

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 2nd, 2018

1st Sunday of Advent

Hanging of the Greens

11:00 am

***Please feel free to stand as you are able.*

Thank you for worshipping with us today. We consider your presence with us a blessing from God. You are encouraged to greet one another in friendship and love. When the Chiming of the Hour starts, you are invited to prepare yourself for the worship of God.

GATHERING**Ringling of the Bell** John Pilson**Chiming of the Hour - Westminster Chimes****Welcome & Announcements** *(please pass the friendship pad)***Prelude******Gathering Song** *"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*

*Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Chris-tian love:
The fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds
Is like to that a-bove.*

WE APPROACH GOD****Call to Worship**

Pastor: November ends. December begins.

People: *We find our beginning and our ending in God.*

Pastor: Month after month, our God attends us and supports us.

People: *For God's company, we offer thanks and praise.*

Pastor: Let us worship the God who gives us Jesus Christ:

People: *God who is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the Living One, our Redeemer, our hope now and forever.*

****Hymn of Adoration 82** *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*****Prayer of Adoration****Call to Confession****Unison Prayer of Confession**

It is never easy for us to confess our sins, Waiting God. There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends, which we would like to forget. There are those we believe are impossible to love, and so we don't try. There are people who live on the edge of our society, and we ignore their cries for help. Forgive us, God who comes near to us. When we have lost our way, show us yours. Lead us in humility down the streets of your kingdom. Teach us your truth, so we might be able to keep your Word, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Silent Prayer of Confession**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Pastor: In Christ you are forgiven.

People: *Hallelujah! Let us accept God's grace, and give thanks.*****Celebration of God's Grace 368** *"We Fall Down"***WE HEAR GOD'S WORD****Prayer for Illumination****"The Advent Wreath"****Scripture:** Isaiah 2:1-5

Lighting of the Advent Candle I *"Candle of Hope"*
Derek Almarode and Youth

Congregational Response *(sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger")*

*A Can-dle is burn-ing, a flame warm and bright,
A Can-dle of hope in Dec-cem-ber's dark night.
While an-gels sing bless-ing from heaven's star-ry sky,
Our hearts we pre-pare now, for Je-sus is nigh.*

Advent Prayer

Anthem *"Song of Mary"*
Bethel Choir

"The Poinsettia"**Scripture:** Isaiah 11:1-5**Hymn 129** *"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"***"The Christmas Tree"****Scripture:** Isaiah 9:1-3**The Lighting of the Tree****Hymn Insert** *"O Christmas Tree"***"The Chrismons"****Scripture:** Jeremiah 33:14-16**Hymn 113** *"Angels We Have Heard on High"***Gospel Reading:** Luke 21:15-36

Homily *"Budding Leaves"*
Rev. Kelly-Ann Rayle

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD****Hymn of Reflection 88** *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"***Invitation to the Offering****Reception of Tithes and Offerings******Doxology 606******Prayer of Dedication****Invitation to the Table**

Great Thanksgiving, Prayers of the People, & Lord's Prayer
"Amen"

*Amen. Amen. Amen.***Breaking of the Bread****Communion****Prayer After Communion****SENDING**

****Hymn of Sending 1** *"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"*
(verses 1 & 4)

****Charge and Benediction**

****Congregational Response 113**
"Angels We Have Heard on High" (refrain)

*Glo---ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o!
Glo---ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o!*

**** Postlude**

Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church!
Announcements - December 2nd, 2018

- Good Morning! Whether you are a member, a friend, or a visitor, please take a moment to fill out the friendship pad at the end of your pew, and give the friendship pad to others to sign. Also, large print bulletins and hearing assists are available in the vestibule for those who may need them.
- The poinsettias in the Sanctuary are given by Bettie Swisher in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. M. B. Swisher, Don B. Swisher, and Wayne Swisher.
- The annual Hanging of the Greens program to celebrate the first Sunday of Advent will be held during worship today. Communion will also be received.
- There will be a Congregational Meeting today following worship for the purpose of forming a Nominating Committee.
- Bethel's Annual Advent Workshop will be today, following the Congregational Meeting. All ages are welcome! We will have a light lunch provided by the Bethel Women and then do crafts and activities to take home to celebrate the Advent season.

•Church Wide Advent/Christmas Study Pastor Kelly-Ann invites you to join her in a "self guided" provocative journey through the Advent and Christmas season using the Dietrich Bonhoeffer masterpiece "God Is In the Manger". Copies of Bonhoeffer's book will be available for purchase in the Church Office. The cost of the book is \$11.00 and checks are to be made payable to Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Following the Advent/Christmas season join Pastor Kelly-Ann for a special gathering to reflect and discuss your journey and experience through the Advent/Christmas season on Epiphany Sunday @ 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided; an RSVP for this study and the luncheon would be most appreciated. Forms are available in the vestibule and at the end of your pew if you are interested in joining Pastor Kelly-Ann on this spiritually rich and transformative journey. Please fill the form out, tear off the bottom, and place it in the offering plate or Pastor Kelly-Ann's mailbox ASAP.

•Calling for Bell Ringers! The Bethel Outreach & Evangelism Committee needs volunteers to help with ringing the Salvation Army bells at the Staunton Wal-Mart this Friday, December 7th, from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm. You will be stationed at the Pharmacy entrance and each shift lasts about two hours. Please call Dean Caldwell at (540) 292-0646 as soon as possible to schedule a time to "ring in the holiday season" for those in need.

•Stuarts Draft Christmas Parade! The Bethel Outreach & Evangelism Committee will be decorating a small camper to tell the community about Bethel in the Stuarts Draft Christmas Parade! The parade will be this Saturday, December 8th, at 4:00 pm. If you would like to help decorate or walk in the parade (we especially need members willing to walk with the camper!), lineup will begin at Hollister at 3:00 pm. The holiday theme for the parade this year is "Christmas at the Movies". Please contact Dean Caldwell if you are willing to walk in the parade or if you have any questions (540) 292-0646.

•It's time to place your orders for Christmas poinsettias or to make a Christmas donation to BERF in memory or in honor of someone. Order forms along with additional details are in the vestibule and at the end of your pew. All poinsettia orders and Christmas BERF donations must be turned in to the Church Office by next Sunday, December 9th.

•The Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 11th, at 11:00 am (*note the time change!*). The meeting will be at the home of Libby Smith (180 Howardsville Road, Staunton) and there will be a light brunch served. Please contact Libby at 540/337-2058 if you have any questions.

•The Evening Circle will have a Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 11th, at 6:30 pm (*note the time change!*) at the church. We will eat dinner together and exchange gifts. Please bring a dish to share and a small gift. If you have any questions, please contact Irene Elliott (540/885-3554) or Louise Hoy (540/886-3314).

WEEKEND OF JOY - DECEMBER 15TH & DECEMBER 16TH
DECEMBER 15TH - "A FAMILY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION"
PROGRAM & COVERED DISH SUPPER

As part of our Joy Weekend, we have a very special continuation of a yearly tradition at Bethel. On Saturday, December 15th is our annual Joy Gift 'Luncheon' with the Joy Gift Offering to follow on Sunday. However, this Saturday event will be a potluck starting at 5:00 pm, so it's really more of a Joy Gift 'Covered Dish Supper!'

It is *also* a time of sharing our musical gifts and talents. I've heard that we have bands, singers, instrumentalists, and musically gifted families in this church, **and THIS IS THE TIME TO SHARE YOUR MUSIC THIS CHRISTMAS!** Sign-up sheets for music are in the Vestibule, the Church Office, and on the Bulletin Boards in Memorial Hall for you to sign up to share your gifts. **PLEASE SIGN-UP ASAP** so that I can make a schedule and contact performers to ask what they will need!

Shalom,
Eli

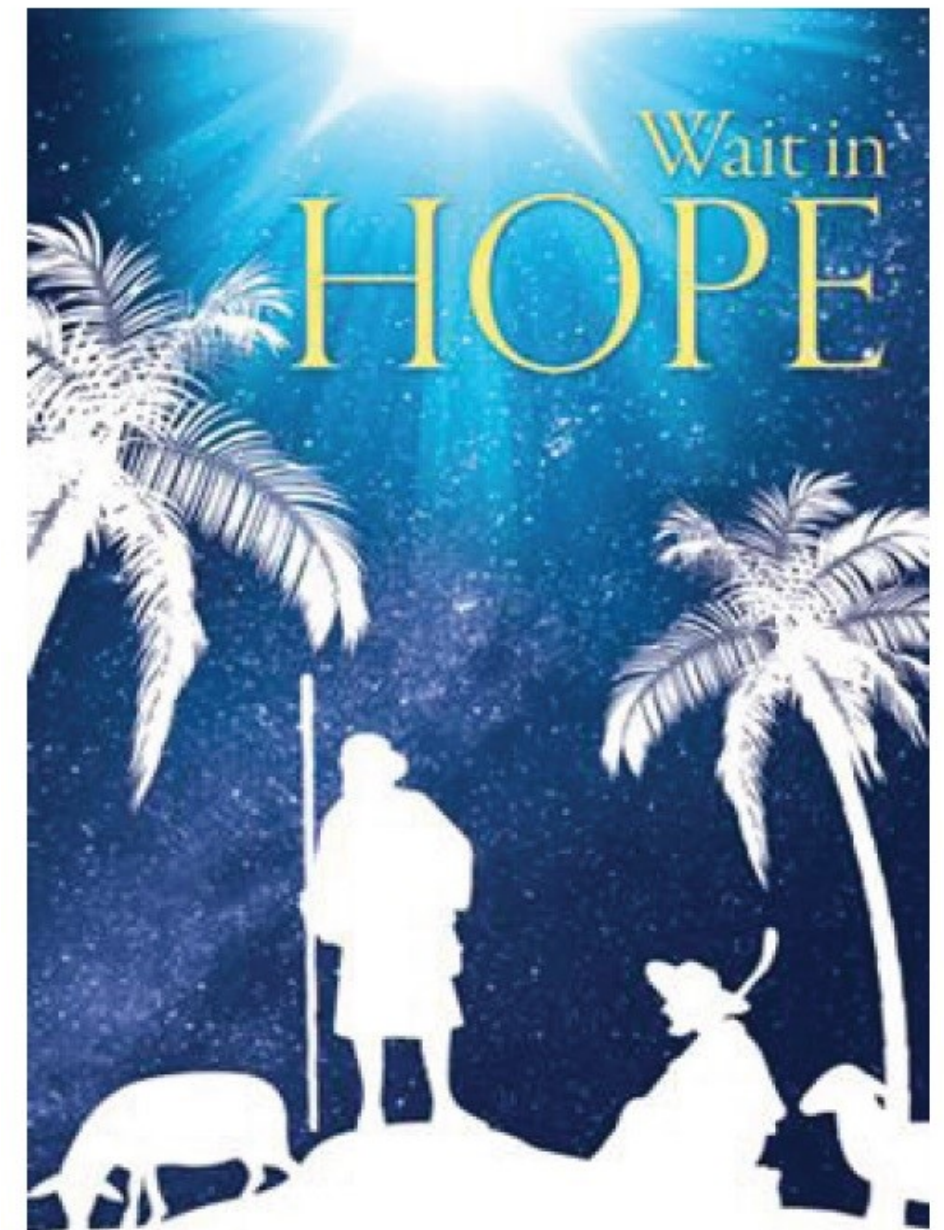
•The Christmas Joy Offering will be received as part of the "Weekend of Joy!" on Sunday, December 16th, during worship. More information about the Christmas Joy Offering can be found on the insert in your bulletin and in the December Tower newsletter.

•Christmas Alive Program at Riverheads Elementary School The Witness/Mission Committee is asking for your help in providing gifts to children in need at Riverheads Elementary School. There is a tree in Memorial Hall with gift tags attached. Please choose a tag, put your name on the list that will be provided (so that the committee will know who has taken the tag) and purchase the gift requested on the tag. Please return your gift wrapped and with the tag attached to Memorial Hall by Sunday, December 16th! Contact Kathy Swisher at (540) 885-7397 if you have any questions.

•Offering Envelopes for 2019: ATTENTION OFFERING ENVELOPE USERS – Beginning Sunday, December 16th, numbered offering envelopes will be available in the vestibule for those who used offering envelopes in 2018. If you do not currently use envelopes but would like to or have been using them but no longer want them, please contact the Church Office with your request.

Offerings 2018: It is requested that offerings for 2018 be made no later than Sunday, December 30th. Thank you for your continued support.

•Thanks for the lovely tree donated by Francisco Farms (Bill Francisco) that helps make our sanctuary beautiful each year at Christmas. Also, thanks for help in decorating it from Laura Swisher, Justin Swisher and Jesse Resnick. Please come and join us during this Advent season for worship.



1st Sunday in Advent

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

563 Bethel Green Road

Staunton, VA 24401

bethelpc@gmail.com

www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

December 2nd - December 8th

Today 1st Sunday of Advent
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship/Hanging of the Greens/
Communion
12:00 Congregational Meeting
12:30 Advent Workshop
12:30 PWCT

Monday Tuesday Club Set-Up (*Fellowship Hall*)
7:00 Boy Scouts
7:30 Young Life

Tuesday 11:30 - 3:00 Tuesday Club (*Fellowship Hall*)
2:00 Bible Study & Prayer

Wednesday 6:00 Worship Committee
6:30 Cub Scouts
7:00 Adult Choir
7:00 The Bells of Bethel
7:30 Young Life
Pastor Kelly-Ann on vacation -
December 5th - 8th

Friday 12:00 - 8:00 Ringing Salvation Army Bell at
Staunton Wal-Mart

Saturday 4:00 Stuarts Draft Christmas Parade

Next Sunday, December 9th: 2nd Sunday of Advent
Deadline: Christmas Poinsettia Orders &
BERF Donations
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship
12:15 Diaconate



Rev. Kelly-Ann Rayle, Stated Supply Pastor
(434) 327-7330 (cell) bethelpcpastor@gmail.com
Office Days & Hours: Tu 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Wed 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Th 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Adrienne Barker, Office Manager
(540) 886-6041 bethelpc@gmail.com
Office Days & Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Elijah English, Music Director
(919) 649-0855 BethelPCMusic@gmail.com
Office Days & Hours: Monday, Wednesday - Friday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Rhonda Johnson, Clerk of Session
JoAnn Pendley, Handbell Choir Director Sara Ann Lamb, Organist
Ken Wilkinson, Receiving Treasurer Lori Miller, Disbursing Treasurer

Lift Up in Prayer

Bethel Prayer List - December 2nd, 2018

Congregation Members

Betty Cash	Jarod Davis & Family
Irene Elliott	Karen Koogler
Sara Ann Lamb	Evelyn LaPorte
Jeannie Lee	Margaret Liptrap
John Pilson	Jill Webb
Alice Wooddell	

Family & Friends of the Church & Congregation

Mildred Barmore	Catherine Bryan
Reese Burdette	Ronnie Davis
Martha Dubyk	Kenny Earman
Don Hanger	Laurin Henderson & Family
Gail Hord	Jack
John Jennings & Family	Bill Klitzman
Matt Koogler	David Law
Olivia Lewis & Family	Meade Loomis
Pam Massie	Preston McCallister
Meredith McCallister	Maggie Peterson
Roy L. Pilson	Van Pirkey
Carly Pond	Bob Robinson & wife Shirley
Devin Scott	Tara Perrotti & Family
Michael Somers	Parker Staples
Bill & Marguerite Whitaker	

Sympathy & Condolences

Family & Friends of Henley Gabeau
Family & Friends of Dan Miller
Family & Friends of Bob Moody
Family & Friends of Tim Moriconi
Family & Friends of Judy Olson
Family & Friends of Wallace Pilson

Community, Country, & World

All Military Leaders & Personnel
Police, Firemen, and EMS workers and volunteers
Victims of all hurricanes
Michael & Rachel Weller, Missionaries in Ethiopia

Please call Tammy Barbour at (540) 471-0450, Barb Gough at (540)255-6521, or the Church Office at (540) 886-6041 with any additions or updates.

“O Christmas Tree”

*O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy leaves are so unchanging;
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy leaves are so unchanging;
Not only green when summer's here,
But also when 'tis cold and dreary.
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy leaves are so unchanging!*

*O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Much pleasure thou can'st give me;
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Much pleasure thou can'st give me;
How often has the Christmas tree
Afforded me the greatest glee!
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Much pleasure thou can'st give me.*

*O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy candles shine so brightly!
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy candles shine so brightly!
From base to summit, gay and bright,
There's only splendor for the sight.
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy candles shine so brightly!*

*O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
How richly God has decked thee!
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
How richly God has decked thee!
Thou bidst us true and faithful be,
And trust in God unchangingly.
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
How richly God has decked thee!*