

Hurley Reformed Church  
First Sunday after Christmas Day  
December 31, 2023; 10:00am

Rev. Sara Appleyard-Pekich

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
**OUR APPROACH TO GOD**

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING ONE ANOTHER  
CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Out of the busyness of our worlds,

**All: Out of the crankiness and boredom of life-as-usual**

Leader: Out of the darkness, we have seen a great light.

**All: Those we dwelt in a land of deep darkness: On them has light shined.**

Leader: The birth of a baby calls us to something special.

**All: Let our worship be our new beginning. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF APPROACH: #184 "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Gracious God, we have sought you in high and holy places; we are ill-prepared to acknowledge your presence among the lowly and poor. We believe you are profound but we overlook your obvious truths. We are anxious about the unknown but we hardly consider the realities immediately in front of us. Turn us, incarnate God, by the simple wonders of your love, to a rebirth of faith and hope and joy. Amen.**

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND SUMMARY OF GOD'S LAW

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*The four Advent candles are lit before the service begins.*

**Speaker 1:** The season for watching and waiting is over. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. This is the light of the world, and the darkness cannot extinguish it.

*The Christ candle is lit.*

**.Speaker 2:** "O sing to the Lord a new song;  
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
Tell of his salvation from day to day.

"Declare his glory among the nations,  
His marvelous works among all the peoples" (Psalm 96:1-3).

*All four Advent candles are lit.*

**Speaker 3:** "Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
Bring an offering, and come into his courts.  
Worship the Lord in holy splendor;  
Tremble before him, all the earth" (Psalm 96:7-9).

**Speaker 4:** "Say among the nations, 'The Lord is King!'  
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
And the peoples with his truth" (Psalm 96:10a, 11a, 13b).

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**THE WORD OF GOD**

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION: **Hymn/Carol Sing**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: New Testament: Luke 10:25-37 (pg.839)

SERMON: "Throw Kindness Around Like Confetti"

**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)

**In Person and Zoom Worship** happens at 10am!

**Ushers assisting in the service** are Lisa Longto and Alan Dumas

**Please join us** in Schadewald Hall after worship for refreshments provided by Kathy Jansen

**The flowers on the alter** are our Christmas Poinsettias

**Leading us in song** is Joy Pollard

**Mission of the month-** Collecting hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and boots.

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

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom) needs prayers; Shirley Ruth is in Golden Hill; Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade; Lori Pinkham is in Wingate at Ulster; Terry Conlin; Shirley Burns; Debbie Tucker

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

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### Hurley Reformed Church

11 Main Street, PO Box 328, Hurley NY 12443

845-331-4121

[www.HurleyReformedChurch.org](http://www.HurleyReformedChurch.org)

### Staff

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
pastor@HurleyReformedChurch.org

Tara Lockart- Church Secretary  
admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org  
Hours: T,W,TH,F, 9-2

Treasurer - Arlene Cotich

### Consistory 2023

#### Elders

Dennis Croswell, *Property & Maintenance*  
Marilyn More  
Glenn Decker, *Senior Elder*  
Lisa Longto, *Clerk*  
Linda Moon, *Missions*  
Bill Baldinger

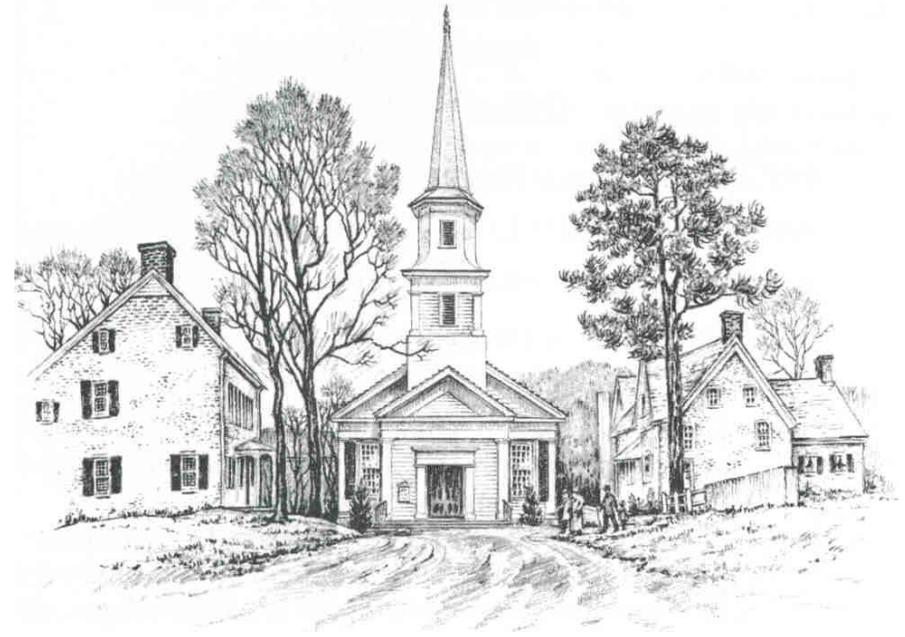
#### Deacons

Allan Dumas, *Finance*  
Lee Gable  
Jeanne Quenzer, *Program & Activities*  
Aileen Helsley, *Youth Ministry*  
Dino Sumerano, *Worship*  
Robert Kindt, *IT*

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*

## #184 God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen; Let nothing you dismay.  
Remember Christ, our Savior, Was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r When we were gone astray.

*Refrain:* O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

2. From God our heav'nly Father, A blessed angel came;  
And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name.

*Refrain:*

3. "Fear not, then" said the angel; "Let nothing you affright.  
This day is born a Savior Of a pure virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in Him From Satan's pow'r and might.'

*Refrain:*

4. The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks afeeding, In tempest, storms and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straight-way The Son of God to find.

*Refrain:*

5. And when they came to Bethlehem, Where our dear Savior lay,  
They found Him in a manger, Where oxen feed on hay.  
His mother, Mary, kneeling down, Unto the Lord did pray.

*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 31, 2023**

**The mission for the month of December** will be collecting new hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and boots for adults and children.

**Please take note** that both our flower sign up and refreshment sign up for 2024 are currently on the bulletin board next to the “In” kitchen door.

**Nominations and Votes** for Consistory are:

Deacon: Russ Voigtlaender

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

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

**Don't forget** if you haven't picked up your contribution envelopes yet you still can on your way out of church today! Starting next week they can be picked up in the church office.

**We will be** taking down the Christmas decoration on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am if anyone would like to help.