

Christmas Day Dinner 2020

We are excited to share the news that plans are being made to offer Christmas Dinner. As we continue to follow the pandemic safety regulations, our Ham Dinner with SCPC stuffing will be available for pick up on Christmas Day with delivery available for those unable to pickup. There will be no dining in as it has been in the past. To receive a meal(s), please sign up on our website (scpresby.org) or by calling the church office (238-2422). **The deadline for meal sign up is December 13. We will not be able to accept any orders after that date.**

Worship in the Sanctuary

With the colder weather upon us we are worshipping in our sanctuary with a 30 minute service at 10:00 am. Of course we must deal with the reality of the pandemic so particular restrictions will be observed.

Worshippers will need to send an RSVP **EACH WEEK**, either by email to officescpc@gmail.com or leave a voice mail at the church office (814-238-2422), preferably by Thursday prior to service. The reason for this is that if we have more worshippers than can be accommodated at a single service, we will need to make arrangements for an additional service.

Up to thirty worshippers will be widely spaced in the downstairs area of the sanctuary and an overflow of five additional worshippers in the balcony. **We ask that anyone with a temperature or any suspicious symptoms not attend and that everyone wear a mask and maintain proper distance from others.** As without our outdoor service, the worship will last for thirty minutes. The heat will be on in the sanctuary but there will also be outside air ventilation, so dress accordingly.

The recorded YouTube service will continue for the foreseeable future.



The State College Presbyterian Church

Church Staff

Pastor: Dean Lindsey
Associate Pastor for Youth & Mission: Michael Ozaki
Director of Education & Program: Deannine Shipman
Director of Music Ministry: Ned Wetherald
Associate in College Age & Young Adult
Ministries: Allison Maus
Membership & Program Associate: Martha Trout
Financial Administrator: Michelle Fortin
Assistant Financial Administrator: Anne Thomas
Chrysalis (Middle School) Coordinator: Diana Malcom
Church Secretary: Janet Heasley
Kitchen Coordinators: Mike and Amy Gordon
Stay & Play Preschool Director: Laura Steager
Childcare Coordinator: Emma Sutterlin
Building Manager: Todd Hockenberry
Evening Custodian: Colett Spicher

November 29, 2020

NOVEMBER 29, 2020
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE J. S. Bach
"Chorale Prelude: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme"

CALL TO WORSHIP The Wagner Family
The season of waiting and watching is here!
Are you ready?
We are awaiting for the Lord of peace to bring us a new song.
The Christ comes to us this day to lead us into light.
We are ready to receive the precious gifts of God.
Come, let us worship the Christ who loves us dearly.
Let us praise God for the blessings in our lives.

HYMN NO. 349 "Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us
Cantor: Don Hartzell

- 1) Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us; the shout of rampart guards surrounds us: "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!" Midnight's peace their cry has broken, their urgent summons clearly spoken: "The time has come, O maidens wise! Rise up, and give us light; the Bridegroom is in sight. Alleluia! Your lamps prepare and hasten there, that you the wedding feast may share."
- 2) Zion hears the watchmen singing; her heart with joyful hope is springing; she wakes and hurries through the night. Forth he comes, her Bridegroom glorious in strength of grace, in truth victorious: her star is risen, her light grows bright. Now come, most worthy Lord, God's Son, incarnate Word, Alleluia! We follow all and heed your call to come into the banquet hall.
- 3) Lamb of God, the heavens adore you; let saints and angels sing before you, as harps and cymbals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the city's portals: through them we stream to join the immortals as we with joy your throne surround. No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such delight: Alleluia! Therefore we sing to greet our King; forever let our praises ring.

Advent Devotionals

Awaken "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." 1 Samuel 3:10
Advent is a time of anticipation, but so often we are not quite sure how God will show up. So we must be ready for anything! We hope to be as Samuel, hearing God calling to us in the night, responding with ears open to how God is leading each of us. To ready ourselves to hear God's nudgings we can reflect together on the noticings of God we have experienced before. We will share stories of Aha! moments and new beginnings as well as processing feelings of dread or being held back. We invite you to participate in our daily Advent devotional reflections this season, starting November 29th. You can do so in different ways, as a contributor, writing a reflection to share with others, or receiving and connecting through reading the reflections of others. Please email Allison (allisonscpc@gmail.com) to make sure you're on the list or if you have any questions.

Angel Tree

Thanks to so many of you, the virtual Angel Tree is being decorated with many virtual angels, representing your gifts to social service agencies in our area. Your generosity reflects the sharing spirit of the season, but we're not yet finished. The annual gift-giving program has been adapted to our current times. Out of abundant concern for health and safety and recognizing the limitations imposed by the virus, most of our gifts to the agencies we serve will be gift cards for individuals. If you are interested in participating there's still time to make a financial contribution towards this program serving the needy in our community. Checks may be dropped off or mailed to the church office or via the Church website, using the "other gifts" button and noting that the gift is for the Angel Tree. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Miller (814-441-5577 or clspangler@live.com).

Meals on Wheels

Are you a person who is homebound and having difficulty preparing meals during the COVID crisis? Or do you have a parent or friend who could use assistance? State College Area Meals on Wheels is ready to help. Please call us at 814-237-8135 or visit www.scmow.org to find out more.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, November 29

10:00 am Worship Service,
Sanctuary

11:00 am Senior High Sunday
School—Zoom

Monday, November 30

5:00 pm Worship Ministry
Unit—Zoom

7:00 pm Centering Prayer—
Zoom

7:30 pm Scouts, Westminster
Hall

8:00 pm POLO Bible Study—
Zoom

Tuesday, December 1

9:15 am Staff Meeting—Zoom

12:00 pm Congregational
Prayer Meeting—
Zoom

5:30 pm Geckos, “Outer
Space Night”

6:30 pm Chrysalis—Zoom

7:30 pm Handbell Choir

Wednesday, December 2

12:30 pm Wednesday in the
Word—Zoom

6:30 pm FISH

7:00 pm Racial Reconcilia-
tion—Zoom

Thursday, December 3

9:15 am Staff Meeting,
Zoom

6:00 pm Presbyterian
Student Fellow-
ship—Zoom

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, December 4

7:00 pm Festival Friday

Saturday, December 5

Christmas Poinsettia Orders

As in previous years, we would like to decorate the Sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas. Each poinsettia plant will be \$10 and you may designate who it will be in honor or memory of. Orders will be taken until December 13th. Please send your check to the church, 132 West Beaver Avenue and indicate “poinsettia” on the memo line.

Festive Friday

As part of the Central Pennsylvania’s Festival of the Arts virtual winter event, the December 4th Festive Friday will be streamed live from the SCPC Sanctuary. At 7:00 pm, our own Ned Wetherald will present an organ recital and at 9:00 pm cellist Kim Cook will present a program. You can watch on Facebook Live or YouTube Live.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Dean Lindsey

CHILDREN’S TIME

Deannine Shipman

ANTHEM “Wake, Awake” Arranged by Ned Wetherald

Text:

- 1) Wake, O wake and sleep no longer,
For he who calls you is no stranger;
Awake, God's own Jerusalem!
Hear, the midnight bells are chiming.
The signal for his royal coming;
Let voice to voice announce his name!
We feel his footsteps near,
The Bridegroom at the door, Alleluia!
The lamps will shine with light divine
As Christ the Savior comes to reign.
- 2) Zion hears the sound of singing;
Our hearts are thrilled with sudden longing.
She stirs and wakes and stands prepared.
Christ, her friend and Lord and lover,
Her star and sun and strong Redeemer,
At last his mighty voice is heard.
The Son of God has come
To make with us his home: sing Hosanna!
The fight is won, the feast begun;
We fix our eyes on Christ alone.
- 3) Glory, glory, sing the angels,
While music sounds from strings and cymbals;
All humankind, with songs arise!
Twelve the gates into the city,
Each one a pearl of shining beauty;
The streets of gold ring out with praise.
All creatures round the throne
Adore the holy One with rejoicing.
Amen be sung by ev'ry tongue
To crown their welcome to the King.

Singers: Hayden Carpenter, Emily-Margaret Ceres,
Karina Cole, Laura Essinger-Hileman, Don Hartzell,
Bill Lukens, Shelby Luther, Karen Neff, Cheryl Price,
Lynne Verity, Michael West, Ned Wetherald, Ann Wheeler,
Jim Wheeler

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-22 Michael Ozaki

5Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

12 But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; ¹³esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

SERMON Michael Ozaki
"Awake! And Don't Fall Back Asleep"

MINUTE FOR MISSION FISH Cookie Sale

INVITATION TO THE TABLE Allison Maus

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

POURING OF THE CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

HYMN No. 499 "Bread of the World in Mercy Broken"
Bread of the world in mercy broken, Wine of the soul in mercy shed, by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead: look on the heart by sorrow broken; look on the tears by sinners shed; so may your feast become the token that by your grace our souls are fed.

BENEDICTION

PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

POSTLUDE "Scherzo" Alan Ridout

Let us all be in prayer for our church, our community, and our world, seeking out God's healing and strength as we move through these days, and please keep in touch with the church and with your neighbors!