



NEWTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 11, 2011

9:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent

Welcome (Please sign and pass the friendship pad)

Prelude "Adeste Fideles" Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski
Canon Ringers

Lighting the Advent Candle of 'Joy'

Congregational Response (Leader, People)

Sometimes it feels as if we live a joyless life.

But God sends JOY to the joyless.

Just like in the time of sadness when God sent His only Son.

JOY to the world, the Lord has come.

May this season of Advent bring us JOY once again.

Even as we experience JOY in the Lord.

Call to Worship (Leader, People)

Our season of expectant waiting is drawing to a close. All praise to our God who is with us in every season.

Our days have been full; our expectancy has been a rising tide . . . soon the story of Bethlehem, soon the angel chorus.

And yet God also is expectant - expecting our obedience: Faithful lives, humble service, extravagant generosity in Jesus' name.

Now may our worship offer honor and praise, even as it quickens our spirits to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

* **Hymn No. 40** "Joy to the World"

* **Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

Almighty God, Light of the World, you cause light to shine out of the darkness in the advent of Jesus our Christ; you continually open to us the ways we are to prepare. We confess our unwillingness to see the light and to walk in your ways. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the Spirit of Christ be born anew within us, that our hearts may be stirred to glorify the nativity with acts of compassion and service.

* **Assurance of Pardon** (Leader)

The Grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all. We are freed to accept God's truth in new ways and to experience the good news of great joy with fresh enthusiasm. Let us glorify and praise God for all we have seen and heard.

Hymn No. 5 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Old Testament Reading Psalm 98:1-3

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Response

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Offering Our Gifts to God

Anthem "Christmas Day" Gustav Holst
Quartet

Sermon "Joy to the World"
Text: Psalm 98:4-9

* **Hymn No. 8** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

* **Benediction** (Unison)

May Jesus the Christ, Savior of this Earth, renew in us all a spirit of hope and good cheer. Let us leave in the light of Jesus' love. Let us live in the presence of His peace. Born to be with us, Jesus brings joy to the world then, now and forever. Amen

Postlude "An Acclamation of Joy" David Paxton

*All who are able may stand **Late comers seated

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In the Pulpit: Rev. G. W. "Blake" Blakesley, III, Pastor  
Assisting: Rev. Wonjae Choi, Associate Pastor

**The window decorations during Advent reflect the carols that are the topics of Rev. Blakesley's sermons each week.**

**Assisting in today's services:**

**Candle Lighters: (8:00)** Roy and Joan Grabner  
**(9:00)** Mullarkey Family **(10:45)** Mumme Family

**Ushers: (8:00 & 9:00) Team I** Louis Westphal, Captain; Tim Donney, Linda and Ed Moody, Lynn Quinn, Doug and Jeanne Witschen

**(10:45) Team J** Carl Koenig, Captain; Jim and Nancy Bowers, Alex Reilley, Don Rife, Andrew and Elaine Warren

**Deacon Flower Delivery:** Miriam Twiname and Alan Thress

**Our Staff:**

Rev. G. W. Blakesley, III, Pastor (off Friday)

E-Mail – [revbanjo@newtownpres.org](mailto:revbanjo@newtownpres.org)

Rev. Wonjae Choi, Assoc. Pastor (off Wednesday)

E-Mail – [revwonjae@newtownpres.org](mailto:revwonjae@newtownpres.org)

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Canon, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Richard Kauffman, Visitation Parish Associate

Ellie Horan, Office Administrator

Eileen Honea, Staff Secretary

Jason Moore, Director of Music and Director of Handbells

Jordan Saul, Youth Music Associate

Meghan Meloy, Interim Organist

Jonathan Reinink, Seminary Intern, Youth Director

Ragip Kasgur, Sexton

Marjorie Torongo, Treasurer

Elaine Warren, 8:00 a.m. Pianist

Office Phone 215-968-3861

E-mail Address ..... [npcoffice@newtownpres.org](mailto:npcoffice@newtownpres.org)

Web Page Address..... [www.newtownpres.org](http://www.newtownpres.org)

Office Hours.....Mon – Fri, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Ask an usher for a headphone if you need hearing assistance or a large print hymnal.**

## **Welcome to the Newtown Presbyterian Church!**

We are happy to have you share our service of worship. Whether you are a visitor or a newcomer to the area, we ask that you sign the Friendship Pad with your name, full address, (please print) and phone number so we may contact you personally. Infant and Toddler Nursery are provided during the 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. services. Please see an usher for details.

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The **chancel flowers** are given by Dwight and Jeri Davis in honor of their parents, Mrs. Ethel Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Brinkley, and in memory of C. Jerome Davis. The **9:00 Advent bulletin cover** is given by Dennis and Marilyn Winfrey in loving memory of their sons, Kevin and Ryan and the **10:45 Advent bulletin cover** is given in memory of Tim Fortna by his parents and his brothers' families.

If anyone would like a speaking part for the 3:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, please contact Janet Eshleman or revwonjae@newtownpres.org.

Confidential Prayer Chain - James 5:13-16 "Is anyone among you suffering? They should pray...pray for one another that you may be healed." The Prayer Chain offers prayer for those in need. Please call on us by giving requests to Marcia Scull, (215) 968-2489, or the church office, (215) 968-3861.

Angel Tree Project - As in the past, our Church will be part of the Angel Tree Project. Each year we set up a tree in the side vestibule of the Church with Angels on the tree. Each Angel has a request from one of the children from a family in need. These children are identified by the school nurses through the free lunch program in the Council Rock School District. There are also children from families in other areas. If you would like to participate, then please feel free to take 1 or more angels from the tree and fill the request for these boys and girls. We ask that the gifts be dropped off at the Church by **Sunday the 18th of December**. ***After the request is filled and wrapped, please attach the paper angel to the package so we know who that package goes to.*** This is truly a worthy cause since these boys and girls have very little, and this would make their holiday a bit brighter. Thank you from The Angel Tree Project.

NPC Women's Retreat April 13 – 15, 2012 - The retreat will be held at the Harvey Cedars Conference Center, Harvey Cedars, NJ. Join us for a time of relaxation and reflection surrounded by the seashore. Please register early so we can adjust the numbers for our contract before the end of the year. Registration forms are in the PW box outside Ettenger Hall.

Concert Series - TODAY at 4:00 p.m., our Music Director, Jason Moore and his wife, Chloe, will present a concert of Christmas music. They will be performing a number of well-known Christmas works as well as some lesser known pieces.

PW Christmas Collection – PW will be collecting sweatshirts, hats, gloves and books for the Ninth Church Head Start Learning Tree Project. These are pre-school children. The deadline for collecting the items is December 13, and they can be placed on the Christmas tree at the entrance to Ettenger Hall. As always, thanks to all for your generous contributions.

PW Bible Study is Tuesday, **December 13 (please note the correction of date)** at 10:00 a.m. in Ettenger Hall – Lesson 3 will be our focus in the study of the Beatitudes under the direction of Ruth Barcafer. Then we'll have a covered dish luncheon, "A Salad Extravaganza". So hunt up your favorite recipe for all of us to share (just envision how slim we'll look for Santa). After that, we'll wrap the sweatshirts, hats, gloves and books for preschool children at the Ninth Street Church in Philadelphia. They'll be warmer for your contribution. It will be a wonderful day! Please join us!

Monday Night Bible Study - A Bible study entitled, Christian Doctrine: Love Wins, will begin on Monday evening, January 9, 2012, in Room B1. This ten-week study includes reading materials and a video component providing a summary of basic Christian doctrines and their application in today's environment. Classes begin at 7:30 p.m. and finish no later than 9:00 p.m. Please contact Wonjae, revwonjae@newtownpres.org, if you have any questions about what should be a very thought-provoking program.

Stewardship Update - Thanks to all those who have already returned your pledge cards and time & talent sheets. As of the last tally, we are at approximately 80% of our pledge goal with 300 pledges received. We are entering the last phase of the process - committee budgets have been submitted, the annual budget is beginning to be assembled and the Stewardship committee will be calling members whom we have not yet heard from. In order to complete the process by early January, we are asking those who haven't yet completed your pledges to please send them as soon as possible (contact the office if you need another card and T&T sheet). No matter how great or small, all pledges are gratefully appreciated.

Poinsettias Delivery to Shut-ins - The Deacons will be delivering poinsettias to shut-ins and others who need a bit of Christmas Cheer. The congregation is invited to assist with flower delivery. Poinsettias can be picked up for delivery immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 25, or between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 26.

First Sunday Meals - Many thanks from the Board of Deacons to all who contributed food for First Sunday Meals. Two car loads were delivered to Aiding Our Neighbors. Our request for "BROWN PAPER GROCERY BAGS" was abundant! Thank you. We will not be needing bags for awhile.

CPR Course - The CPR, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, and AED, automated external defibrillator, course will be held January 8, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. This course meets the Red Cross and American Heart Association requirements for certification and recertification. Recertification is required every two years and new recommendations are now taught. Registration can be done at the church office. The cost is \$40 per participant and checks can be made to Newtown Presbyterian Church. Please register by January 1, 2012. The ability to save a life is a great New Year's resolution. Pete Peters is available to answer questions, 215-493-8440.



Advent Calendar 2011

Sunday, December 11 Third Sunday of Advent

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45 a.m. Worship — Lighting the candle of "Joy"
4:00 p.m.—Christmas Concert by Chloe and Jason Moore
5:00 p.m.— All-Church Christmas Caroling at Pickering Manor

Sunday, December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45 a.m. Worship — Lighting the candle of "Love"
9:00 & 10:45 a.m. **Choir Cantata:** "From Heaven Above"
Felix Mendelssohn
with Brass Ensemble
Christmas Joy Offering

Wednesday, December 21

7:00 p.m. — **Children's Christmas Musical**
Children should arrive at 4:00 p.m.
Refreshments in Ettenger Hall afterward

Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve

(This year's services will not include communion)

3:30 p.m.— Traditional candlelight service of Lessons & Carols
with children leading
5:00 p.m. — Traditional candlelight service with children leading
7:00 p.m. — Traditional candlelight service with Bell Ensemble
9:00 p.m. — Traditional candlelight service with NPC Choirs
11:00 p.m. — Traditional candlelight service

Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Worship — One service
Christmas Joy Offering
9:00 a.m. — Adult Bible Study, No Church School

2011 Financial Contributions

Only contributions received by December 31, or contributions postmarked before January 1, 2012, will be credited to the 2011 tax year.

Youth Group – Toys for Mexico

Once again this year the Senior High Youth Group is collecting toys to send to the children of the Presbyterian Church of Saltillo. As you shop, please consider adding one or two of these gifts to your list. We will pack them for mailing on Sunday, December 18 so that these children may open them on January 6.

5 toys for Girls 0-3 yrs old	5 toys for Boys 0-3 yrs old
10 toys for girls 4-6 yrs old	10 toys for boys 4-6 yrs old
10 toys for girls 7-10 yrs old	10 toys for boys 7-10 yrs old
10 toys for girls 11-13 yrs old	10 toys for boys 11-13 yrs old

*Please, choose smaller gifts for easier mailing
No guns or war toys.
No food of any kind.*

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**The deadline for the January newsletter is Wednesday December 14, at noon. Please respect the deadline.**

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Apportionment - It's not too late to pay your 2011 apportionment of \$23.00 per confirmed member. If you aren't sure if you've paid your apportionment, call the church office at 215-968-3861.

WE THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you so much to all the members of the congregation who baked cakes, helped in the kitchen and dining room and came to the luncheon on December 3.

It was a very successful time in the life of our church and the proceeds will be put to good use in the maintenance and beautification of the Historic Church and property.

Stephen Ministry

is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care needed to support them. Newtown Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation.
Contact Rev. Wonjae at 215-968-3861 or
revwonjae@newtownpres.org

In preparation for worship, take the opportunity to speak to God, respecting each other's desire to meditate. At the close of the service, greet one another with joy.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday – December 11, 2011

8:00 a.m.	Worship (Sanc)
9:00 a.m.	Worship (Sanc)
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Discussion (Pastor's Office)
9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
10:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hour (EH)
10:45 a.m.	Worship (Sanc)
2:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (EH)
4:00 p.m.	Christmas Concert – Chloe and Jason Moore
5:00 p.m.	All church Caroling at Pickering

Weekly Calendar: December 12 – 17, 2011

Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Breakfast with the Bible (EH)
	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study and Luncheon
	10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting (PO)
	6:00 p.m.	Women's AA (B1))
Wednesday	7:15 p.m.	Deacons (EH)
	Noon	Newsletter Deadline
	7:30 p.m.	Trustees (EH)
	7:30 p.m.	Flying Solo (211)
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	AA (B1)
	6:00 p.m.	Women's AA (B1)
	7:00 p.m.	Canon Ringers
	8:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir

Sunday – December 18, 2011

8:00 a.m.	Worship (Sanc)
9:00 a.m.	Worship (Sanc) - Cantata
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Discussion (Pastor's Office)
9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
10:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hour (EH)
10:45 a.m.	Worship (Sanc) - Cantata
2:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Sanc)
5:00 p.m.	Youth Groups