



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
4th Sunday of Advent – December 18, 2011
A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

We Gather in the Peace of the Prince of Peace

PRELUDE *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Rudolf Moser

CHORAL INTROIT & POURING OF 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* VENI EMMANUEL
+Those who are able may stand.

INVITATIONS, JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

THE 4th ADVENT CANDLE – PEACE – *Habitat for Humanity*
Gary and Judy LaGasse



CONFESSION OF SIN

This we confess.
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.



THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

+A DOXOLOGY (to the tune GLORIA)

**To our God let praises ring,
 To the Prince of Peace we sing,
 And the Holy Spirit praise,
 Peace on earth, good will always!**
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!



+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We Listen for the Word of the Lord

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 – The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.
 The Word of the Lord./Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (from Chichester Psalms) Leonard Bernstein
 Brett Hammes, soprano

Adonai roi, lo echsar.
 Bin'ot deshe yarbitseini,
 Al mei m'nuhot y'nachaleini,
 Naf'shi y'shovev,
 Yan'cheini b'ma'aglei tsedek,
 L'ma'an sh'mo.
 Adonai roi, lo echsar.
 Ach tov vachased
 Yird'funi kol y'mei chayai,
 V'shav'ti b'veit Adonai L'orech yamim.
 Adonai roi, lo echsar.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
 He leadeth me beside the still waters,
 He restoreth my soul,
 He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness,
 For His name's sake.
 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 Surely goodness and mercy
 Shall follow me all the days of my life,
 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.



I Thessalonians 5:16-24 – The God of peace will be with you.

TOLD BY DONNA GOODFRIEND

ANTHEM *An Advent Alleluia* Douglas E. Wagner

John 1:1-28 – John declares his mission. DAVE FORBES AND SCOTT LEONARD

SERMON *The Word Was With and Was*

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH *The Nicene Creed* Presbyterian Hymnal, p. 15
(ECUMENICAL VERSION)

+HYMN #30 *Born in the Night, Mary's Child* MARY'S CHILD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD'S PRAYER, CHORAL RESPONSE
("Traditional Version," *The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 16)

OFFERTORY *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

+A DOXOLOGY ADESTE FIDELIS

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!

+PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Out to Serve and Share the Peace of Christ

+HYMN #2 *Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

+CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

+CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

4th Sunday of Advent ~December 18, 2011 ~ 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
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Dennis Dewey, 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 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Wrapping party “Telling the Christmas Stories” at Clinton United Methodist Ch.
Monday:	7:00 p.m.	Service of Remembrance for Barbara Stockbridge
	8:00 p.m.	Storytellers meet
Wednesday:	7:00 p.m.	Blue Christmas service
Saturday:	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve service
Next Sunday:	10:30 a.m.	Worship

USHER: Jim Gavett

LITURGIST: Sherry Robinson

STORYTELLERS: Donna Goodfriend, Dave Forbes, Scott Leonard

A GREAT GIFT IDEA! Once again we are selling Smart Shoppers books. They are \$20 each and offer a wide variety of coupons. Proceeds will benefit one of the church's projects or mission. The books are available in the back of the sanctuary. Questions? Contact Judy LaGasse at 725-2217.

TODAY’S ADVENT CANDLE OFFERING IS FOR PEACE: The Peace offering will go to Habitat for Humanity International which is founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat and its homeowner families have built or rehabilitated more than 400,000 houses.

BUILDING STONES MISSION SHOPPE: You are invited to visit our Building Stones Mission Shoppe, located in the Norton Room, to see our wonderful selection of Fair Trade teas, coffees, chocolates, soups, and clothes which are all for sale.

HOPE HOUSE WISH LIST: *Food:* Bottled lemon juice, maraschino cherries, individual packets of instant oatmeal, garlic powder, cold cuts for Brown Bag program and a pastry brush. *Personal Hygiene:* Soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, razors, feminine hygiene products. Please leave items in the Norton Room, but if you have perishable food, please call Ceil Gilbert, 853-8289.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please go to our website www.stonepres.org and click on “Prayer Request” or call the church office at 853-2933.

Lori Sherwood
Eleanor Palmer
Elaine Schmidt and Family
Allen Solomon
Marius Thomassen
Family of Barbara Stockbridge
Stan Shinkle
Steve Zuchowski, Sr. and Family
Buzz and Carol Sterling Barrows
Peter Fay and Family
Don Black, Judy Black
Donna Marie and Toby Todd
Jennifer, Zach and Emma
Audrey and Fred Kaiser
Dan LeMonnier and his father-in-law
The homeless

Members/Friends of the Week:
The Hailes, Bruce Hapanowicz
The Moderator, Stated Clerk, Associate
Stated Clerk and Staff of Presbytery of Utica
Rosalie Lauber
Machold Family
Lisa Hyatt
Family of Nancy Shaw
Kathleen Putney
Carolyn Barnum and Family
Sarah Ziegler
Menard Family
Liz Adams and Family
Doris Locke
Family of Barbara Young
Mike Rosenberg

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 Street.

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

WE HAVE A NEW FAMILY! This is Stone Church's 26th year of adopting families through the Neighborhood Center! Be sure to join us this morning after worship for the wrapping party. Questions? See Donna Goodfriend.

“GETTING TO KNOW THE CHRISTMAS STORY:” The “Scripture By Heart” storytellers will present an event open to the whole Greater Clinton called "Getting to Know the Christmas Story: An Adventure in Interactive Storytelling" at Clinton United Methodist Church **today** from 4:00 to 5:30. The event is free and open to the public.

We will explore how storytelling worked in the ancient world of the Bible and focus on how the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke might have been heard in its original context—its historical and cultural setting. We'll also work at learning and telling the story by heart together. This unique way of “making the season bright” by grounding it in story will be a fun experience, an adventure in story.

HELPING HURTING PEOPLE COPE WITH THE HOLIDAYS - BLUE CHRISTMAS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 7:00 P.M. Brightly wrapped packages, Christmas trees, holiday parties, holly and the scent of pine, unending upbeat carols in shops and malls, visits from friends and family, baking and cooking, food everywhere--and the awed, hushed joy of welcoming a tiny Infant to our world and our hearts--these are the images and memories of Christmas most of us celebrate and treasure. But for some people at this time of year, the cheerfulness of the likes of “Joy to the World” is hard to hear.

Each year some people--the grieving, the lonely, the hopeless—dread the approach of the holiday season. They have no heart for the cheer and the bustle, the anticipation and the excitement. Across the country many congregations recognize the struggles that grieving people often face during the holidays. And so this year will Stone Church as we offer an opportunity for those who have difficulty with cheerfulness this holiday season.

Our quiet, gentle candlelight service coincides with Winter Solstice—the darkest day of the year. But the service will provide support for those who are struggling and offer the consolation of the good news of coming of the light that offers hope, healing and wholeness.

Adapted from a piece by Laura Wasson Warfel at <http://www.stephenministries.org/stephenministry/default.cfm/1361>

It has come to our attention that **BARBARA YOUNG** passed away recently. She and her husband Gordon were members of Stone Church for almost 45 years before moving to



North Carolina in the late '90's. She was the first woman to serve on Stone's Session.

The flowers in the chancel were given to the glory of God in memory and honor of the following:

Given in memory of:

Clarence Locke
Earl and Grace Mary Widtman
Our Parents
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Menard
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanders
Harry Schell
Tony and Adro Joseph
Malcolm Wentworth
Lonnie Lawson
Hans Christeler
Loved Ones
Barbara Stockbridge
Our Parents and Grandparents

Given in honor of:

Our Family

Given by:

Brothers and Fletcher families
Emily Hughes
Hal and Linda Rance
The Menard Family
The Menard Family
Pat and Buzz Joseph
Pat and Buzz Joseph
Kevin and Eric Wentworth, Carolyn Barnum
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lawson
Trudi Christeler, Barbara Kolarz, Christie Yox
Sherry Robinson
Grace and Frank Whittemore
Grace and Frank Whittemore

Given by:

Pat and Buzz Joseph

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND CELEBRATION of the life of Barbara Stockbridge will be held here at Stone Church on Monday evening, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.


