

# First Sunday of Advent God's People Worship Communion, December 2, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

[\* THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND]

*"The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him,  
to the one who seeks him." - Lamentations 3:25*

*Pray and watch eagerly in the quietness of your heart during the  
prelude this morning as you prepare to worship God Almighty.*

## Prelude

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" arr. Paul Manz

## Welcome

## Announcements

## \* Greet One Another

## Call to Worship

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Members of the Confirmation Class:*

*Danny Barber and Kaden Brunner*

*Reader 1:* In a letter to some of the first Christians, the Apostle Paul writes: "We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

*Reader 2:* For many people, Christmas can be a season of disappointment. Maybe we didn't get the present we wished for, or we didn't get the help we needed, or we couldn't provide for our family the way we wanted to. But this Sunday we light the first Advent candle, the candle of Hope. The miracle of Jesus' birth reminds us that God keeps his promises forever. When we look at this candle,

and the light it gives, remember that God loves us, and that God's hope never fails.

## \* Prayer of Invocation and 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.

## Minute for Stewardship

Bill Lusignea

## \* Praise Songs

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" 8  
"People, Look East" 12

## Offering

## Offertory - Choral Anthem

"Prepare for His Coming" J. S. Bach/Walter Rodby

## \* Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## \* Prayer of Dedication

[CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED TO DISCOVERY TIME]

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 40:1-11 NIV Page 754

**Sermon** "Exiled, Exhilarated, Expiated" Dr. Don Hoagland

## Pastoral Prayer

## \* Profession of Faith – The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again

from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### Hymn of Preparation

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

36

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

#### Communion of the People

[PLEASE RETAIN THE COMMUNION ELEMENTS UNTIL ALL ARE SERVED]

#### Communion Prayer

#### \* Hymn of Anticipation

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"

11

#### \* Benediction

\* **Postlude** "Comfort These My People" Charles Callahan

*While standing for songs, please note those around you who may need to remain seated and, if possible, move to allow those who are seated to have a clear view of the screen.*



# Sermon Outline

## Exiled, Exhilarated, Expiated

Isaiah 40:1-11

Introduction-The prophets were correct

I. Signs of that holy warfare were everywhere

A. The temple of the Lord was now in ruin

B. Babylon was like a well-kept POW camp

C. Isaiah is told to "comfort my people"

II. God's people would move from their experience of being exiled

A. To be exiled means to be cut off

1. Our relatives won't be coming for Christmas this year

2. We said we would pray more and have not

III. God became flesh

A. Why do too many people pass over the miracle of incarnation and settle for Santa Claus alone?

B. We spend too little time in the wilderness of life

C. They look for a king instead of a shepherd

D. They did not learn from their time in the wilderness

E. Seek the forgiveness of Christ

## Welcome to Supplee!

**Our Greeters** this morning are John and Nada Cail.

**Our Worship Assistant** this morning is Bill Lusignea.

**The Chancel Flowers** are given by Marilyn Hagist in loving memory of her sister Barbara Warmkessel.

**The Christmas Tree** is dedicated in memory of Randy and Ruth Morrison and Joe Spadaro for their service to Supplee Church.

**Parents:** If you have younger children who become restless during worship, the service can be heard in the infant nursery and the narthex where children's bulletin packets are available on the ushers' table. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in Room 6.

### What's Happening this Week at Supplee . . .

Today 12/2	9:15 am	Childcare for infants through four years of age, Room 6
	- noon	of age, Room 6
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Education Hour for all ages
	12:00 pm	Confirmation Class, Parlor
	12:00 pm	Seoul Church
	12:00 pm	Boy Scouts, CC
	6:00 pm	Youth Group, CC
	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 pm	Advent Hymn Sing, Sanctuary
Mon. 12/3	7:30 pm	Boy Scouts
	7:30 pm	Praise Team, Sanctuary
Tues. 12/4	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study, Parlor
Wed. 12/5	9:30 am	Women's Assoc. Board Meeting, Parlor
	7:30 pm	Property Committee, Parlor
Thurs. 12/6	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study, Parlor
	6:30 pm	Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir, FH
Fri. 12/7	8:00 pm	Seoul Church, CC, L
Sat. 12/8	4:30 pm	SYG Room at the Inn overnight

Please sign the red friendship folder, found at the end of your pew, and pass it to your neighbor. Note the names of those who are sitting around you so you can greet them by name. If you are a first-time visitor please add your address and phone number and stop by the welcome center in the Narthex after the service so that we can give you a small gift.

Children ages four through fifth grade may leave when noted for Discovery Time, a worship education program which will be held in Crossroads Center. Please see an usher for directions to the room. Children should be picked up there following this service. Older children are encouraged to stay with their parents during worship. If you have a little one that needs Nursery care during this service, please see one of our ushers.

You are encouraged to write your prayer and praise requests on the yellow sheets found in the pew slots. Please give them to an usher or place them in the offering plate.

**Pledges Due** – Please remember that 2019 Pledge Cards are due TODAY. Please place them in the offering plate today or you can mail them to the church office.

**Special Offering Envelopes** – are included in the bulletin today. Contributions placed in these envelopes will be used to help balance the 2018 budget.

## The Worship Committee of Supplee Memorial Presbyterian Church Presents



### The 44th Annual Advent Hymn Sing and Concert TONIGHT at 7:00 p.m.



Ring in your Christmas season with festive music by:  
Pipe Organ, Adult Choirs, Grand Piano,  
Bell Choir, Vocal and Instrumental Small Groups and  
Brass Ensemble plus Seasonal Readings

*Started in 1973 by Dr. Richard Buckwalter, this popular annual event has become a Supplee Church tradition providing a unique and meaningful introduction to the Advent and Christmas Seasons. The program will include a generous sampling of Christmas carol singing, so plan to bring your family, friends and neighbors. Child care will be available. Join us for refreshments in the Narthex afterwards.*

(Inclement weather date December 9 - please check [www.suppleepc.org](http://www.suppleepc.org) or call the church at 215-646-4123 if the weather is questionable.)

**Can you provide Christmas Cookies?** - Cookies and punch will be served after the Advent Hymn Sing. If you would like to share your family's favorite Christmas Cookies, please bring them to the kitchen any time before 7 p.m. today. Please make sure you label them "for Advent Hymn Sing."

**Thank You** – Many thanks to Dave Innes for purchasing and delivering the Christmas Tree again this year.



## Prayers for Our Church Family

Please put this list in a prominent place at home or work to remind you to pray for these individuals.

Please pray for:

### Health Concerns:

Stan Christiansen – health issues

Sylvia Eagono – recovering following surgery

Bob Hagendorf – recovering following surgery

**Our Adult Education Classes** (meeting Sundays at 10:45 a.m.):

**New Class Starting TODAY** - The Parlor and Crossroads Center Adult Education Classes are combined for three weeks for a class entitled **Who Needs Christmas?**

Details:

The Christmas story didn't begin with shepherds watching over their flocks, wise men following a star, and a young couple that couldn't find a place to have their baby. It began much earlier than that, and it was more epic than anyone could have imagined. The Christmas story began in Genesis with God's promise that through one man the entire world would be blessed. Apparently, the world needed blessing. But it wasn't only the world that needed Christmas. God needed Christmas to demonstrate and document that he was with us and for us. We needed to see it to believe it. We need Christmas because we need a savior who wants us to have life, and have it to the full.

We will be using Andy Stanley's DVD presentations as a starting point in coming to a deeper understanding of God's promise, how it has carried through the entire history of ancient Israel, and how it reaches to transform our lives today.

This class will meet in the parlor and will be taught by Don Hoagland, Chuck and Jan Wormington.

The **Actionable Faith for Today's World: A Study of the Book of Romans** class will continue to meet in Fellowship Hall.

*Please note that there will be no children's or adult classes on December 23 and 30.*

**Men's Bible Study** - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. All men are invited! Come and explore God's Word. Contact Bob Barit for information at 215-659-1911. This week we are meeting in the parlor.

**Woman's Bible Study** - Join us for prayer, study and discussion, Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the parlor. Come each week, or just whenever you can. Call Sylvia Eagono at 215-355-4385 with any questions.

## Christmas Eve Services



**3:30 p.m. Family Service**

**7:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service**

**11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service**



### **"Room at the Inn"**

Room at the Inn runs during December. We expect to host three families and are planning to welcome them to Supplee tomorrow. We need many compassionate volunteers throughout the month. Please consider sharing a meal, staying overnight, or being an occasional driver (Note: Supplee Church authorized drivers only). The sign-up sheet is available online (website link <http://signup.com/go/UAAHqpx>) or through contacting Jason Cottone. Please call him at 215-275-1475 or email [jasoncottone@gmail.com](mailto:jasoncottone@gmail.com) with any questions.



**The Giving Tree** - It's that time of year once again when we celebrate the birth of Jesus and thank him for our many blessings. It's also a time to reach out to others less fortunate and provide a love gift from someone who cares. This year we will be giving gifts to needy children of "The Village" in Rosemont, PA. Thanks to all who have taken a red heart from our tree. After you purchase the gift, place the it UNWRAPPED under the tree **by NEXT Sunday, December 9th**. If you have any questions please contact Gayle Martell at 215-989-0623.

**Supplee Youth Group** - SYG is offered for all students in 6-12 grade. It provides students with unique experiences, biblical teaching, challenges, fellowship, fun and games. We invite you to join our Sunday night meetings and other activities. Check the calendar for details.





**Prayer Shawl Update** - Many thanks to all who have made fleece blankets for the residents of Whosoever Gospel Mission. Seven kits remain to be made. Anyone interested please meet Karen Walters in the parlor today after the service. Also, if anyone would like a prayer shawl to give to someone in need, please contact Toni Hagendorf at 215-421-8068.

## Deacons' Flower Fund News



### Donations to Help Decorate the Church

Once again the Deacons have decorated our sanctuary for the celebration of Christ's birth. You can make a donation that can be designated for either the decorations or for the needy. Please make your check payable to "Supplee Church" and place it in one of the

special envelopes that are on the cabinet in the Narthex. To designate your donation in memory of or in honor of a loved one (in the Christmas bulletin insert) complete the appropriate section of the envelope and return to the church office by Sunday, December 16th.

**Sanctuary Flowers** – The Deacons thank all who have provided flowers for our chancel and communion table throughout the year. Your contributions toward this fund allow us to bring color and sunshine into the lives of our sick and shut-in church members, as well as beauty to the sanctuary for our worship services.

The 2019 Chart is now available through September 2019. It is on the bulletin board on the left in the hallway leading out of the narthex. If you would like to donate flowers, please sign next to the date, choosing chancel (listed first) or communion table. There will be only chancel flowers on communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month). At the same time, please pick up a flower envelope (at the bottom of the chart) and fill it out. When doing so, be sure to check whether or not you will take the flowers and also include your dedication information. The cost of chancel flowers is \$40; a communion table arrangement is \$20. Please make your check payable to "Supplee Presbyterian Church."

**Women's Retreat – Save the Date!** In January we will return to Ocean City, New Jersey for our annual Women's Retreat (January 18-20, 2019). Mark the date on your calendar now so you won't miss a great time of spiritual refreshment, fun and good food. All women of Supplee and their friends are invited! The cost will be \$60 per person. The house is on the first floor only so no steps! Contact Sylvia Eagono or the church office for more information.

## Stewardship and Finance News



Our 2019 Stewardship Pledge Campaign is off to a good start as we have received 58 pledge cards in the past few weeks. Pledge cards are due TODAY. If you have pledged in the past, please continue and consider increasing your pledge for 2019. If you have not pledged in the past, consider starting the 2019 year with an affordable amount. Spiritually speaking, the goal is not just to fund the budget; we are offering our gifts to God and to each other to *"Keep Supplee's Vision Growing"*.

Let us unite as a congregation and reflect on the abundance of giving that God has provided in our lives and express our gratitude to Him by continued pledged giving and non-pledged offerings to Supplee. We are truly grateful for the financial gifts that each Supplee member and friend contributes. Thank you for your continued faithful support of Supplee Presbyterian Church.



### **Regarding Your Taxes and Contributions to Supplee Church**

- All contributions must be received in the church office by noon on **Monday, December 31, 2018** in order to claim a charitable contribution for 2018. Checks that are received after December 31<sup>st</sup>, either in the mail or in the collection plate on the first Sunday of January 2019, will not qualify as a charitable contribution for 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Adrienne Basara in the church office at 215-646-4123, ext. 15.



**Christmas Caroling and  
Fellowship Meal  
December 16 at 4:00 p.m.**

Individuals, families, people of all ages, are invited to meet at the church to go as a group to sing Christmas carols to some of our shut-in members. Following the singing, the group will return to church for a simple fellowship meal with the Room at the Inn families. Adults, children, teens, and anyone who likes to sing and eat are invited to attend. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the parlor or call the church office so we can provide enough food and transportation for everyone.

*Let's celebrate together and get at the heart of Christmas!*



**Y.A.C.H.T. Event**

Young Adult Christians Hanging Together

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

The Y.A.C.H.T Group will be having a Christmas Party at the home of Mike and Alison Barber on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Janice Brunner at [jbrunner@suppleepc.org](mailto:jbrunner@suppleepc.org) for more information.



December

**Upcoming Fellowship Events:**

**1. Vienna Boys Choir Christmas in Vienna at the Keswick Theater** - Saturday, December 15 at 4:00 p.m.

This trip is now full – payment is due, so please deposit it in the offering in a pew envelope marked “Vienna Boys Choir Concert.” The cost is \$39.50 per ticket, and checks should be payable to “Supplee Church.”

**2. Soup and Bingo Night** – January 26 at 6 p.m. Save the date and join us for a fun night of food and prizes for all ages.

**3. Family Craft Night March 2** – Volunteers are needed. The Fellowship Committee is working on a plan for a family craft night and we are looking for 8-10 people to share their talents. You might teach us how to make jewelry, greeting cards, art, slime, or hair braids. Or you might sponsor a service project like making prayer blankets or neck pillows. If you have a talent you are willing to share at this event, sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or contact Faye Kolos or Jenn McKnight.