



The people that walked in  
darkness have seen a great light.

Isaiah 9:2



*Hope*

Craig , Leader of Worship  
Julie, Music Tech

*November 30, 2025*

*The First Sunday of Advent*

*The Church Gathers to Worship*

*\*Those who wish may stand.*

MEDITATIVE READING

*Isaiah 2: 2-5 (pg 631 [ LP 773] OT)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come here today looking ahead to the time that warms our hearts in the cold days of winter.

People: **Together we wait...**

Leader: We prepare for the celebration to come with gatherings of family and friends, holding fast to traditions and memories, singing favorite Christmas songs, and “decking the halls” with favorite decorations.

People: **Together we wait...**

Leader: We listen to the promises that the prophets foretold of a child to be born that would save all people.

All: **And together we wait...**

\*HYMN #2

*“Come, Thou Long-Expectant Jesus”*

\*UNISON PRAYER

**Holy God, we gather at the start of this Advent season with expectant hearts. Slow us down, Lord. Calm our anxieties. Still our minds. Help us to be open to your Holy Spirit, so that we may witness the unexpected ways you are at work in this world. We pray in your name Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen**

*To Hear God's Word*

**The Hanging of the Greens: Its Symbols and their Meanings**

Leader: Introduction

Christmas Carol

*"Deck the Halls"*

Deck the halls with boughs of holly  
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la  
'Tis the season to be jolly  
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la  
Don we now our gay apparel  
Fa-la-la, la-la-la, la-la-la  
Troll the ancient Yule-tide carol  
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la

Trim our church with WELCOME...

Carly

Trim our church with LIGHT...

Amy

Trim our church with PEACE...

Wyatt

\*HYMN #38

*"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*

Trim our church with ANTICIPATION...

Norm

Trim our church with LOVE, the true meaning of the season...

Connie

\*HYMN #25

*"Away in the Manger"*

Leader directions...

**Let's decorate our church...**

*Let's gather back together...*

*To Respond in Faith*

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*) (pg. 16 in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY (pg. 592 in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*)

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*To Serve in Love and Hope*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Christmas Present for Linden: We are taking up a monetary collection for Linden for Christmas this year. There is a gift bag in the Narthex. Thank you!*

**PRESENTS FOR PANTHERS**

*We will be collecting items that support the youth in our Portville School District for this holiday season. Donations can be placed in the Narthex from now to December 14<sup>th</sup>. The focus of this mission will be centered around the following items:*

- *New Toys and Games*
- *Cash Donations*
- *Gift Tags, Bows & Gift Wrap*

*Thank you for your continued support to this local mission!*

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES IN OUR ADVENT WREATH**

The Candle of Hope

Steve and Mary

HYMN #12 (*vs 1 and 5*)

*"People, Look East"*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*We want to thank Craig and all the readers  
for their important roles in today's service*

For the week beginning December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

GREETERS:	????????????
PRAYER FAMILY	Marilyn
ELDER for the Month	Julie

Tues.	Office Hours	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Wed.	Office Hours	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Thurs.	Office Hours	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Next week

Sun. 12/14 Sunday School  
Christmas Pageant

Liturgist: Kathy  
Greeter: Buffy  
Organist: Linden

**HEARING ENHANCERS** are available in the Narthex. Please ask the greeters for assistance.

**FOR PASTORAL CARE PLEASE CONTACT**

Rev. Bruce Levine at 716-378-6773 or  
Judy McClain 716-933-6303

The Portville Community Food Pantry is once again in need of clean egg cartons. It is also accepting donations of RICE. Thank you so much for supporting our local food pantry!

On Saturday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. the Keynote Chorus will be singing at the Harriett Wick Chapel on the University of Pittsburgh in Bradford and on Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. they will be singing at the Baptist Church in Allegany. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Poinsettia Order due back (to place the order) TODAY Sunday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Extra Order Forms are in the Narthex. Thank you!