



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
 Stone Presbyterian Church
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation
 December 12, 2010 – Third Sunday of Advent

We Gather to Worship the One Who Is Coming

PRELUDE *Savior of the Nations, Come* J. H. Buttstedt

INTROIT & POURING BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.
 Let us worship God.

+HYMN #9 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* to SOLID ROCK
 (+Those who are able may stand.)

WELCOME, JOYS, CONCERNS & INVITATIONS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

Holy God,
 you have sent to us the one true Messiah,
 whose ways are grace and truth.
 Be persistent in your mercy toward us.
 We are slow to learn and hard of heart,
 satisfied with superficial pleasures,
 and we treasure counterfeit values.



We are easily led astray by the messianic pretenders of our age
 who offer the quick fix instead of the way of the cross,
 who offer a message tailored to what is popular rather than true.
 Turn us from the wrong that we habitually choose.
 Help us turn toward you, receive the truth,
 and enjoy the mercy and peace of your healing grace.
 In the name of Christ Jesus our Redeemer we pray. Amen.



ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+A DOXOLOGY (to the tune GLORIA)

To the God of joy we sing, to the Son let praises ring,
 To the Holy Spirit raise this our song of grateful praise:
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo! Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!



+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE 3rd ADVENT CANDLE – JOY – The Reynolds Family

*You are invited to bring forward
 your gift for The Christmas Joy Offering.*

We Listen for the Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSONS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 35:1-10 – a vision of the return to Zion

Psalter Anthem

Magnificat

(Please see announcements insert.)

Dennis Dewey

James 5:7-10 – Be patient as you await the coming of the Lord.

TOLD BY GRACE WHITTEMORE

Matthew 11:2-11 – John the Baptist wonders if Jesus is the coming one.

SERMON

Beyond de Vivre



We Respond in Joyful Faith with Thanksgiving

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word *was* God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made. What was made in him was life, and the life was the light of humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not been able to overcome it. The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own home, and his own people did not receive him. But to those who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth. We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. And from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

+HYMN #600

Song of Mary

MORNING SONG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD'S PRAYER & CHORAL RESPONSE

"debts/debtors"

(Traditional, *Hymnal*, p. 16)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rejoice, I Say, Rejoice

Larry Shackley

+A DOXOLOGY

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O Come, let us adore him, O Come let us adore him,
O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

ADESTE FIDELES

+PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.



We Go Out in Joy

+HYMN #15

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

to LANCASHIRE

+CHARGE, BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

December 12, 2010 ~ Third Sunday of Advent ~ 10:30 a.m.



The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ, engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.

Stone Presbyterian Church
8 South Park Row
Clinton, New York 13323
315-853-2933
stonepres@verizon.net
www.stonepres.org

Dennis Dewey, Designated Pastor
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus
Peggy Weldon, Office Administrator
Cros Harvey, Sexton
All the People, Ministers

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Today:	11:30 p.m.	Deacons Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Advent Study
Monday:	7:00 p.m.	Session meets
Next Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	Gift Wrapping
	12:00 p.m.	Advent Study

LITURGIST: Dave Forbes

STORYTELLER: Grace Whittemore

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Wednesday, December 15 is the deadline for submitting articles for the January issue of *The Corner Stone*.

WE HAVE A NEW FAMILY! Look for tree ornaments with the needs and wants of our Christmas family. **This is Stone Church's 25th year of adopting families through the Neighborhood Center!** Please return gifts – unwrapped, but with tags attached – by next Sunday, December 19. Be sure to join us that morning after worship for the wrapping party. Questions? See Donna Goodfriend.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? Come to our after-worship Advent Studies today and December 19th and find out! Make your celebration of Christmas richer and deeper by joining your friends for a study of the true meaning of Christmas. The handout for today's session is on the back table in the sanctuary.



WELCOME to the worship of God at Stone Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the Presbytery of Utica. Please make use of the pew cards to indicate any prayer concerns, pastoral needs or suggestions for improvement.

BUILDING STONES MISSION SHOP: You are invited to visit our

Building Stones Mission Shop, located in the narthex, to see our wonderful selection of Fair Trade teas, coffees, chocolates, soups, and clothes which are all for sale.

WWW.STONEPRES.ORG: If you have pictures or features you would like to include in the Stone Church website, please contact Ceil Gilbert at 853-8289 or at ceilgilbert@yahoo.com.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to add someone to our prayer list or would like to receive the prayer list for daily prayer, please go to our website www.stonepres.org and click on "Prayer Request" or call the church office at 853-2933. Please note that we will remove names after 6 weeks if we haven't received an update or request to keep them on.

Lori Sherwood
Eleanor Palmer
Elaine Schmidt and Family
Afghanistan troops
Allen Solomon
Marius Thomassen
Ginny Francis and Family
Will
Barbara Wallace

Members/Friends of the Week:
Padgett Family, Pavlot Family
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Utica
Rosalie Lauber
Machold Family
Lisa Hyatt
Family of Gladys Audas
Betty Kolb and her daughter Dawn
Kurt Whittemore (in Afghanistan)

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR HOMEBOUND: Please sign the cards in the back of the sanctuary.

HOLIDAYS FOR HABITAT: A holiday concert to benefit Oneida County Habitat for Humanity is scheduled for 4 p.m. today at the Resource Center for Independent Living, 1607 Genesee Street, Utica. The concert features Amy James, Bob Ford, and family; Bryan James, J. Schnitt, the Bellassai Family; the Clinton High School Singers; Steve

Wu Jazz Ensemble; and the Calvary Gospel Choir. Admission: a donation in any amount at the door.

NAME TAGS: If yours is missing or your name is wrong, please let an usher know, and we will supply you with a temporary tag until a replacement is made. If you're visiting, an usher will be glad to make you a name tag.

A REST ROOM (wheelchair accessible) is located off the narthex to your left as you enter the church. More restrooms may be found downstairs in the hall that parallels Williams St.

THE NURSERY is located off the narthex to your right as you enter the church. A diaper-changing table is there for your convenience.

STAFF SUPPORT: Because of the flat line cost of living and the unfriendly condition of the economy, the Session is looking at maintaining the current compensation levels for staff for the next year. We would, however, like to express our support for their work in this holiday season with a monetary gift. If you are interested in donating to this staff recognition effort, please see Scott Leonard or Lora Schilder.

WORLD WIDE CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE: Today you are invited to light a candle in your home from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Candles will be lit just west of the International Date Line and an hour later in the next time zone, eventually creating a 24-hour wave of light to remember all children who have died, no matter their age or country of origin.

An area candle lighting service in memory of children who have died will be held from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. today at the United Methodist Church in New Hartford. You may bring a picture of your child to display during the ceremony. If you wish to have your child's name read, please arrive no later than 6:30 p.m. If you plan to attend, call Sr. Rose Troy, 724-2221. For more information, visit these websites: www.compassionatefriends.com or www.dimblebyfriedelfuneralhomes.com.

HOPE HOUSE WISH LIST: The following is a list of donations being requested by Hope House: Empty coffee cans with plastic lids for grease, brown bags for their Brown Bag Lunch Program, individual serve fruits or snacks, lasagna noodles, parsley, Italian seasoning, garlic powder, sugar substitute in bulk for baking, a Pyrex glass measuring

cup for 8 cups and for 4 cups, a good baster to remove grease, sea salt, taco seasoning, beef and chicken broth. They especially need toiletries such as soap, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes and paste, etc. Since people are not traveling as much, Hope House is not receiving as many toiletries. Please leave items in the Norton Room.

A Paraphrase of Mary's Song by Dennis Dewey

In place of a psalm in the "Psalter" today, the lectionary lists a "canticle," or biblical song; it is the song that Mary sings in the house of her cousin Elizabeth to celebrate God's having chosen Mary as the mother of the Savior of the world. The song's title comes from the first word of the Latin translation: "Magnificat anima mei Dominum" ("My soul magnifies the Lord.") Dennis Dewey's paraphrase modifies the biblical text, which refers to God in the third person.

"I recast it in the form of direct address and sought to express in the music the paradox of the 'solemn joy' that the text suggests, ending with a burst of praise in the form of a Trinitarian doxology, which is a tradition in settings of the *Magnificat*," says Dennis.

He composed this anthem in 1981, the year in which his first child, Jane, was born. It was originally sung by the choir of the Tribes Hill Presbyterian Church in Tribes Hill, New York, Dennis' first pastorate. It has since been performed by the Network of Biblical Storytellers at their 2005 Festival Gathering in Houston and by the Oneida Community Chorale. He is grateful to Rob and the choir for breathing life into it once again in celebration of the "Joy Sunday."

Magnificat

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices, rejoices in you, my Savior;
for you have regarded the lowly estate of your humble servant.

And behold henceforth all generations will call me blessed,
for you, Almighty, have done great things for me,
and holy is your name.

For your mercy is on those who fear you from generation to generation.
You have shown strength with your arm;
you have scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

You have put down the might from their thrones
and exalted those of low degree.
You have filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich you have sent empty away.

You have helped your servant Israel in remembrance of your mercy
as you spoke to our forebears, to Abraham and to Sarah's children forever.

Glory to the Creator, Christ and Comforter,
as it was in the beginning now and evermore shall be!