# Oak Grove Church of the Brethren November 27, 2022 Hanging of the Greens First Sunday of Advent

### **GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

PreludeStill, Still, StillWelcome and AnnouncementsJoys and Concerns

arr. Pethel

### **CHANGING THE PARAMENTS**

Mike and Sharon Hanger Brittany and Nathan, Harper, Jack Frantz; Agnes Chen and Bryan Hanger

Today marks the beginning of a new church year. Purple, the color for penitence and royalty, is used to mark the seasons of Advent, the time of preparation before Christmas. Like the cycles of the church year, we are reminded that God is the first and last, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. He is our bright Morning Star. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of a Savior into our world today. (Copyright 2016, Ashley Danyew)

\*Advent carol Make Way (Choir, then Congregation) insert

CHRIST'S GRACIOUS LIFE



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### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Eowyn, Isaac, Donovan Hernandez Kirsten Lubbs-Robinson and Keith, Gavin, Graeme Robinson

- Voice 1: "Come, let us go up to the mountain, to the house of God, so that we can be taught God's way and go on God's path." (Isaiah 2:3–5 paraphrase)
- Voice 2: What do you hope for in the new world?

# All: We hope for a future that is more amazing than anything we could ever imagine. We hope for the healing of creation. We hope for good mental health and wellness. We hope for a world where everyone seeks the good.

- *Voice 2: Advent is the beginning of this new world, a better world, where we can dare to hope boldly.*
- Voice 1: May it be so.

### All: Amen.

The Advent candle of *hope* is lit.

### **Prayer of Invocation**

Gracious God, as the Advent season begins, we cry out to you. We come to you looking for hope. When everything else we rely on fails us, our only hope is in you. When we do not understand what has happened, we hope in you. We can hope for better days because we trust you. We know you and we know you are here with us no matter what we are facing. Some of us see only darkness this time of year. Some of us find life overwhelming. Some of us are filled with Advent joy. Wherever we find ourselves today, Loving God, remind us that our hope is in you. Be with us on this journey. Amen.

*Advent carol	Come, thou long-expected Jesus	# 178
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### HANGING THE WREATHS

Ann, Amelia, Connor Hosey Garland and Rena' Brown; Michelle, Eli Raymond

How shall we make this place a reminder of our need of repentance, and that faithfulness and integrity comes from God our maker and redeemer?

# Let us hang garlands and wreaths as Hosea speaks the word of God.

### Scripture

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Hosea 14:8-9

I will heal my people's disloyalty;	
I will love them freely,	
for my anger has turned from them.	
O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols?	2

It is I who answer and look after you.

I am like an evergreen cypress; your faithfulness comes from me.

Those who are wise understand these things; those who are discerning know them.

For the ways of the LORD are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.

Advent carol	O Come, O come, Immanuel	# 172
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PROCLAIMING: Jesus' Advent



Text: anonymous, ca. 6th-7th c., Veni, veni Emmanuel, 12th c.; tr. John M. Neale (Sts. 1-4), Medieval Hymns and Sequences, 1851, Henry Sloane Coffin (Sts. 5-6), Hymns of the Kingdom of God, 1916

Music: Trope melody, 15th c.

### **DECORATING THE TREE**

Bill and Carolyn Broyles Alli and Scott, Lincoln, Gemma Yingling Carol, Amanda and Harvey, Rachel, Stephen, Jaxson Leddy; Becca and Dominique, Aria Duncan

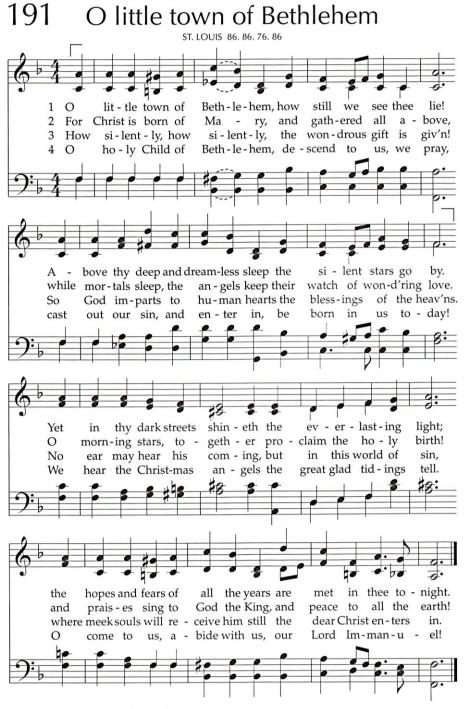
God, the Holy One of Israel, is a God of comfort and compassion. With the Christmas tree we remember God's everlasting promises to the poor and needy. Isaiah spoke of God's making the wilderness a place of blessing where water and plants—even pine trees—would manifest God's loving action to save and provide.

### Place the tree, strong friends, as we hear God's word.

### Scripture

Isaiah 41:17-20

<ul> <li>When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst,</li> <li>I the LORD will answer them,</li> <li>I the God of Israel will not forsake them.</li> <li>I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys;</li> <li>I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.</li> <li>I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive;</li> <li>I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together, so that all may see and know, all may consider and understand, that the hand of the LORD has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.</li> </ul>		
Choir	Alleluia for Advent	Liebergen
Children's Children S	0	Lynette Harvey Andrae Crouch
*Carol	<i>O little town of Bethlehem</i> (Friendship Class vs. 1-3; congregation vs. 4)	#191



Text: Phillips Brooks, 1868, *The Church Porch ...,* 1874 Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868, *The Church Porch ...,* 1874

### Scripture

Numbers 21:4-9 (OT # 116) John 3:14-17 (NT # 94) *Hope Lifted Up* 

### Message

### OFFERING

### Chris and Morgan, Barnes Taylor The Coffee Club Class - Ushers

God, whose generosity in love extends beyond all our expectations and shatters any limits we would place on grace, calls us to

share our bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into our house; to clothe the naked, and not hide ourselves from our own kin. (Isaiah 58:7)

As a people shaped by God's generosity, we worship Jesus this Advent season through the sharing of our regular offerings and through the special offerings of postage stamps and cards for those in prison, along with mittens and hats for those with cold hands.

Receive these offerings, Jesus, as a sign of our commitment to you.

<b>Offertory carol</b>	Angels, we ha	ave heard on high	# 197
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### **NATIVITY CHARACTERS**

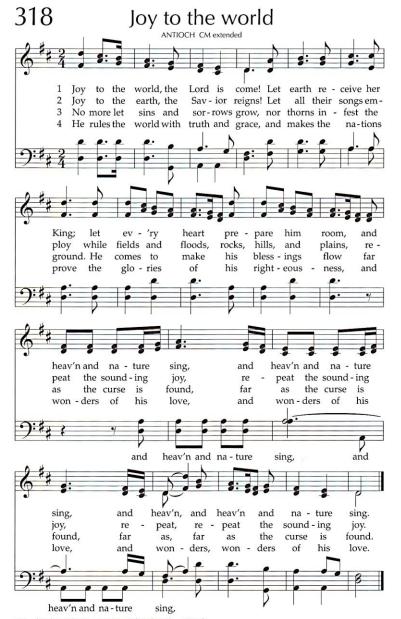
The first witnesses to Jesus' coming birth Ronald, Rex Robinson,Holly Belcher Maggie and Vincent Pizzullo

Our nativity characters remind us that faith is not just a destination, it is a journey, something we live out each day of our lives. As we add these characters to our worship space

## remind us, O God, to each day continue walking in your ways, growing closer to you each step of the way.

### Carol

*Joy to the World* # 318 (Seekers Sunday School Class, vs. 1-3; Congregation, vs. 4)



Text: based on Psalm 98, Isaac Watts, Psalms of David ..., 1719, alt. Music: Lowell Mason, Occasional Psalm and Hymn Tunes, 1836

### Benediction

### **Children's Response** Carry the Light (Children, then Congregation)

### \*Postlude



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### THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

Monday	9:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	ESL Backpack
Tuesday	5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	ESL Choir
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Games
Saturday	7:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Project WARM David Shumate Retirement Celebration Coffee Club Taffy Pull
Sunday	9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	Worship Church Board

### PRAYER

Dennis Shearer, recovery from chemo Ralph Petcher, long term chemo for Leukemia John King, at home Misty King, heart surgery recovery Gladis Lehman, congestive heart failure Gil and Vada Henshaw, covid Tess Anderson, vertigo Betty Phillips, pain in back and legs Janet Hartman, recovering from shoulder surgery

### **ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING**

Sunday School- 45 Worship- 78 (in person); 10 (online) = 88 Received 11/20- \$ 2,984.00; \$ 1,066.00 (online)= \$ 4,050.00

### **CHURCH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS**

Pastor

Tim Harvey pastortim@oakgrovecob.org

Minister of Nurture and Music Carol Elmore carol@oakgrovecob.org

Instrumentalists Stephen Wills Joe Blaha

organ piano

### **CONNECTING WITH OAK GROVE**



Learn more about us, listen to recent sermons, keep up with current happenings: www.oakgrovecob.org and on Facebook



Find us on Facebook: Oak Grove Church of the Brethren



Interested in supporting our mission and ministry financially? You may contribute via the Tithely app on your smartphone.



We have a limited number of parking spaces reserved for those with mobility challenges. If you able, please park in spaces farther away from the church.



Pews and chairs marked with this logo are reserved for persons with mobility challenges and their companions.



Our Meditation Garden is available for prayer in the side yard of our church property.



Need a hearing device, wheelchair, cushion, or have a question? Our head usher will be glad to be of assistance.



Childcare is available during the worship service for children birth to  $2^{nd}$  grade.