

The Community Presbyterian Church of Bellefonte

605 Bellefonte Princess Road, Ashland, KY 41101 606-324-6484

December 3, 2017

Reverend Stewart Schneider

Organist: Jeanette Beasley Song Leader: Paul Beasley

Ministers: All the people of the congregation *=Please Stand

Welcome Visitors. We are honored that you are here today.

Announcements

The Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Stewart & Kathy Schneider

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ, joining our voices with the joyful song of his mother Mary.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

For you, O Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us. Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. **O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?** You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink. **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.** Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.** And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name. **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

*Hymn #56

The First Noel

Call to Confession

In words of scripture the people are called to confess the reality of sin in personal and common life for we are taught that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Claiming the promises of God sealed in our baptism, we humbly confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

“Make it easy for us to figure out,” we cry as we seek signs of God’s presence. We want it simple. Just tell us and we can take the proper precautions. There are signs all around of God’s presence among us – both in that which has been created and in the newness of creation of everyday living. We’re looking for signs of gloom and doom – but we should be looking for signs of hope and triumph. Forgive us, merciful God, when we spend so much time looking for the scary things in life. Focus our attention on ways in which we can be of service with whatever time we have. Forgive us when we seek the darkness of anger and fear and turn our backs on the light of possibilities and peace. Open our hearts once again to your redeeming love and transforming peace, for we ask these things in Jesus’ name. AMEN.

Declaration of Pardon

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer,
“forgive us our debts...”

Children's Sermon

*Hymn #36

In the Bleak Midwinter

Offertory

*Doxology (Pg 592 in the Presbyterian Hymnal)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture Reading
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Isaiah 64:1-9

Scripture Reading
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Mark 13:24-37

Sermon

“Upcoming Event”

Rev. Stewart Schneider

Communion

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Gail Rous

Affirmation of Faith, From the Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

***Hymn #9**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Go in God's Name
Charge and Benediction

Threefold Amen (sung response)

Postlude

