



BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

November 29th, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

11:00 AM

\*563 BETHEL GREEN ROAD\*STAUNTON, VA 24401\*(540)886-6041\*bethelpc@gmail.com\*

*\*\*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

## **GATHERING**

**Ringling of the Bell**

Ellen Fitzgerald

**Prelude & Chimes**

*“On the Wings of the Morning”*  
Anthony Giamanco

**Welcome & Announcements**

David Schooley, Worship Leader

## **WE APPROACH GOD**

**Call to Worship** (*responsive*)

*The Coming of the Son of Man,*  
*Mark 13:24-37 GNT*  
David Schooley, Worship Leader

Leader: In the days after that time of trouble the sun will grow dark, the moon will no longer shine,

**All:** *the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers in space will be driven from their courses.*

Leader: Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

**All:** *He will send the angels out to the four corners of the earth to gather God's chosen people from one end of the world to the other.*

Leader: Let the fig tree teach you a lesson. When its branches become green and tender and it starts putting out leaves, you know that summer is near.

**All:** *In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that the time is near, ready to begin.*

Leader: Remember that all these things will happen before the people now living have all died. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

**All:** *No one knows, however, when that day or hour will come—neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son; only the Father knows.*

*(Call to Worship continues)*

Leader: Be on watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come.

**All:** *It will be like a man who goes away from home on a trip and leaves his servants in charge, after giving to each one his own work to do and after telling the doorkeeper to keep watch.*

Leader: Watch, then, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming—it might be in the evening or at midnight or before dawn or at sunrise. If he comes suddenly, he must not find you asleep. What I say to you, then, I say to all: Watch!”

**Prayer of Adoration**

David Schooley, Worship Leader

**\*\*Call to Confession**

**\*\*Prayer of Confession** *(unison)*

*God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.*

*\*\* Moment of Silent Confession \*\**

**\*\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

David Schooley, Worship Leader

. . . And all God’s people say: *Alleluia! AMEN.*

### ***THE ADVENT WREATH***

***Advent Music***

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

***Lighting of the Advent Candle***

*“Candle of Hope”*

Betty Heizer, Joe & Shirley Heizer

***Congregational Response*** *(unison)*

*A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
A candle of hope in November’s dark night.  
While angels sing blessing from heaven’s starry sky,  
Our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.*

*(service continues)*

*Advent Music*

*“Away in a Manger*

***THE SYMBOLS OF ADVENT & THE LIGHTING OF THE TREE***

*Lighting of the Tree & Chrismons*

Jill Webb

*Advent Music*

*“O Christmas Tree”*

***WE HEAR GOD’S WORD***

**Prayer for Illumination**

Derek Almarode, Guest Speaker

**Scripture Reading**

**Sermon**

Elder Derek Almarode

**Music & Time of Reflection**

*“Change My Heart, O God”*  
arranged by Tim Doran

***WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD***

**\*\*Statement of Faith** (*responsive*)

Derek Almarode, Guest Speaker  
David Schooley, Worship Leader

Leader: Why are we here?

**People:** *We are here because God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life.*

Leader: For whom are we waiting?

**People:** *We are waiting for the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We are a people who live in darkness. We wait for our Savior, the light of the world.*

Leader: What is our journey?

**People:** *We join with believers in every time and place on the journey to Bethlehem. There we will worship our Living Lord, Emmanuel, God with us.*

*(Statement of Faith continues)*

Leader: Because of the birth of this Savior, what do we believe?

**People:** *We believe that there is nothing in life or death that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. We hope in his coming, rest in his love, and go out and serve in his name.*

**Joys & Concerns**

David Schooley, Worship Leader

**The Prayers of the People**

Derek Almarode, Guest Speaker  
David Schooley, Worship Leader

. . . And now as our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray: ***Our Father*** . . .

**The Lord's Prayer** (*unison*)

*. . . 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.*

**SENDING**

**\*\*Charge & Benediction**

Derek Almarode, Guest Speaker  
David Schooley, Worship Leader

**Postlude**

*"Wind That Makes All Winds That Blow"*  
by Joseph Parry

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*Memorial Hall and the Church Kitchen are open during worship services. You are welcome to watch and listen to the service in Memorial Hall. Audio of the service is also available in the Church Kitchen. These options are for those who feel uncomfortable worshiping in the sanctuary with more than a few people. Please note that you must wear your mask the entire time you are present in either of these locations. Thank you!*

Bethel Church Session

Class of 2021

Derek Almarode  
\*Bill Brubeck  
Pat Quick  
Kathy Swisher

Class of 2022

Jimmy Callison  
\*\*Bob Olson  
Dave Schooley  
Tim Turner

Class of 2023

Tamara Barbour  
Brian Lee  
Dale Thompson  
Jill Webb

Clerk of Session

Dave Schooley

*\*Serving a one year term*

*\*\*Serving a two year term*

Bethel Church Deacons

Class of 2021

Katie McElveen  
Joe Moore  
Linda Tenney

Class of 2022

Wade Cash  
\*\*Ellen Fitzgerald  
Charlie Johnson  
\*\*Alex Sproul

Class of 2023

Tom Heizer  
Mitch Lathrop  
D.W. Miller

Co-Chair Wade Cash

Co-Chair Charlie Johnson

Secretary Linda Tenney

*\*\*Serving a two year term*

Bethel Church Trustees

Class of 2021

Charlie Johnson  
Dale C. Smith

Class of 2022

Bill Brubeck  
James Williams

Class of 2023

Guy D. Brooks  
Lee Ann Heizer

Bethel Church Staff

*Adrienne Barker, Office Manager*

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*Bethel Office Days & Hours:*

*Tuesday - Friday*

*9:00 am - 3:00 pm*

*JoAnn Pendley, Bell Choir Director*

*Alex Sproul, Sound & Video*

*Kay Thompson, Receiving Treasurer*

*Lori Miller, Disbursing Treasurer*

*Donna Bush and Carol Sprouse, Custodians*