

OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 2, 2018

1st Sunday in Advent

10:30 a.m.

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

As you arrive in the sanctuary, please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.

***those who are comfortable, please stand**

GATHERING

PRELUDE *O Come, Holy Savior* Traditional German Carol

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Marx Family
Sing verse one of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* No. 88

CALL TO WORSHIP *Adapted from Psalm 25:1-10*

One: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Children: *We trust you, God.*

All: Teach us your paths and show us your ways.

One: Lead me in your truth.

Children: *Teach us, God!*

All: Help us find your paths of love and faithfulness.

One: We gather in this place, seeking your guidance.

Children: *We are here to learn!*

All: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul!

***OPENING HYMN** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* No. 366

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Almighty God, with your love, receive our prayers. We confess to you that we have failed to notice your signs, we've stopped marveling at your glory, and we've made excuses and explanations for your actions. We've denied you. We've rejected your call. We've allowed your story to be misused. We've watered down your bold message of love, justice, and hope. Forgive us. And call us to real change. Plant a new spirit in our hearts. Plant some new action in our feet. Make us alert to your presence and your work. And send us into this world as witnesses to and ambassadors for your wonderful love. Now and always. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*Cantor sings responses through first, followed by the congregation*)

"We will glorify the Kings of Kings. We will glorify the Lamb.

We will glorify the Lord of Lords. Who is the Great I AM." (repeat)

***SHARING THE PEACE**

(Share the peace of Christ as you feel led, with a wave, a smile, a kind word, or a handshake.)

THE WORD

TIME FOR GROWING DISCIPLES

(At the conclusion of the Time for Growing Disciples, children ages birth to 3rd grade may stay in worship or go to the nursery.)

ANTHEM *O Loving God* Irish Meoldy
John Holt, soloist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 33:14-16
(see insert)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:25-36
(see insert)

SERMON The Rev. Erin Counihan

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN *While We Are Waiting, Come* No. 92

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

(Please sign the Friendship Register found at the end of the pew. Complete information, including your email, and pass pad along to those worshipping with you.)

***Prayer of Dedication**

Offertory *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Martin

***Doxology** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* No. 582

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (see insert)

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God's call for faithfulness, and your invitation to join in!)

SENDING

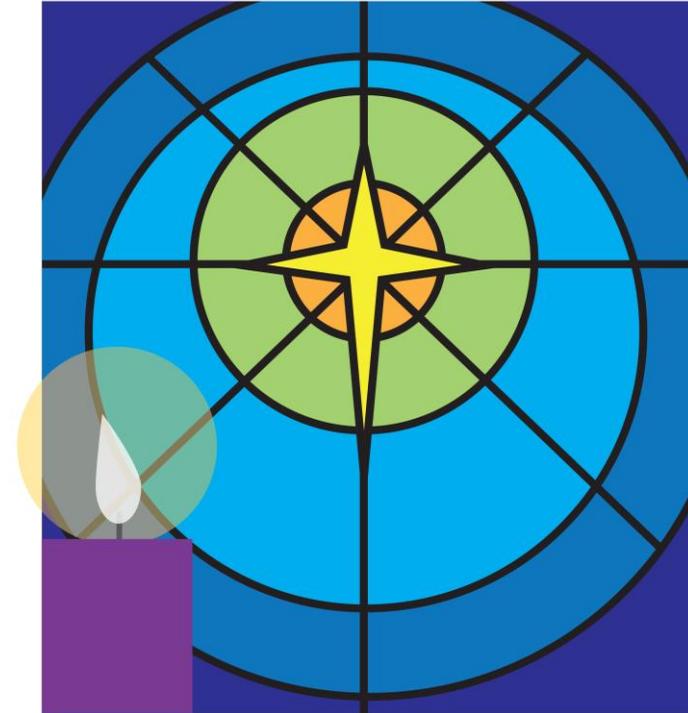
*CLOSING HYMN *People, Look East* No. 105

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne* Matthews

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Oak Hill Presbyterian Church



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

December 2, 2018

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE
THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

(Leader continues...)

SANCTUS **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,**
No. 556 **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's name.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's name.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING AND RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

All who seek Jesus are welcome at the table he has prepared. There is no denominational or membership requirement to receive God's gift of life. At Oak Hill, we pass plates of bread to one another saying, "This is the body of Christ, broken for you." You are invited to partake of the bread when you receive it. Then we pass the cups to one another saying, "This is the blood of Christ, shed for you." We wait until everyone has been served, then we all partake of the cup together. There is gluten-free bread in the clear cup on each plate.

Communion Meditation

John Holt, piano
Brian Beckmann and Paul Bordeaux, guitar

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Unison: God of love, God of grace, God of wild and wonderful ways, God who is coming to us still- make this meal special. Make this moment precious. Make your love known, here and now, and always. Through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church
Rev. Erin Counihan, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers, Parish Associate
Mrs. Susan Brown, Minister of Music
Ms. Annie Girresch, Director, AMEN St. Louis
Ms. Carole Adams, Secretary
Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, 12:00 noon in writing.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK
December 2, 2018

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	Following Worship	Fellowship Luncheon
Monday	7:45 – 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Pause
Tuesday	9:45 – 11:45 a.m.	MOMS Club of St. Louis in the Nursery
	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Foosball and Potluck @ the S.L.S. Building, 3227 Morgan Ford.
Wednesday	1100 a.m.	Bible Study in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	5:00 p.m.	Worship and Christian Education Committee in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	6:30 p.m.	Evangelism and Membership Meeting in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	7:30 p.m.	Touchy Topics Book and Discussion Group at Hartford Coffee
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	Circle 3 Christmas Party in the Theleos Room

We welcome you to worship at Oak Hill. We greet everyone in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and celebrate the gift of God's incarnate love through our worship and service.

For more information about what's happening at Oak Hill, don't forget to check out our website at www.oakhillpcusa.org.

Today's Liturgist is **Jan Stanford**. Greeters are **Jeff Dahl and Lisa Thompson**. Communion Servers are **Donna Cook, Brent Crittenden, Dena Roper, and Don Stanford**. Ushers are **Joe Bradshaw, Deb Wiethop, Christine Woodward, and Will Woodward**. Nursery Caregivers are **Toby Eckert and Sarah Gibson**. The **Mission Committee** is hosting the time of fellowship in December.

As a church family, we shall be praying this morning and all week for the following members and friends. You may wish to contact them to indicate your interest and ask if they have any special prayer concerns.

Erin Counihan and Tegan Counihan RatliffJody, Shannon, and Sophie Sowel
Savannah Sowell

If you have a specific prayer request to share with the congregation, please fill out the yellow prayer request form in the pew and place it in the offering plate. For prayers and congregational support during the week, call Pastor Erin or the church office.

The Mission Committee is hosting the fellowship luncheon today following worship. Brian Beckmann has made his delicious chili!. Everyone is welcome to join us for good food and fellowship.

Foosball is on Tuesday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m. It's a fun night of community with our neighborhood kids @ the S.LS. Building, 3227 Morgan Ford. Please join us for pizza, snacks and fun! Please contact Dena Roper with any questions.

Circle 3 will meet on Thursday, December 6, for its annual Christmas luncheon. Please plan to come at 11 a.m. If you have forgotten what you volunteered to bring, please check with Jan Stanford (638-0195). Bring your ideas for possible projects in 2019!

Love to make holiday cookies and goodies, but don't want to be tempted to eat them? Need holiday cookies, but don't have the time to make them? Presbyterian Women have the answer to both problems – our annual Christmas Cookie Sale on Sunday, December 16. Homemade cookies and other goodies will be \$6 a pound.

Donations are always appreciated! You don't have to be active in Presbyterian Women to donate something to the sale. If you make holiday breads, please price them for us. Donations should be brought to church by 10:15 a.m. on Sunday December 16, and delivered to the



Presbyterian Women's table in the Large Assembly Room.. The sale will begin after the worship service.

Jeans for Teens! It's time for our annual collection for the Jeans for Teens Fund. For the last 5 years we have collected funds to assist with the Holiday Outreach project in the University City Public Schools. Christine Woodward, a church member and social worker at the school, facilitates the project by purchasing gift cards and more for families in need in their community. Our goal is \$500 for this great project. You can place your donation in a pew envelope and label it "Jeans for Teens." Thank you for your support! Please contact Dena Roper for more information.

PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT FOR 2019 - Members are encouraged to help offset our Per Capita Apportionment for 2019. This is the money each church pays, per member, to support our regional and denominational ministries at the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly levels. A voluntary contribution of \$31.00 from each member will help balance the budget for 2019. If possible, payments should be made before the end of the year and identified "For Per Capita Apportionment." Envelopes designated "Per Capita 2019" were available at the Congregational Meeting and also can be found in the back of the sanctuary. They may be placed in the offering plate or mailed directly to the office. Thank you for your generous support of the work of the church at all levels!

2018 ANNUAL REPORT - All committee chairs and organizational leaders are asked to prepare written summaries for the 2018 Annual Report. The deadline for submitting articles to the office is Friday, January 11, 2019. Reports may be submitted in writing or sent to the church via e-mail (office@oakhillpcusa.org). Any questions may be directed to Carole Adams, Clerk of Session

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT OAK HILL: SAVE THE DATES!

Sun. Dec. 2 @10:30 a.m. Advent Worship with Communion, Potluck Lunch

Sun. Dec. 9 @10:30 a.m. Advent Worship

Sun. Dec. 16 @10:30 a.m. Advent Worship with Cantata, PW Cookie Sale

Sun. Dec. 16 @2:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling in the neighborhood

Thurs. Dec. 20 @6:30 p.m. Blue Christmas Worship

Sun. Dec. 23 @10:30 a.m. Advent Worship with Children's Christmas Program

Mon. Dec. 24 @6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, Reception

Sun. Dec. 30 @10:30 a.m. Worship

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;

People: thanks be to God!



SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:25-36

²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;

People: thanks be to God!