

PEWEE VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Learning, Glorifying, Celebrating, and Following ...”

GATHERING ...

Gathering Music
The Ringing of the Bell
Words of Welcome

PREPARING ...

Prelude Hark! The Herald Angels Sing! arr. J. RANEY

The Lighting of the Advent Candle and Opening Prayer
Bob and Nancy Elwell

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

The Angels and the Shepherds in Luke’s house remind us that we belong together, O God – the divine and the human. In the birth of Jesus, we are shown exactly what that “welcome home” can look like. Be born in us today. Amen.

***Hymn 82** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

Call to Confession and Prayer (*unison*) Sis Sleadd
Loving God, you have made you love known to us. You have sent Christ into the world. And yet we remain ignorant and forgetful. Because you “so loved the world,” we know that we ought to love one another. But so often we don’t. We are like shepherds on a hill, unaware and uninterested, expecting the same things to happen one day to the next. Forgive us all these things, O God, so that forgiven, our stars, too, will shine brighter. And we too, will hear the angels sing. Hear now our silent prayers of return.

(A Time of Silence for Personal Confession: Pray the above prayer again, but this time substitute “I, my, and me” for “we, our, and us”.)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Siblings in Christ, speak promise:

People: God loves us. God forgives us.

Leader: God is coming to us even now to save us.

People: Thanks be to God.

ALL: ALLELUIA! AMEN.

***Response 106** Prepare the Way, O Zion BEREDEN VAG FOR HERREN
(*stanza 1 only*)

***Passing of the Peace**

HEARING ...

Sacred Space and Prayers for the Children Ashia Stoess

Anthem The Angel Gabriel G. CHIUSANO

Scripture Luke 1

Message CHRISTMAS AT LUKE’S HOUSE Ashia Stoess

***Hymn 100** My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout
STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

RESPONDING ...

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) from A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH
In a broken and fearful world, God’s Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace.

In gratitude to God and empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and faithful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and earth, saying: *“Come Lord Jesus!”*

Time of Giving Thanks

Announcements

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering and Offertory

Offertory Ave Generosa

O. GJEILO

***Doxology 606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDRETH

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have built us up in faith and bound us together in love. May our offering this morning, too, be used to tell the story of your deep love in this wide world. By your grace, may all that we offer and all that we do welcome home all who are in need of comfort and joy. Amen.

SENDING ...

***Hymn 136** Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

***Charge and Benediction**

The Ringing of the Bell

***Postlude** For Unto Us a Child is Born

G.F.F. HANDEL

**Please stand in body or spirit*

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT.

Rev. Joel Weible's sermons are posted on our website each week at PeweeValleyPresbyterian.org under the "Media" tab.

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church



ADVENT 2023: Welcome Home!
This week: Luke's Gospel Home

Sunday Morning Worship

December 17, 2023 – Third Sunday of Advent