

AN ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
December 6, 2009 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

*We Gather to Worship the One Who Is Coming*

PRELUDE *From Heav'n Above, To Earth I Come*

J. G. Walther  
F. W. Zachau



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 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*  
+Those who are able may stand. (Please see announcements insert.)

to ST. LOUIS

WELCOME, JOYS, CONCERNS & INVITATIONS

THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ADVENT CANDLE – PEACE

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.

+THE ADVENT GIVING – Presbyterian Peacemaking Program

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

O Lord our God, we hear the voice of John the Baptist, “Prepare ye the way of the Lord,” and we are hopeful about Jesus’ coming soon! We also hear his words commanding us to repent and be refined by the fire, and we are suddenly fearful of Jesus’ coming too soon, before we are ready. Take away what keeps us from the truth about ourselves: show us where we sin in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, or left undone. Reveal to us our self-congratulations on the spiritual progress we feel we have made, or will make. Lead us not into feelings of guilt, but open our eyes to how desperate is our need for you. Lord Jesus, save us from ourselves... (silent prayer) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+A DOXOLOGY

(to the tune GLORIA)

To the Father praises bring,  
To the Son, the coming king,  
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

*We Listen for the Word of God*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSONS FROM SCRIPTURE

*Malachi 3:1-4 – The messenger of the covenant will be like a refining fire.*  
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*Luke 1:68-79 – #602 – The song of Zechariah*  
Soloists sing stanzas 1-2. The congregation sings the final stanza.

*Philippians 1:3-11 – Paul’s gratitude for the faithfulness of the Philippians*

ANTHEM *Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes* Hal Hopson

*Luke 3:1-6\* – The proclamation of John the Baptist – Told by Larry Reynolds*  
(You are invited to “listen with your eyes” to the telling of the story instead of reading along.)  
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

SERMON *The Way Ahead for All Flesh* The Rev. Jeff McArn

## *We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving*

### +AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (based on John 1)

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.

+HYMN #354 *Guide My Feet, While I Run This Race* GUIDE MY FEET

OFFERTORY *From Heav'n Above, to Earth I Come* F. W. Zachau

+A DOXOLOGY Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exaltation! ADESTE FIDELES  
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!

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*Presbyterian Hymnal*, p.13)

SINGING # 581: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

SINGING #582: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

THE COMMUNION (Please hold the bread to eat together; drink the cup as served.)

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## *We Go Out in Peace*

+HYMN #281 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

+CHARGE, BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

## STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

December 6, 2009 ~ Second 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

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

[www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org)

**PREPARE THE WAY, O ZION**

(TUNE: ST. LOUIS, "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

Frans Mikael Franzen (1771-1847)

Adapted by Dennis Dewey (2001)

1. Prepare the way, O Zi-on, Your Christ is drawing near!  
Let ev'ry hill and val-ley a level way appear.  
Greet him who comes in glory, foretold on sacred page.  
O Bles-sed is the one who comes to save this needy age!
2. Christ brings God's rule, O Zi-on; he comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and free-dom, with justice, truth and love.  
All lands will bow before him, their adoration bring.  
O bles-sed is the one who comes, our Savior and our King!
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi-on; your savior's rule embrace.  
And tidings of salva-tion announce in ev'ry place.  
Let every tongue and people, his praises now proclaim.  
O bles-sed is the one who comes in God's most holy name!

**HOPE HOUSE NEEDS YOUR HELP!** Hope House is currently experiencing financial problems with regular expense items. They would appreciate any help that we can provide.

Wish List: Winter hats; mittens/gloves; scarves; hygiene items - especially shampoo, conditioner, lotion; new or lightly used children's books; toys for parent's choice giveaway; small gifts e.g. lip balm, perfume, handwarmers, sewing kits, etc. that will fit in a small gift bag; winter coats and jackets; work parties to help with yard work; seasonal decorations - especially for the autumn; chicken and beef broths for soups - especially low sodium types; cocoa packets; tea bags; large juices; soups of any type.

Please leave items on the table in the Norton Room. Questions? Call Ceil, 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.

**VISITORS** are always welcome! Please let us know who you are by filling out the Visitor's Card in the pew and dropping it in the offering plate. We invite you to join us for coffee and conversation in the Norton Room following worship this morning. Please join us again for worship!

**WE WELCOME REV. JEFF MCARN:** Jeffrey McArn has been College Chaplain for Hamilton College for thirteen years. A native of Laurinburg, NC, Jeff is a graduate of Davidson College and Harvard Divinity School. He is married to Georgia Frank of the Religion Department at Colgate University, and they live in Hamilton, NY with two daughters Madlyn (age 16) and Halley (age 12), one son Theo (age 7), one grey tabby cat, and one retriever/cocker spaniel.

**HAVE LUNCH WITH REV. JEFF MCARN:** The Mission, Stewardship, and Fundraising Committee invites you to attend a luncheon immediately following our church service today. We hope to hear about Jeff's experiences with HAVOC, Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach, and Charity. We may also hear from some current Hamilton students about the volunteering projects they are involved with right now. Please come and enjoy food, fellowship, and fun as we spend time with Jeff.

**CHRISTMAS FAMILIES:** Look for tree ornaments with the needs and wants of our two Christmas families. We have adopted one family through Operation Sunshine and the other family has come to our attention through Christine Tuttle. Christine is the big sister (through the Big Sister/Big Brother Program) to a little girl whose family became homeless the week before Thanksgiving. Please return gifts - unwrapped, but with tags attached - by Sunday, December 13.

**NEXT SUNDAY,** December 13th, is "**JOY SUNDAY**" when we light the pink candle. The lighter color of the Third Sunday of Advent reminds us that we look forward to the coming of Christ with great joy. In observation of Joy Sunday, you are invited to wear something pink to worship!



**THE COUNTRY PANTRY NEEDS:** The Pantry food bank is requesting donations of shampoo, toothpaste, bar soap, and dish detergent. Other items are most welcome too! Please leave items in the basket in the narthex.

### THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Today:	11:30 a.m.	Lunch with Rev. McArn
Thursday:	5:30 p.m.	Worship Team meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Taizé service
Next Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
	9:45 a.m.	Church School
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adults – Dining Room</li><li>• Children – Downstairs</li></ul>
	10:30 a.m.	Worship – Stone
	11:30 a.m.	Deacons' meeting

**TODAY IS THE DEADLINE** for ordering poinsettias. Please see insert.

**THIS MORNING'S USHERS:** Donna Goodfriend & Barbara Stockbridge

**THIS MORNING'S HOST:** Nikki Reynolds

**THIS MORNING'S STORYTELLER** – Larry Reynolds

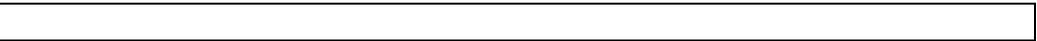
**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE** – Scott Leonard

**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. A diaper-changing table is there for your convenience. More restrooms may be found downstairs in the hall that parallels Williams St.

**THE QUIET ROOM** is located off the narthex to your right as you enter the church. If you need to leave worship for any reason, you are welcome to use the Quiet Room where you may go to be apart but still take part in worship.

**CHURCH SCHOOL** for children is held from 9:45 to 10:25 every Sunday morning. Please meet downstairs in the video room. All young people in grades 1-10 are welcome to join us!



**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 contact the church office, 853-2933, or Sarah Rosenstein at 859-1037 or sprosens@hamilton.edu. Please note that we will remove names after 6 weeks if we haven't received an update or request to keep them on.

Gil Adams Family  
Padgett Family  
Kaytryn Bentley and Family  
Dortha and Bill Glaser  
Karen Stockton's husband  
Arthur Budich  
Marty Miller  
Carrigan and Katrina  
Samantha Whittemore  
Lori Sherwood  
Doris Locke  
Ken Coe  
All victims of violence  
Cookenham Family  
Marge Chamberlain and Family

Members/Friends of the Week:  
Hans Peter & Michelle Christeler  
Eleanor Palmer  
Dick and Elaine Schmidt  
Allen Solomon  
Brian Britcher's family  
Pete Forrester  
Myra Kazanjian  
The Church & Society Committee,  
of Presbytery of Utica  
Our Armed Forces  
The children caught in war's crossfire  
Flo Dewey  
Fay Brandis and Family

**WWW.STONEPRES.ORG:** If you have pictures or features you'd like to include in the Stone Church website, contact Ceil Gilbert at 853-8289 or at jeepster98.1@netzero.net.

**BELL RINGERS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY** are needed throughout the holidays. If interested, please contact Doug Masters, 733-6041.

The community is invited to join St. James Episcopal Church for **CHRISTMAS CAROLING** beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20. We meet at the Parish Hall, go around the village singing carols and return to the Parish Hall for hot chocolate and cookies. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Music booklets are provided.

St. James Episcopal Church will also be hosting community **ADVENT VESPER SERVICES** on Thursdays, December 3, 10 and 17. The service starts at 6:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The services are approximately 30 minutes long. It is filled with music and scripture readings. Most of the music will be performed by a quartet, but some hymns and chants are sung as a group. Towards the end of the service, we share cheese, grapes and olives and some conversation.