

Hurley Reformed Church
Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023; 10:00am
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich, Pastor

MORNING WORSHIP
OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING ONE ANOTHER
CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Holy One, we search and long for you,
Many: Rejoicing in you always.
One: In what do we rejoice?
Many: The saving love of Jesus Christ.
One: In a world full of pain and hatred, and violence, we await the
coming of your realm.
**Many: We remember God's gracious act of Immanuel, God with us
the Spirit Advocating for us.**
One: We make our cries of justice known to you, O God, bringer of joy.

*HYMN OF APPROACH: #168 "It Came upon a Midnight Clear"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
**Loving God, your light shines in our darkness. For those of us dwelling in
the darkest of night, we trust in your flicker of hope. Your salvation lifts us
into the light, and we ask your forgiveness. Prepare us for the dawn. Light
our paths so we might find peace. 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

Speaker 1: The light glowing from our Advent wreath is burning brighter.
This radiance warms our hearts and fills us with joy! The Lord
has done great things for us. Let us rejoice.
Speaker 2: "May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those
who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come
home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves" (Psalm 126:5-6).

The first three candles are lit.

Speaker 3: Light three candles; see them glow
Brightly, so that all may know
How three candles show the way
Making our darkness bright as God's day.

Speaker 4: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall
come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

**All pray: All pray: Dear God, we carry many burdens and worry over many
things. Help us to hear your promise in this Advent season, that
in hearing, we may receive the Spirit's gift of joy. And may our
spirits be kept sound at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, in
whose name we pray. Amen.**

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD OF GOD

*HYMN OF PREPARATION: #157 "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Old Testament: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (pg.597)
New Testament: 1st Thessalonians 5:16-24 (pg.960)

SERMON: "When Joy Stays"

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: #181 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

*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 Linda Moon and Bill Baldinger.

Please join us in Schadewald Hall after worship for refreshments provided by The Docker and The Appleyard-Pekich Families

The wreath on the altar is placed in memory of Teagan's great grandparents, Betty and Harold Pine

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.



Hurley Reformed Church

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Staff

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
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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

#168 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold.
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From Heav'n's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
2. Still thro' the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.
3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful step and slow,
Look up! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing.
O, rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing.
4. For lo, the days are hast'ning on,
By prophet bards fore-told,
When with the ever-circling years
Come round the age of gold,
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

#157 Come Thou Long-expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art-
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart!

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone.
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

#181 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'ry-where;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold! thro'out the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'ry-where;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'ry-where;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And bro't us God's salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'ry-where;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

Announcements- December 17, 2023

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

SAVE THE DATE!

Our Children's Program will be TODAY!

Our Blue Christmas Service will be Dec. 20th @ 7pm

Our Christmas Eve services will be held at 7pm & 9pm

Nominations and Votes for Consistory are:

Deacon: Russ Voigtlaender

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



Props/Stage Crew-Lily Dockery, Johnathan Helsley, Paul Lockart

Grinch-Liam Appleyard-Pekich

Narrators-Molly Shambo, Teagan Helsley

Who Adults-Hattie Lockart

Who Girls-Hattie Lockart

Max the Dog-Barbara Appleyard-Pekich

Who's-Delaney Dockery, Eden Barnhart, Elliot Barnhart, Kinsley LeLay
Ella DeFiore

