

People of God Gathered to Worship As
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST SALEM
December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, our gifts are small next to all that you have given us. Take our gifts, LORD, and make them holy, so that they may help to feed the hungry, grow the church, and share your Light with a world lost in Darkness. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
And the glory, forever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn *Born In The Night, Mary's Child*
#30 Presbyterian Hymnal

Benediction

Song of Sending *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*
v. 1 #2 Presbyterian Hymnal

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Minute For Missions

Lighting Of The Advent Candles

Leader: Our Advent Journey begins today with the lighting of the first candle, the candle of Hope. Like the flame of a candle, may hope be ignited in our hearts, reminding us that brighter days are ahead.

Leader: For those of us facing difficult challenges,

People: Ignite our hearts with hope

Leader: For the end of wars wreaking havoc and pain in our world

People: Ignite our hearts with hope

Leader: For safety for those fleeing the tyranny of oppression

People: Ignite our hearts with hope

Leader: For the light of forgiveness to shine in our hearts

People: Ignite our hearts with hope

Leader: Gracious Creator, in moments of uncertainty, we turn to you with hearts heavy but hopeful. Grant us the strength to navigate challenges, the wisdom to see possibilities, and the courage to embrace the journey ahead. May hope be our guiding light, leading us to a future filled with grace, love and possibilities beyond our imagining. Amen

Opening Hymn

Prepare the Way
#13 Presbyterian Hymnal

Prayer of Confession

Precious Lord, we live in a world in desperate need of a savior. We cry out to you for your hope, your love, and your wisdom in the world, but often fail to listen for your response. We have not done all that you have called us to do, and frequently we do the things you ask us not to do. We struggle to believe in you, and fail to see the world as you would have us see it. Lord, we believe, help our unbelief, and hear the silent confessions we lift up to you.

Moment of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Let us greet one another as forgiven sinners
with the peace of Christ:

*“May the Peace of our LORD Jesus Christ be with you!
And also, with you.”*

Hymn of Illumination

Go, Tell it On the Mountain
v. 1 #29 Presbyterian Hymnal

First Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (see insert)

Choir – Bring Us Hope

A Moment with the Children – O Christmas Tree

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-36 (see insert)

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Live in Hope

Pastor Debbie King Quale

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

The Gifts of God are all around us, our lives and our homes, our talents and our joys, our family and friends, and the greatest gift of all was the Salvation promised, the life of Christ seeking to end our division from God and each other. When we give, we do not do so to purchase anything... for the gifts of God were already given. Instead, we give in imitation of our LORD, offering what we have to support others, and to be ourselves the gift that God gives the World, so let us worship God with our Giving.

Handbell Offertory – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The time is coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill my gracious promise with the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time, I will raise up a righteous branch from David's line, who will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶ In those days, Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is what he will be called: The LORD Is Our Righteousness.

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-35

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. On the earth, there will be dismay among nations in their confusion over the roaring of the sea and surging waves. ²⁶ The planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken, causing people to faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world. ²⁷ Then they will see the Human One coming on a cloud with power and great splendor. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your redemption is near." ²⁹ Jesus told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that God's kingdom is near. ³² I assure you that this generation won't pass away until everything has happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away. ³⁴ "Take care that your hearts aren't dulled by drinking parties, drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life. Don't let that day fall upon you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. It will come upon everyone who lives on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Stay alert at all times, praying that you are strong enough to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand before the Human One.

**Nursery Available – 4k and under only
Not staffed**

December 1, 2024 Worship Team	
Liturgist	Nancy Olson
Musicians	Caroline Sells Greg Meeuwesen
Sound Room	Brynn Loging
Choir Director	Vicki Arndt
Usher	Kelly Crusan

Tithes and Offerings

Donations can be mailed to:

**Presbyterian Church of West Salem
PO Box 861
West Salem, WI 54669**

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The ongoing mission of The **Presbyterian Women** is to support the **Salvation Army** and **WINN (What I Need Now)** by collecting needed items. See the Lamplighter for new list of items. All items can be placed in the purple tote at the back of the sanctuary.

**Exercise Group – Not on December 24th or 27th
Held Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall**

**Tabitha Circle
First and Third Mondays
11:30am – 2:30pm
Bring a lunch**

***Handbell Rehearsals
Thursdays
6:30 pm***

***Choir Rehearsals – Not December 26th
Thursdays
7:30 pm***

**Sunday School 9 am
Sunday Bible Study 9-9:45 am Galilee Room
Youth Group (Jr. High through High Schoolers)
6-7 pm at Church Confirmation Classes 9:15 am in Chapel**

**Community Dinner
December 18th - 5pm – 6pm
Fellowship Hall**

**Congregational Meeting
December 15th after Service**

**Presbyterian Women's
Holiday Market
Saturday, December 7th
9am-1pm**

**Christmas Ecumenical Service
Wednesday, December 11 at 7 pm**

**Christmas Pageant
December 15th
Rehearsals on December 1st and 8th at 9am
Pageant practice on December 14th at 4:30pm
Pizza and Game Night at 6pm**

**Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, December 24th
6 pm**