

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**

December 9th, 2018

2nd Sunday of Advent

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****Ringing of the Bell**

John Pilson

**Chiming of the Hour - Westminster Chimes****Welcome & Announcements** *(please pass the friendship pad)***Prelude - Introit****\*\*Passing of the Peace**

Pastor: . . . The peace of Christ be with you.

*People: And also with you!***\*\*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: God has raised up a mighty Savior for us in the house of God’s servant David.

*People: Blessed be the Lord our God.*

Pastor: God has shown mercy and remembered the holy covenant,

*People: that we might serve God without fear.*

Pastor: By the tender mercy of our God,

*People: God will guide our way of peace.*

Pastor: Let us worship God.

**\*\*Hymn of Adoration 106***“Prepare the Way, O Zion”***\*\*Prayer of Adoration****Call to Confession****Unison Prayer of Confession**

*Forgiving God, in this season of Advent, we welcome the coming of your light in a world filled with darkness. We confess to you the ways in which we have added to that darkness rather than obeyed our call to live as baptized children of the light. (silent reflection)*

*We ask your forgiveness: for times when we are desensitized to violence and belittle peace, (silent reflection)*

*for times when we fight amongst ourselves, (silent reflection)*

*for times when we forget that we are all children of the God of Peace. (silent reflection)*

*By your tender mercy, may the dawn from on high break upon us and our baptism wash over us. Give light to those of us that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. (silent reflection)*

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Pastor: In Christ you are forgiven.

*People: Holy is the Lamb of mercy and grace.***\*\*Celebration of God’s Grace 368***“We Fall Down”***WE HEAR GOD’S WORD****Prayer of Illumination****Lighting of the Advent Candles***“Candles of Hope & Peace”*

Irene Elliott &amp; Barbara Gough

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

*A Can-dle is burn-ing, a candle of Peace,  
A Can-dle to sig-nal that con-flict must cease.  
For Je-sus is com-ing to show us the way,  
A mess-age of peace hum-bly laid in the hay.*

**Advent Prayer****Conversation with the Young People****Anthem***“Creation Will Be At Peace”*

Bethel Choir

**Gospel Reading: Luke 1:68-79, 3:1-6****Epistle Reading: Philippians 1:3-11****Message***“Peace”*

Rev. Kelly-Ann Rayle

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD****\*\*Hymn of Reflection 753** *“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”***Affirmation of Faith**

Nathan Nettleton

*We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin and destiny of us all.*

*We believe in Jesus the Christ, God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn— who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the face of despair. Plunged into death and hell, he broke free the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace will flourish.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.*

*We believe in the coming reign of God. Announced by the Baptist, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and will be consummated in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven, when all who have passed through the world's deep sorrow will be raised from the waters, robed in righteousness, and gathered into the joyous fulfilment of God's desire.*

*For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!*

**Gloria Patri 581****Invitation to the Offering****Reception of Tithes and Offerings: Offertory****\*\*Doxology 606****\*\*Prayer of Dedication****SENDING****\*\*Hymn of Sending 545** *“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”***\*\*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 9th, 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.

•“Fellowship Following Worship” will be today so make sure to stop by the Fellowship Hall for snacks and fellowship! Many thanks to Keedie Leonard for providing the refreshments! Everyone is invited!

•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 in Memorial Hall All poinsettia orders and Christmas BERF donations must be turned in to the Church Office today!

•Pastor Kelly-Ann will be on vacation tomorrow, December 10th through Monday, December 17th. If you have a pastoral need please contact the Church Office or any Elder.

•The Afternoon Circle will meet this 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 this 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. This Saturday, December 15th is our annual Joy Gift ‘Luncheon’ with the Joy Gift Offering to follow next 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. **THE DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS TODAY!** This is 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!” next 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 next Sunday, December 16th! Contact Kathy Swisher at (540) 885-7397 if you have any questions.

•The Stonewall Brigade Band will have their holiday concert “Christmas: From Europe to America” on Monday, December 17th, at 7:30 pm at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church (2000 Shutterlee Mill Road, Staunton). The Stonewall Flutes of the Shenandoah will be featured from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm.

•Christmas Eve Candlelight Service “An Evening of Lessons and Carols,” our traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service, will go on at 9:00 pm on December 24th. Come starting at 8:30 pm for a Live Nativity put on by our Youth Committee! There will be plenty of Music and Celebration as we traverse the biblical history leading to the Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and the start of His life on Earth, the promise of our Salvation!

•Offering Envelopes for 2019: ATTENTION OFFERING ENVELOPE USERS – Beginning next 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.

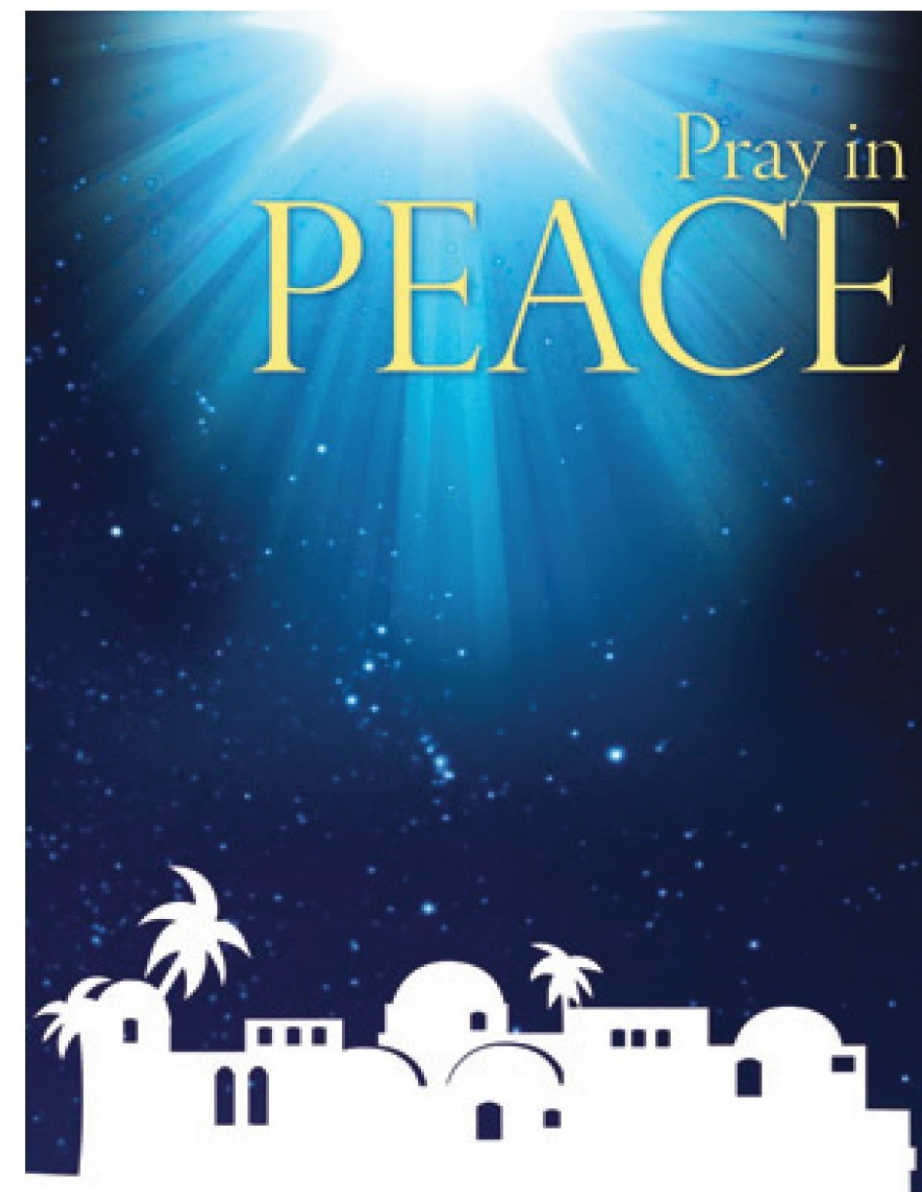
•Update on 2019 Pledges . . . 25 pledges for a total of \$99,520.00 have been received. Many thanks to those who pledged. If you have not already pledged, please prayerfully consider pledging now for 2019 - it is never too late! Pledge cards are available in the vestibule and Memorial Hall if you need one. Send completed cards to the church (Attn: Receiving Treasurer), or put in the Receiving Treasurer mailbox in Memorial Hall or in the offering plate any Sunday. Thank you for your generosity in helping Bethel spread the good news of Jesus Christ!

•The Witness/Mission Committee, in their November 25th meeting, voted to support the Riverheads Weekday Religious Education (WRE) program with a \$10,000.00 donation.

•The Heizer Family would like to thank the Bethel congregation for all of the food, cards, phone calls, visits, and prayers following the death of Wayne Heizer. Your care, concern and support meant the world to us! Special thanks to Ellen Fitzgerald for providing the meal following Wayne’s memorial service. We feel so very blessed to be a part of Bethel!

*November 25th* Attendance: 87  
 Weekly Budget: \$3,577.00 Received: \$3,871.00  
 Four Cents A Meal Offering: \$342.00

*December 2nd* Attendance: 113  
 Weekly Budget: \$3,577.00 Received: \$5,052.00



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

**BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

563 Bethel Green Road

Staunton, VA 24401

bethelpc@gmail.com

www.bethelpresbyterianstaunton.org

**THIS WEEK AT BETHEL**

December 9th - December 15th

**Today** 2nd Sunday of Advent  
 9:45 Sunday School  
 11:00 Worship  
 12:00 Fellowship Following Worship  
 12:15 Diaconate Meeting

**Monday** 7:00 Boy Scouts  
 7:30 Young Life  
 Pastor Kelly-Ann on vacation -  
 December 10th - December 17th

**Tuesday** 11:30 Afternoon Circle  
*(at the home of Libby Smith)*  
 6:30 Evening Circle

**Wednesday** 6:30 Cub Scouts Christmas Party  
 7:00 Adult Choir  
 7:00 The Bells of Bethel  
 7:30 Young Life

**Saturday** Weekend of Joy!  
 5:00 - 7:00 "A Family Christmas  
 Celebration" Potluck Supper &  
 Program

*Next Sunday, December 16th: 3rd Sunday of Advent*

*Weekend of Joy!*

*9:45 Sunday School*

*11:00 Worship/Christmas Joy Offering*

*12:15 Witness/Mission Committee*



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 9th, 2018*

**New Additions**

Dawn Carter *(friend of Brian Lee)*  
 Jay Theado  
 Family & Friends of Wallace Wood *(brother of Boyd Wood)*

**Congregation Members**

Betty Cash	Jarod Davis & Family
Karen Koogler	Sara Ann Lamb
Evelyn LaPorte	Jeannie Lee
Margaret Liptrap	John Pilson
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 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.*

**Bethel Christmas Poinsettias or Donations to BERF Form**

You may order Poinsettias at a cost of \$10.00 (tax included) each or you may make a monetary donation to BERF (Bethel Emergency Relief Fund). The Poinsettias purchased and the donations made to BERF will be acknowledged in the bulletin on December 16th, December 23rd and Christmas Eve. Please fill out the form below, attach the check or cash and place in the offering plate or mail to the Church Office: Attn: Church Office; 563 Bethel Green Road; Staunton, VA 24401. *If you are purchasing a poinsettia please make checks payable to Bethel Presbyterian Church. If you are making a donation to BERF please make the check payable to Bethel Emergency Relief Fund. The deadline is Sunday, December 9th.*

*\*Note: Please fill out the form completely. Sometimes forms come back not completely filled out and it can make things difficult when compiling them for the bulletins. Also, if you would like to order a poinsettia and make a donation please use two forms (one for the poinsettia and one for the donation). Thank you!*

**Christmas Poinsettias and BERF Donations Form**

Number of Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ Check or Cash Total \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

Donation to BERF \_\_\_\_\_ Check or Cash Total \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Poinsettias will be on display in the church on  
 December 16th, December 23rd, and on Christmas Eve.  
 \*\*Remember to pick-up Poinsettia(s) following the worship service  
 on December 23rd or following the Christmas Eve Service.\*\**