

Hope Lutheran Church

4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035-030

December 10th, 2017 **Second Sunday of Advent**

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Jami Possinger	ext. #12
Assistant Pastor	Rev. Brian Rajcok	ext. #13
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II	
Administrative Manager	Jennifer Sommers	ext. #10
Director of Music	David Ziegler	ext. #11
Treasurer	Trudy Mertz	
Sexton	Bonnie Zmyewski	
Financial Secretary	Deb Gardner	
Communications Specialist	Nina Weiss	ext. #20

SERVICE

PARTICIPANTS **8:00am** **10:30am**

Acolytes	Gavin Hagley	Megan Smith
Crucifers	Ashley Patterson	Owen Laury
Greeters	Ernie Doncsez	Greg & AnnaMarie Gaugler
Lectors	Nancy Biechy	Bob Small
Nursery	Arianna & Stephanie Patterson	Bianca & Stephanie Carrion
Ushers	Livermon Team	Lehr Team
AV Assistant	Reece Anderson	Bob Small
Communion Assistants		Bob Small, Toni Snyder, Earl Snyder
Altar Guild December	Team 2: Weil, Zimmermann, Schimaneck, Christman; Team 3: Steiner, Green, Burns	
Percussionist	Joe Neupauer	

Service of the Word 8:00 AM

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we hear and proclaim the saving word of God for the entire world. We give thanks for that saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news and to care for those in need.

Gathering *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

- Prelude
- Announcements
- * Confession and Forgiveness p 211
- * **Gathering Song "Prepare the Royal Highway" # 264**
- * Greeting/Kyrie p 213
- * Prayer of the Day

Word *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

- Advent Hymn/Lighting of Advent Wreath
- "He Came Down" (verses 1 & 2) # 253**
- First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11
- Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a
- * Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia..." p 216
- * Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-8
- Children's Message
- Sermon
- * **Hymn of the Day "All Earth is Hopeful" # 266**
- * Apostles' Creed p 217
- * Prayers of Intercession
- Leader: Lord, in your mercy. Cong.: Hear our prayer**
- * Peace

Thanksgiving *We give thanks for the saving word*

- Offering/Offertory "Every Valley" Senior Choir
- * Canticle of Thanksgiving p 219
- * Thanksgiving for the Word p 220
- * The Lord's Prayer p 221

Sending *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

- * Blessing
- * **Sending Song "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" # 249**
- * Dismissal
- Postlude

**please stand if you are able*

Holy Communion 10:30 AM

Setting Two

Gathering *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

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- Announcements
- * Confession and Forgiveness p 116
- * **Gathering Song "Prepare the Royal Highway" # 264**
- * Greeting/Kyrie p 120
- * Prayer of the Day

Word *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

- Advent Hymn/Lighting of Advent Wreath
- "He Came Down" (verses 1 & 2) # 253**
- First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11
- Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a
- * Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia..." p 124
- * Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-8
- Sermon
- * **Hymn of the Day "All Earth is Hopeful" # 266**
- * Apostles' Creed p 127
- * Prayers of Intercession
- Leader: Lord, in your mercy. Cong.: Hear our prayer.**
- * Peace

Meal *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

- Offering/Offertory "Every Valley". Senior Choir
- * Offertory Response "Let the Vineyards..." **Hymn # 181**
- * Great Thanksgiving p 129
- * Holy, Holy, Holy p 130
- * The Lord's Prayer p 134
- Communion (*intinction*)
- "Lamb of God..." p 135
- * Post Communion Canticle "Now Lord..." p 135
- * Prayer

Sending *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

- * Blessing
- * **Sending Song "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" # 249**
- * Dismissal

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035
610-767-7203 | hopecherryville.org
December 10, 2017

CORE PURPOSE STATEMENT:

People of Hope: working together, with God, to love and serve others...

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

ALTAR FLOWERS: ☩ In Honor of Sara's birthday, Love Jeff; ☩ In Memory of Patricia Linek, Love Jack & Mary

BULLETINS: ☩ In Memory of Adam, from Sandra & Family; ☩ In Memory of all our dear departed loved ones. Merry Christmas in heaven, Love Kim & Dan Belletti

THE PRESS: ☩ In Memory of loved ones;

IN PRAYER TODAY: Jordan, Orefield, The Rev. Dody Siegfried

STATISTICS: Last Sunday's attendance; 8:00am service – 142/ 10:30 am service 122; **Total offering - \$8427.32;** (includes **\$255.00** for the building fund; **\$195.82** for Sunday School; **\$44.00** for Advent). Evening Advent Service on 11/29/17; attendance 69, offering **\$1188.80**. Evening Advent Service on 12/06/17; attendance 54, offering **\$267.00**.

COMMITMENT CARDS: If you have not already done so, kindly return your commitment card to the church as soon as possible. Please place them in the box located in the Narthex. Extra cards will be available on the table in the Narthex. Thank you.

JESSE TREE FOR ADVENT - Each day during Advent a volunteer places a symbol on the Jesse Tree in the narthex. The symbol represents one of the Bible Stories, which leads to the birth of Jesus. A scripture and prayer are included on the back of each symbol for a brief devotion before placing the symbol on the macramé tree. Watch for the Jesse tree and the sign-up sheet to be posted in the narthex.

ADVENT GIVING: If you are giving a donation at one of the Advent evening worship services, please use one of the Advent envelopes from your packet or you can use one of the pew envelopes. Include your name and envelope number (if known) on the envelope, to be sure to get credit for your giving.

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK – The Congregational Council is encouraging all our members to grow in their spirituality through a regular Prayer Life. One way of doing this is by lifting up in prayer one family from our church each day of the year. This week’s families are:

- 12/10/17 Caden Gill and family
- 12/11/17 Terry, Shirley Green and family
- 12/12/17 Ella Grube and family
- 12/13/17 Avery Gill and family
- 12/14/17 Mary Green and family
- 12/15/17 Brittany Grube and family
- 12/16/17 Barbara Gerlach and family

CORRECTION BLOOD DRIVE: We are hosting a Miller Blood Drive on January 28th from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm. You will be able to sign-up after worship services on January 7th, 14th & 20th. You can also sign-up online!

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

In this season of thanksgiving and gift giving, we hope you will also consider an additional gift to your church. It is through the contributions of every member that we are able to fulfill our mission. You can use our electronic giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. Help us achieve a more consistent level of funding by setting up a recurring giving plan. Please remember that envelope packs include a special envelope for Christmas. Visit the church website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving Page.



Simply scan this code with your device.
**you may need to download a free QR reader app first!*

WELCA NEWS: The minutes from the recent WELCA Meeting are located in the Narthex for anyone who is interested.

CANDLE ASSEMBLY: We are seeking 4 – 5 helpers to meet here at Hope Church on Wednesday, December 20th to assemble candles for Christmas Eve Worship Service. If you are interested in lending a much needed helping hand, please contact Jennifer in the church office at 610-767-7203 or office@hopecherryville.org.

LAST CHANCE - POINSETTIAS FOR SALE: Our annual sale is ends today, December 10th! If you would like to order poinsettias, please take a pre-printed envelope from the Narthex and complete the outside of the envelope and place in the offering plate, offering box on the wall or return to the office with payment. Please remember all ordered Poinsettias must remain in the Sanctuary until after the final Christmas Eve Service at 11:00 pm. Poinsettias may thereafter be picked up from the church office.



CHURCH DIRECTORY – Put names with faces and be a part of our new church family directory. We are partnering with Lifetouch to tell our story. These very convenient photographs will be taken at the church. The directory will not be complete without you! Portrait dates are as follows:

- Wednesday, December 27th through Friday, December 29th:
 - 2 pm – 9 pm
- Saturday, December 30th: 10 am – 5 pm
- Tuesday, January 2nd through Friday, January 5th: 2 pm – 9 pm
- Saturday, January 6th: 10 am – 5 pm

APPOINTMENTS: Make an appointment after worship services: 12/10 & 12/17; or visit our online link at:
<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y7jpqtvg/>

DIRECTORY HOST/HOSTESSES: We are looking for volunteers to greet and sign-in congregation members for their pictorial photo sessions. The shifts would be 2 ½ hours each. If you are interested, please sign-up with the Appointment Committee after Service as indicated above. We thank you in advance for your time and support.

GIVING: Please catch up with your 2017 commitment or intended giving by the end of December or give an extra gift before the end of the year. Let's keep Hope's ministries strong! All 2017 offerings must be received or postmarked on or before December 31st 2017 to receive credit for this year. Any offerings received on or after January 1, 2018 MUST be credited as 2018 contributions.

CANDLE SPONSORSHIPS: Are available for Christmas Eve. If you would like to help defray the costs of the beeswax candles and the red frill tissue paper, you can do so by sponsoring candles in memory of or in honor of someone. You can donate any amount you wish (no donation too small). Please contact Jennifer in the church office a 610-767-7203.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANT SCHEDULES: The Christmas Holiday is quickly approaching. In preparing for Christmas Eve worship, we are in the process of creating the Worship Participant Schedule. We are in NEED of volunteers for all services for 9:00 am, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:30 pm & 11 pm. All Ushers, Greeters & Communion Assistants, please remember to utilize the Sign-Up Genius to select a time to assist with Christmas Eve Services. Please use the link below to access the sign-up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054dacao2baafa7-christmas1> Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer in the Church Office at 610-767-7203 or email: office@hopecherryville.org. Thank you all for your continued sharing of your time and talents!

HOPE IS LOOKING FOR A PT BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

The position is available immediately for an established church bell choir with 3 octave hand bells and 3 octave hand chimes. Candidate must be proficient in at least one keyboard instrument and possess strong musical ability. Seeking enthusiastic, outgoing, energetic individual with excellent interpersonal, organizational and communication skills to join staff members of a dynamic, thriving church. Submit letter of interest, resume, and completed application (available at www.hopecherryville.org) to Hope Lutheran Church, 4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035. Deadline for applications is December 15th, 2017. Please pass this information on to anyone who you know might be interested.

2017 SUNDAY SCHOOL TAX STATEMENTS: Statements to be used for income tax purposes will be given only to those who request them. Please provide your name and envelope number with your child's offering, or phone Nancy Creyer at 610-767-8942 (leave message). Statements will be completed in January of 2018

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Today, we will be having this year's Sunday School Christmas Program "Come to the Manger" during the Sunday School Hour. The story tells of the night Jesus was born. The children will report to their classrooms while family and friends can meet in the church. The classes will join once all are present. Afterwards, the children will return to their classrooms to be picked up by their parents.

DID YOU RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION THIS YEAR? Did you complete the hospitality pad indicating you received Holy Communion? If you didn't or you're not sure, please complete the Hope hospitality pad next time you receive communion. Our constitution requires active members to receive communion regularly

IS THERE CHURCH: If the weather is extremely bad on any given Sunday, and you are wondering if Sunday Church School, worship services, or evening activities are cancelled, please check WFMZ either online or TV or check our website at www.hopecherryville.org or as a last resort, call the church office (610-767-7203).

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE: This course is for people that have never had the course before. This course can lower your insurance a minimum of five (5%) percent. You must make a reservation if you will be having lunch with us; however, walk-ins are welcome. Dates: December 12, 2017 (9:30 am – 2:00 pm) & December 14, 2017 (9:30 am – 2:00 pm). Call Karen for more details 610-767-2977.

ADOPT A FAMILY: Hope Cherryville has adopted two local families in need to help make their Christmas merry and bright. See the display in the narthex – sign out a tag with a specific need for each member of the family. *** Use your cell phone camera – snap a picture to remind you what to shop for.* Return your unwrapped gift with the tag attached by Monday, December 18th. Then come to the wrapping party Wednesday, December 20th at 5:00 PM before Advent worship. We'll provide the wrap and tape as well as holiday treats and festive music, but definitely BYOS (bring your own scissors)!

SENIOR CENTER CHRISTMAS PARTY: All seniors are invited to the Senior Center's Christmas Party on December 19, 2017 from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm in Kuntz Hall. There will be entertainment by Lorri & James at 12:30 pm, plus tricky tray & prizes! If you would like lunch, please make your reservation before December 18th. Please contact Karen for further details: 610-767-2977.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES: Please keep Kathryn Strohl and Family in your thoughts and prayers as Kathryn's Sister, Ruth Holtzer, passed away on December 7th. Additionally, please keep the families of Bill & Eileen Lewis in your thoughts and prayers as Eileen's Mother passed away on December 6th, 2017.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

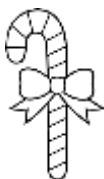
9:00 AM – 4TH Sunday in Advent Service

4:00 & 6:00 PM – Family Service

8:30 & 11:00 PM – Communion & Service of Lights

****If you would like to lend a hand in tidying up the Sanctuary between services, please see the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board. As always, thank you for your time & assistance in keeping the Sanctuary beautiful during this busy worship season ****

YOUTH GROUP NEWS ~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



Cookies & Caroling: TODAY: 12/10/17, Meet after 2nd service
Kuntz Hall

POW: 12/13/17, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Concert “Big Church Night Out”: 12/15/17, 6:00 pm

National Youth Gathering Meeting: 12/19/17, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

****Any questions please contact Pastor Brian Rajcok****

CONFIRMATION NEWS:



*** St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church visit:** TODAY
12/10/17, 9:00 -11:00 am.

***Northampton Food Bank:** 12/16/17, 8:45 – 10:30 am

****Any questions please contact Pastor Brian Rajcok****



Thank you to all our members who have made donations to our lovely Mitten Tree, the In-Gathering requested items, and our Adopt a Family Tags!!! Your kindness and generosity, at this time of year, will certainly bring Christmas Cheer and Spirit to many who are in need!



Merry Christmas

Important Dates ~ Mark Your Calendars

Deadlines for Christmas Bulletin Printing:

- * **December 17, 2018:** Poinsettia Sponsor Information due to the office
- * **December 18, 2017:**
 - PRINTING: Poinsettia Sponsor Sheets for Bulletin
 - DEADLINE for all Christmas Eve Music & Liturgies to the Office
- * **December 19, 2017:** PRINTING Christmas Eve Bulletins
- * **December 20, 2017:**
 - PRINTING Newsletter
 - Candle Assembly
- * **December 21, 2017:**
 - Newsletter Assembly
 - PRINTING Christmas Eve Bulletins
- * **December 22, 2017:**
PRINTING Advent IV Sunday Service Bulletins



REMINDER TO ADVENT EVENING WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

December 13th 2017 at 7:00 pm

Acolyte	Ethan Rehrig
Greeter	Marge Zimmermann
Ushers	Benninger Team
Music	Vicki Steiner

REMINDER TO WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Sunday, December 17th, 2017	8:00am	10:30am
Acolyte	Sarah Bird	Alexa Rousenberger
Crucifer	Brianna Weaver	Crysta Strohl
Communion Assistants	Linda Mery, Vicki Steiner, John Zmyewski	
Greeter	Sharon Kratzer	Adam Holencik
Lector	Sharon Kratzer	Marge Zimmermann
Nursery	Thomas & Sonya Spohn	Aislinn & Jennifer McDonald
Ushers	Team Mohrey	Team Benninger
AV Assistants	Charlie Kutzler	Jerry Mraz
December Altar Guild	Team 2: Weil, Zimmermann, Schimaneck, Christman Team 3: Steiner, Green Burns	
Dec. Sign Changers	Betty Rock	

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK: For complete rehearsal schedules, see the online calendar at calendar.hopecherryville.org:

Today	Sunday School Christmas Program St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Visit (Van Needed) Youth Christmas Caroling (Van Needed)	9:15 am 9:00 am 12:30 pm
Monday	Finance Committee Meeting Church Council Meeting	6:00 pm 7:00 pm
Tuesday	Story Weavers, Lunch a Morgans	10:00 am
Wednesday	Decorating for Advent Outreach Ministry St. Stephens POW (Van Needed) Advent Evening Worship Service	8:00 am 2:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm
Thursday	Pastor's Bible Study Prayer Shawl	10:00 am 10:00 am
Friday	Youth Concert (Van Needed)	5:30 pm
Saturday	Level 2 Confirmation Food Bank	9:00 am
Next Sunday	Post Confirmation Group Sunday School *Christmas Program Snow date*	9:00 am 9:15 am