



December 18, 2011

9:00 and 10:45 a.m.

"Vom Himmel Hoch"

(From Heaven Above)

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome *Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad* **
Prelude "Angels From the Realms of Glory" Arr. Bruce Saylor

Light the Advent Candle of Love (Leader, *People*)

Sometimes it feels as if we live in a hate filled world.

But God sends LOVE into the world.

Just like the time of injustice and hatred into which God sent His only Son.

For God so LOVED the world that He gave His only begotten Son.

May this season of Advent bring us LOVE once again.

Even as we experience LOVE in the Lord.

Call to Worship (Leader, *People, ALL*)

Love has come, a light in the darkness shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.

All of heaven has come to proclaim it. We hear the angelic song of joy.

Love is reborn; God has come to dwell among us.

We add our voice to the song of the angels.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND PEACE TO ALL THE EARTH.

* **Hymn** No. 54 "From Heaven Above" (Vom Himmel Hoch)

* **Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

O promised Christ; we are a world at war. Our peace depends on your coming.

We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on your coming. We are full of good

intentions but weak at keeping promises; our only hope of doing God's will is that

You should come and help us. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for

Your peace, for Your pardon and for Your grace. Come, Lord Jesus. Light of the

world bring us peace. *(silent confession)*

* **Assurance of Pardon**

* **Gloria Patri**

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 8 – 14

Offering "Chorale & Variations on Vom Himmel Hoch"
Chorale and Variation No. IV

Bach/Stravinsky

* **Doxology**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

No. 1. Chorus – (Allegro)

From heaven on high I come to you, I bring you joyful news and true.

Joyful news I bring this day, I now shall sing and I shall say.

For you this day a child is born, born of a virgin pure and fine.

This beautiful and sacred boy shall be your gladness and your joy.

No. 2. Baritone Aria – (Andante con moto)

He is the Christ, our blessed Lord, and He will keep you from all want.

Your King and Savior He shall be, and from transgression, make you free.

He brings you all the blessedness that God will give you in His grace.

No. 3. Chorale

He brings you all the blessedness that God will give you in His grace,

That you in heaven eternally may dwell with us in harmony.

No. 4. Soprano Aria – (Allegretto)

Be welcome now, O noble guest, for sinners thou has not despised;

Thou com'st in meekness now to me. How then shall I give thanks to Thee?

And if the world were great indeed, adorned with precious stones and gold.

It still would seem too small to be a cradle fit to give to Thee.

No. 5. Baritone Arioso

And therefore, Lord, it pleases Thee to manifest this truth to me; All worldly honor,

power and wealth for Thee, for Thee they are of no help or worth.

No. 6. Chorus – (Moderato)

Praise God upon His heavenly throne, who sends to us His only Son.

The angels greet us with good cheer, and sing us all a bright new year!

* **Hymn** (See Insert) "On Christmas Night"

* **Benediction**
Postlude

*All who are able may stand

** Late comers seated

Thanks to the instrumentalists who assisted with worship today:

Trumpets: Aaron Mattis-Long; Tessa Ellis; Najib Wong

Trombone: Justin Moore, Greg Strohman, Bob Loughran

Horn: Jonathan Clark, Steven Sweetsir

Flute: Russ Scotti, Suzanne Wray

Organist: Prince Nyatanga

Timpani: Drew Andreatta

Assisting in today's services:

Candle Lighters: (8:00) Ron and Barb Husted

(9:00) Adams Family **(10:45)** Jack and Suzanne Gentile

Ushers: (8:00 & 9:00) Team K Michael Bishop, Captain; Janice and Tim Beck, Tim Birky, Scott Dengler, James Risch, Sue Espenshade

(10:45) Team L Bruce Stevens, Captain; Bruce and Susan Chrystal, Penny Erkert, Christopher Stone, Doug Taylor

Deacon Flower Delivery: Elaine Warren and Jill Leidy

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

2011 Financial Contributions

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

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.

~~~~~

The **chancel flowers** are given by Caron and Elizabeth Williams in loving memory of their parents, Harry and Edwina Williams and John and Joan Merrall. The large **poinsettias** in front of the pulpit and lectern are given in loving memory of Carrie M. Chase, wife of Donald O. Chase, mother of Carrie Lynne Juba and grandmother of Carrie Anne and Elizabeth Juba. The **additional flowers** are from the wedding of Megan (Farley) and Kyle Tondi, who were married in our sanctuary on Friday, and are in memory of their grandparents who have passed away.” The **9:00 Advent bulletin cover** is given by Linda Cochran in loving memory of her husband, Herb, and the **10:45 Advent bulletin cover** is given in loving memory of their precious son “Baby Michael” by his parents, Mike and Jill Ortman.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 TODAY so that these children may open them on January 6 (Three Kings Day).

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 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.*

**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.

# Advent Calendar 2011



## 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

There will be child care at 5:00 and 7:00 services.

## 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

## Sunday, January 1, 2012 New Year’s Day

10:00 a.m. Worship – One Service  
9:00 a.m. – Adult Bible Study, No Church School

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

**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 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

### Weekly Calendar: December 19 - 24, 2011

|           |            |                               |
|-----------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Tuesday   | 7:00 a.m.  | Breakfast with the Bible (EH) |
|           | 10:30 a.m. | Staff Meeting (PO)            |
|           | 6:30 p.m.  | Women’s AA (B1))              |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Networking (RR)               |
| Wednesday | 4:00 p.m.  | Children arrive for pageant   |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Christmas Pageant (Sanc)      |
|           | 7:30 p.m.  | Flying Solo (211)             |
|           | 7:30 p.m.  | AA (B1)                       |
| Thursday  | 6:30 p.m.  | Women’s AA (B1)               |
|           | 6:15 p.m.  | Prison Ministry               |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Canon Ringers                 |
| Saturday  | 3:30 p.m.  | Christmas Eve Service         |
|           | 5:00 p.m.  | Christmas Eve Service         |
|           | 6:15 p.m.  | Bell Choir Warm Up            |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Christmas Eve Service         |
|           | 8:30 p.m.  | Chancel Choir Warm Up         |
|           | 9:00 p.m.  | Christmas Eve Service         |
|           | 11:00 p.m. | Christmas Eve Service         |

### Sunday – December 25, 2011

10:00 a.m. Worship (Sanc)

**Angel Tree Project** – Angel Tree Project gifts are due no later than this afternoon.

**First Sunday Meals** - Deacons will be receiving your gifts (NOTE DATE CHANGE)  
Sunday, January 8, 2012.

**Presby Players** - The curtains are closed and the set is dark. The cast and crew are busy getting back to their "other lives". But we don't want to miss the opportunity to thank all of the people who helped make our show a success. There were those who helped build sets, wallpaper, and clean. And there were those good people who helped us by baking so many yummy desserts for our intermission. Thank you, thank you. See you next year!

**Children Participating in Christmas Eve Services** - All children and youth with speaking parts for the 3:30 and 5:00 pm Christmas Eve services please meet in Ettenger Hall at least 15 minutes before the service. Please contact [revwonjae@newtownpres.org](mailto:revwonjae@newtownpres.org) with any questions or concerns or if your child would like to participate and has not received their parts. Preschool children singing please meet in the 3/4's classroom.

**Chancel Flowers** – Would you like to dedicate the chancel flowers one Sunday? We are looking for someone to dedicate the flowers on Sunday, January 15. The cost is \$70. Please contact the church office or Ruth Barcafer at 215-702-9426.

**2012 Envelopes** – The offering envelopes are ready for pickup. They are on tables outside of Ettenger Hall. Please do not use scotch tape on your offering envelopes. If you do not have envelopes and would like them, please call the office at 215-968-3861.

**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