

Hurley Reformed Church
First Sunday of Christmas
December 28, 2025; 10:00am
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich, Pastor

MORNING WORSHIP
OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Make a list of God's gracious dealings, all the things God has done that need praising:

All: The generous bounties of God, and God's great goodness to all the families of the earth! Compassion lavished, love extravagant.

Leader: "The most wondrous thing God ever did was to come to us, to help us in person. Out of God's own love, God redeemed us.

ALL: God rescued us and carried us for a longtime. Let us worship and praise our Redeemer this Christmas time!

*HYMN OF APPROACH: **#173 "Joy to the World"**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. We would like to be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability; who tickled and cuddled and comforted the growing child, that he might know love and safety.

And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod. Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions, find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety. Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than advocating for the rights of the oppressed. Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear to know, and to change, the injustices of this world.

Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON [Words and music found on the inside cover of hymnal.]

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND SUMMARY OF GOD'S LAW

*RESPONSIVE READING (From Psalm 148)

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

ALL: ²Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: ³Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

ALL: ⁴Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

ALL: ¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹²Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Leader: ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

ALL: ¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

*GLORIA PATRI [Words and music found on inside cover of hymnal.]

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD OF GOD

*HYMN OF PREPARATION: **#179 "What Child Is This"**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Old Testament: Isaiah 63:7-9 (pg.599)

New Testament: Matthew 2:13-23 (pg. 778)

SERMON: "Living in the Time of Herod"

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY [Words and music found on inside cover of hymnal.]

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debt/debtors)

*HYMN OF CONSECRATION: **#191 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able*

Welcome to Hurley Reformed Church!

With joy we welcome your presence among us today. Let the words of the psalmist set the tone of our worship: "Sing praises to the LORD, O you faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name--joy comes with the morning" (Psalm 30:4-5 NSRV)

Assisting with Liturgy today is

Ushers assisting in the service are Chris Decker and Bill Baldinger

Please join us in Schadewald Hall after worship for refreshments. Thank you to The Voigtlaender Family for providing them.

Flowers on the altar are our Christmas Poinsetta's

Leading us in song is Joy Pollard

Mission of the month will be Angle Food East

Reach out to those who need your support in their day to day needs:

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom) needs prayers; Lori Pinkham is in Wingate at Ulster; Terry Conlin; Lois Morehouse

Audio recordings of the weekly sermon are available on our website, HurleyReformedChurch.org.

Hurley Reformed Church

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Staff

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
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Tara Lockart- Church Secretary
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Hours: T,W,TH,F, 9-2

Treasurer – Arlene Cotich

Consistory 2025

Elders

Dennis Croswell, *Senior Elder*
Marilyn More
Walter Cook
Christopher Decker, *IT*
Margaret Sass, *Clerk*
Bill Baldinger

Deacons

Allan Dumas, *Finance*
Russ Voigtlaender, *Property & Maintenance*
Jeanne Quenzer, *Program & Activities*
Aileen Helsley, *Youth Ministry*
Dino Sumerano, *Worship*
Terry Gaffken, *Missions*

Rev. Charles E. Stickley, *Pastor Emeritus*

Stickley Gardens Columbarium . . . A sacred place of beauty and contemplation.
(Located on the south lawn of the church.)

The lone candle on the chancel is our Peace Candle. It represents this church's support for the men and women in military service, and our prayer that one day we will live in a world where their sacrifice is no longer needed.



Hurley Reformed Church Hurley, New York

The Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Minister of Word and Sacrament

Welcome

May the doors of this church be wide enough
to receive all who need human love and fellowship, and a Father's care;
and narrow enough to shut out all envy and hate.

Enter to Worship

Depart to Serve

#173 Joy To the World

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.
2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

#179 What Child Is This?

1. What Child is this who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

*This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

2. Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Refrain:

3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Refrain:

#191 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild --
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies.
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored!
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Long desired, behold Him come-
Off-spring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Refrain:

3. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

Refrain

Announcements-December 28, 2025

Thank you to Rev. David Myers for leading us in worship today.

"Rev. Dave Myers is a retired Presbyterian minister who lives in Ellenville with his wife, the Rev. Dr. Rhonda Myers. Dave's ministry has primarily been as an Interim Pastor having served fifteen churches of the reformed tradition in New Jersey, Michigan and New York, including the New Hurley reform church. Most recently, he and Rhonda have been supplying pulpits in Claryville, Jeffersonville, Port Jervis and others in New Jersey. Dave and Rhonda have 3 children all living in New Jersey. Dave plays guitar and is learning banjo and he and Rhonda love being on grandparent duty every now and then."

Activities this week:

Monday:	6:30pm Al-Anon in Schadewald Hall
Tuesday:	9:00am Bible Study in the Dutch Room
	4:30pm Karate in Schadewald Hall
Thursday:	4:30pm Karate in Schadewald Hall
Friday:	8:00am Sew and So
	1:00pm Knitters in the Dutch Room
Saturday:	9:00am Karate in Schadewald Hall

The December mission is Angel Food East. Angel food East was founded in 1992 to provide hot Delivered meals, seven days a week to people living with HIV +AIDS. Now they prepare more than 300 meals, fresh fruit, and salad two days a week to those in need in Ulster County.

We will also do the Mitten Tree, collecting mittens, gloves and hats for children and adults. We also will collect new and gently used coats to be delivered to People's Place.

Upcoming Events:

-Our **225th Anniversary** celebration in May and June

Nominations and Votes for Consistory are:

James Gregory, Elder
Kathy Jansen, Elder
Bonnie Dumas, Deacon

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Rev. Bill.

The consistory has formed a safety committee if you are interested in serving please speak with either Dennis C. or Rev. Bill

Thank you to everyone who helped make the church look beautiful this holiday season with decorations and poinsettia plants.