

OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 23, 2018

4th Sunday of 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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Zigler Family

Sing verses 1 and 7 of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* No. 88

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Children: My soul magnifies the Lord!

All: And my spirit rejoices in God!

Children: God sees me!

All: God knows me!

Children: God trusts me!

All: God helps me!

Children: Let us worship God and tell God's story!

All: Let us worship God and sing praises!

Children: Let us worship God and love our neighbors!

All: Let us worship God and do works of justice and peace!

Children: Let us worship our Lord!

*OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

No. 106

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Children: God we love you.

And because we love you, we want to be honest with you.

All: Lord hear our prayer, and forgive our sins.

Children: God, sometimes we are not kind to our friends, our family, or our neighbors.

All: Sometimes we are greedy, jealous, or mean.

Children: Lord, hear our prayer and forgive us.

All: Sometimes we take more than we need.

Children: Sometimes we don't share what we have with others.

All: Lord, hear our prayer and forgive us.

Children: Sometimes we forget how much you love us.

All: And sometimes we slip away from your message, your call, your charge, and your love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (cont'd)

Children: Lord, hear our prayer and forgive us.

All: Lord, have mercy on us and remind us of your abundant love.

Children: By your grace, fill our hearts with your hope and your joy.

All: Remind us that Jesus is coming again,

Children: Remind us that Jesus is always with us,

All: And help us to live with Christ in our hearts,

Children: Always!

All: AMEN.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

“O, come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him.

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.” (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

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL *Christmas Around the World*

adapted by Darrell Yearwood

Adelaide Bays-Hanify, Ellis Bordeaux, Gretchen Crittenden,

Lucie Crittenden, Millie Crittenden, Avery Smith, Alison Stanford, and Roze Zigler

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)**

Mary's Song: Luke 1:46b-55

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

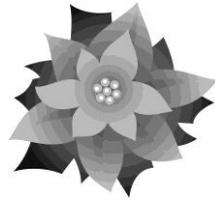
His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,



The following members and friends of Oak Hill Church have provided the beautiful poinsettia plants:

Carole Adams (2 poinsettias), in honor of my sister and brother-in-law, Bonnie and Roy Glasscock

Peggy Barrow (2 poinsettias), in honor of all her family, and in memory of her son, John Barrow

Donna Cook and Rick Soles, in memory of Grace Soles

Erin Counihan (2 poinsettias), in memory of her grandparents, Helen and Maxton Lee and Peg and Joe Counihan

Gibson-Crittenden Family (2 poinsettias), in memory of Grandma Mildred and Grandpa Dudley; Grandma Virginia and Grandpa Dan; Grandma Peggy and Papa II; and Grandma Elizabeth and Grandpa Bob

Mary LaTragna (2 poinsettias), in memory of her parents, Anne B. (Trott) and Frank A. LaTragna

Ann and Branson Lawence

The Manary and Manary/Filipkowski Families (2 poinsettias), in honor of Paul and Marialena Filipkowski, and in honor of Lewis Bunch and in memory of Ruth Bunch

Steve, Kelsi, Matt, and Carolyn Ream, in honor of their grandparents

Sheryl and Bob Ream, in memory of their grandparents

Josh, Kim, and Avery Smith (2 poinsettias), in honor of Terry Nicholson and Eugene Smith

Jan and Don Stanford (2 poinsettias), in memory of Don's parents, Ruth and Lowell Stanford, and Jan's parents, Irma and Walter Waser

Deb and Rich Wiethop, in memory of their parents, Janice and Richard Wiethop

Christine and Will Woodward (2 poinsettias), in memory of Christine's father, Fred Stallis, and in memory of Will's father, Leon Woodward

(Poinsettias may be taken home following worship today or following worship on Christmas Eve.)

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 23, 2018

Sunday	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Following Worship	Sunday School for All Ages Service of Worship Time of Fellowship
Monday	7:45 – 8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Prayer Pause Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ Oak Hill
Tuesday		Christmas – Office Closed

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.

We hope you will stay and join us for a time of fellowship after worship today. We'll gather downstairs for special treats.

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

Thank you to our Oak Hill Youth for leading worship this morning. And special thanks to Music Minister Susan Brown for her masterful direction, and Sunday School teachers Lisa Thompson and Sarah Gibson for their guidance! Greeters are **Brent Crittenden and Jan Stanford**. Ushers are **Joe Bradshaw, Kim Smith, Rick Soles, and Lisa Thompson**. We do not have scheduled nursery care givers today because we hope children and families will enjoy the children's Christmas program. **Susan Brown**, our Minister of Music, is hosting the time of fellowship following our worship service today.

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.

Victor, Toby, Paige, and Victor IV Eckert
Josh, Kim, and Avery Smith
Anne and Steve Stoltz

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.

Children's Musical – We ask the congregation to join in singing with the youth during their musical when invited. See the bulletin insert for words to the music.

The 2018 Christmas Joy Offering will be received today. The offering is shared equally by the Assistance Program of the **Board of Pensions**, which provides critical assistance to Presbyterian Church workers and their families, and **Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges**, which enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling. Envelopes for this offering may be found in the back of the sanctuary. Checks should be made payable to Oak Hill Church and marked "Christmas Joy Offering."



Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 24. We will have a reception immediately following the service in our Large Assembly Room. We ask that everyone who is able bring hors d'oeuvres or appetizers to share. Please contact Donna Cook at (314) 807-3949 or belladonna63123@hotmail.com. with any questions.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT OAK HILL: SAVE THE DATES!

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

Pastor Erin will be on vacation from December 26 to January 2. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact the Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers.

Sunday School During Advent – Sunday School Classes for All Ages will not meet on December 30. They will resume on January 6.

Bible Study During Advent - The Wednesday Bible Study Class will not meet on December 26.

AMEN House needs help assembling new bunk beds! We would be eternally grateful if you can stay for an hour after church on Sunday, December 30, for our bunk bed assembly party. Please email amenstlouis@gmail.com or text Annie at 314-445-7448 to let us know if you can make it!

Why new bunk beds? We set aside funds raised from this year and last year's trivia nights to upgrade our bedroom furniture. We have often received complaints about our bunk beds, and we felt that it was no longer safe to use them because they do not have railings to protect the person sleeping on the top bunk. Luckily, we were able to find a home for the old beds with a local group that coordinates with Winter Outreach, so the old beds will go to good use providing a sleeping space for our unhoused community members. We are purchasing the new beds, and need to have them in the rooms by Saturday, January 5, for our next group.

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.

Congregation Joins in Singing With The Children
(when invited)

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay. In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell. Born is the King of Israel.

We three kings of orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar. Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night; star with royal beauty bright. Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to Thy perfect light.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing; and
heaven and nature sing; and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

