

Hurley Reformed Church
First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025; 10:00am
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich, Pastor
MORNING WORSHIP
OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING ONE ANOTHER
CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the Advent season, when the past has fled, unasked, away
and there is nothing left to do but wait:

All: God, shelter us.

Leader: In uncertain times help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on.

**All: In faith we await your purpose, hidden in you, waiting to be
born, in due time.**

*HYMN OF APPROACH: **#157 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”**

CALL TO CONFESSION

God is not the Elf on the Shelf, watching our every move and judging us as
naughty or nice. God does not watch our sins and make notes about them in
order to remember them - God forgets them! God does not hold our sin and
our weakness against us, but forgives us! Join me as we pray to the One who
delights in us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**As we begin this Advent Season we confess that we have not always
been patient. We have wanted life to speed up, our prayers to be an-
swered yesterday, or our lives to make sense today. We have wanted to
rush rather than wait, we have seen slowing down as a sign of weak-
ness. We struggle to live with unanswered questions, wanting instead ab-
solute truths so that we do not have to engage in the practice of discerning
your will.**

**As we begin this Advent Season, O Living Spirit, help us to slow down so
that we might see you. Guide us to let go so that we might hear you. Al-
low us to trust so that we might embrace you. We pray all these things in
the name of the Risen Christ, for whom we long in this Advent season.
Amen and Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S PARDON (RESPONSIVE)

Hear the words of the prophet Isaiah, “This is our God!
We waited for him and he showed up and saved us!”

God bent low and came right to us!

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH

Speaker 1: Lighting a candle in the darkness helps us find our way. In
darkness we lose direction. We cannot see where we have been
or where we are going. A single candle, flickering brightly, helps
us find our way again.

Speaker 2: "Stir up your might, and come to save us.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved"

The first candle is lit.

Speaker 3: Light one candle; see it glow

Brightly, so that all may know

How one candle shows the way

Making our darkness bright as God's day.

Speaker 4: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**All pray: Dear God, on this first Sunday in Advent, let this light shine
brightly as the days grow shorter, so that we will be ready
for your face to shine upon us at Christmas. In the Savior's
name we pray. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD OF GOD

*HYMN OF PREPARATION: **#286 “View the Present Through the Promise”**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (UNISON)

**Holy God, Word made flesh, let us come to this word open to being sur-
prised. Silence our agendas; banish our assumptions; cast out our casual
detachment; confound our expectations; clear the cobwebs from our ears;
penetrate the corners of our hearts with this word. We know that you can,
we pray that you will, and we wait with great anticipation. Amen**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

New Testament: Romans 8:24-25 (pg. 915)

Old Testament: Isaiah 64:1-9 (pg.599)

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: “Repentance and Hope”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

OFFERING

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

**Gracious and loving God, you have abundantly blessed our lives with the
gift of yourself revealed in Jesus. We offer these gifts and the service of**

our lives praying that they may be used to make visible the truth of your great love for the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN #163 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1 & 3)**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (RESPONSIVE)

The days are surely coming when God will fulfill the promise.

We are God's partners in hope.

A righteous branch will spring up and will bring forth justice.

We are God's partners in hope.

As you leave this place, stand up against fear and despair!

We will share our hope to all with fearful hearts.

Let us journey into the world with our God,

to rebuild a shattered world with hope.

**Please stand if you are able*

Welcome to Hurley Reformed Church!

Ushers assisting in the service are Allan Dumas and Terry Gaffken

Please join us in Schadewald Hall after worship for refreshments! Thank you to

The Anderson Family for providing them.

Wreath Lighters are Linda & Wally Cook, Russ Voigtlaender, and Bill Baldinger

Flowers on the altar are provided by The Gregory Family in memory of Sandra,
on what would have been her and Jim's 57th anniversary.

Leading us in song is Joy Pollard

Mission of the month will be Clinton Avenue food bank

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.

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Staff

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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

#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.

#286 View the Present Through the Promise

View the present thro' the promise: Christ will come again.
Trust despite the deep'ning darkness: Christ will come again.
Lift the world above its grieving Thro' your watching and believing
In the hope past faith's conceiving: Christ will come again.

Probe the present with the promise: Christ will come again.
Let your daily actions witness: Christ will come again.
Let your loving and your giving And your justice and forgiving
Be a sign to all the living: Christ will come again.

Match the present to the promise: Christ will come again.
Make this hope your guiding premise: Christ will come again.
Pattern all your calculating And the world you are creating
To the advent you are waiting: Christ will come again.

#163 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1&3)

O Come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive
Israel, That mourns in lowly exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things far and nigh.
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

Announcements-November 30, 2025

Thank you to Rev. Ruth Kent for leading us in worship today.

Activities this week:

Monday: 1:00pm TaiChi in Schadewald Hall
6:30pm Al-Anon in Schadewald Hall
Tuesday: 9:00am Bible Study in the Dutch Room
2:00pm TaiChi in Schadewald Hall
4:30pm Karate in Schadewald Hall
Thursday: 2:00pm TaiChi in Schadewald Hall
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

We are looking for scripture readers and wreath lighters. If you'd like to volunteer please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex.

The November mission will be the Clinton Avenue food bank and in the basket, we will be collecting individually wrapped snacks for Odyssey Church.

Thank you for everyone who supported the Samaritans Purse Shoebox program. With all your support we dropped off 62 boxes to the disruption center. Plus we had 5 boxes (that we know of) via online purchases.

Current and Upcoming Events:

- Poinsettia** sale has started, see the attached form to place your order
- Pecans on sale after church.** We have milk, dark and caramel cluster still available for \$13/bag. Contact Jeanne Quenzer with any questions 845-417-5676
- Coat Drive**-We are collecting gently used or new coats for adults and children. Coats will be donated to Peoples Place to be given to those in need. They can be dropped off in the basket at the top of the stairs.
- Church School Christmas Play**-December 21st after church.
- Our **Mitten Tree** is up!
- Cookie Walk** will December 14th
- Our **225th Anniversary** celebration in May and June

It's That Time Again!!!

Once again it's time to place your orders for poinsettia plants to adorn the sanctuary for the Holiday season.

Plants are one size, one color, and one price: red at \$8.00 each.



POINSETTIAS

Number of plants: _____ @ \$8.00 each: Total due _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

We are requesting that you take your plant home or deliver it to someone special.

Make Checks Payable to: **Hurley Reformed Church**
Give to Kathy Jansen after worship or mail to:
223 Hidden Valley Road, Kingston, NY 12401

Payment must be received by December 14, 2025

