



Advent & Christmas 2021 @ EDPSC

1st Sunday of Advent: November 28

Hearts Not Weighed Down

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10;
Luke 21:25-36

*Advent Devotionals
to be sent via e-mail,
so keep an eye out!*

Saturday, December 4

10:30 - Noon

**Community Christmas Event
for neighborhood children.**

We'll do crafts, hear the
Christmas Story, and enjoy a
yummy lunch with our
neighbors!



2nd Sunday of Advent: December 5

To Give & To Guide

Malachi 3 :1-4; Luke 1:68-79;
Luke 3:1-6

3rd Sunday of Advent: December 12

Rejoice? Rejoice. Rejoice!

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6;
Philippians 4:4-7

4th Sunday of Advent: December 19

He Has Done These Things

Micah 5 :2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7;
Luke 1:39-55

**All-Church
Fellowship Lunch
after worship!**

Come one, come all!



Christmas Eve

December 24 @ 7:00 PM

God-With-Us

A joyous service of
Lessons & Carols,
with Communion & Candlelight

**Christmas Joy Offering
received**

What is the season of Advent?

“Advent” means “coming” or “arrival.” During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. In its historical origins, the season of Advent was patterned after the season of Lent, a six-week period of penitence and preparation for Easter. Similarly, the four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ’s return.

In Advent we expectantly wait for the One who has already come. We anticipate the promised justice of God’s new world, yet we praise God who raised the “righteous branch” to rule with justice and righteousness. We hope for the restoration of the afflicted, the tormented, and the grieving, yet we delight that healing has come in Christ. We long for the beating of swords into plowshares, yet we rejoice that the Prince of Peace has appeared. We yearn for the barren deserts of our inner cities to flourish, yet we laud the desert Rose that has bloomed. We dream of the land where lions and lambs live in harmony, yet we acclaim the child born to lead us into the promised land.

Christ has come! Christ is risen! Christ will come again! In Advent, we are living between the first and the second coming of the Lord. The dialectical tension of *maranatha* [alternately translated “Come, our Lord!” or “Our Lord has come”] — placing us between memory and hope, past and future — may strengthen our Advent liturgies. Perhaps we need to cling to the ancient cry of *maranatha!* and its paradoxical meanings so we may freely embrace “the new thing” prophesied by Isaiah (Isaiah 43:19) that God is doing among us right now. The tension and paradox we find in Advent shapes our celebrations during the season.

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 96)

What is the Christmas Joy Offering?

 CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE
NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 19



When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future — who point us to God.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

opens doors of opportunity which lead to hopeful futures for young people at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

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