

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING
(You are invited to say the concluding "amen" aloud.)

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Micah 5:2-5a A ruler will come from Bethlehem
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Hebrews 10:5-10 We are sanctified
The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God

ANTHEM "Magnificat" Frank Henry Shera

Luke 1:39-55 Mary visits Elizabeth and The Magnificat
The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God Told by Donna Goodfriend

SERMON "Love, Actually"

We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving

+ HYMN #16 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" GABRIEL'S MESSAGE



+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (based on the Prologue to the Gospel of John)

In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made. What was made in him was life, and the life was the light of humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not been able to overcome it. The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own home, and his own people did not receive him. But to those who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth. We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. And from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH AND JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional, p. 16)

(When you hear, "This we pray," please respond "Come, Lord Jesus.")

CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come" J. G. Walther

+A DOXOLOGY ADESTE FIDELES

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O Come, let us adore him, O Come let us adore him,
O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

+ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go Out in Love

+ HYMN (see insert) "Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People" MENDELSSOHN

+CHARGE & BENEDICTION

+CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

December 22, 2024 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent ~ 10:30 a.m.



The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ, engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.

All the People, Ministers

Stone Presbyterian Church
PO Box 33, 8 South Park Row
Clinton, New York 13323
315-853-2933
stonepres@stonepres.org

Scott Leonard, Commissioned Pastor
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus
Janice LeFrois, Office Administrator
Lee Kelso, Sexton

www.stonepres.org ~ www.facebook.com/stonepres
www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/

People, Look East

12

Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)
As in *Oxford Book of Carols*, 1964

BESANÇON 8.7.9.8.8.7

French folk melody

Harm. Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near Of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is plant-ed
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall

year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, Trim the
there: Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, That in
filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for
brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, Bright as

Peo-ple, look east and sing to - day:

hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo-ple, look east:
course the flower may flour - ish.
fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo-ple, look east:

Love the guest is on the way.
Love the rose is on the way.
Love the bird is on the way.
Love the star is on the way.
Love is on the way.

5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth With the word, the Lord is coming.
Christ who brings new life to earth. People, look east and sing today:
Set every peak and valley humming Love the Lord is on the way.

Text: © David Higham Assoc., Ltd. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Music: Harmonization © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came 16

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE 10.10.12.10

Basque carol

Para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Arr. by Edgar Pettman and John Wickham

1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His
2. "For know a bless - ed moth - er you shall be, All
3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
4. Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born In

-wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
gen - er - a - tions praise con - tin - ual - ly, Your
me be as it pleas - es God," she said, "My
Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And

hail," said he, "O low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,"
Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told." Most
soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:

high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!

Text and Music: © 1955 (renewed 1983) by E. H. Freeman Ltd. All rights for U. S. and Canada controlled
and administered by Glenwood Music Corp. International copyright secured. All rights reserved.
Used by permission.

♩ = 63-69

