

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451
Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor
Sandy Carter - Organist / Pianist

December 5, 2021 - Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Advent Introit & Blessing - Rejoice, Rejoice" - J. M. Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: Now is the time of watching and waiting.

People: The time of pregnant expectation of new life.

Pastor: Now the seasons of Hope and peace are unfolding.

People: The dark winter season when hope is waiting to be born.

Pastor: Let us come before God with receptive and willing spirits.

Pastor: May our souls magnify God's name and may our spirits rejoice in God who gifts us with the Christ Spirit.

ALL: Rejoice! God comes to bring the birthday of life and hope. Amen

***HYMN** "Heralds of Christ" No. 488

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Gracious God, we hear the promise of the coming of Jesus into a manger, and into our hearts and homes. Bless our Advent waiting; fill our worship with anticipation of your love, and dedicate us to prepare your way by lifting up the valleys in our lives and making smooth the rough places of others. For we pray in the name of Emmanuel-- "God with us." Amen

***GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" No. 575

FIRST SCRIPTURE Luke 3: 1-6 page 834; Baruch 5: 1-9

CHOIR ANTHEM "Every Valley" - John Purifoy

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

UNISON PRAYER - (whole congregation)

Dear God, help us to carry Peace in our hearts. A peace, not as the world gives, but only as the Christ Child can bring. This Advent, help us to prepare our lives to receive the presence of the One who said: "My Peace I give to you." Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE BY CHOIR "We Lift the Light of Peace" - Ken Bible & Oliver Holden

PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

"Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" No. 585

OFFERTORY Handbells

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" No. 572

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 1: 3-11 page 953;
Luke 1: 68-79 page 832

MESSAGE "Entering The Waters of Rebirth and Christ Consciousness" - Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "Comfort, Comfort O My People" (insert)

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Share the Light" - J. M. Martin

***POSTLUDE**

*=All who are able, are invited to stand.

Announcements

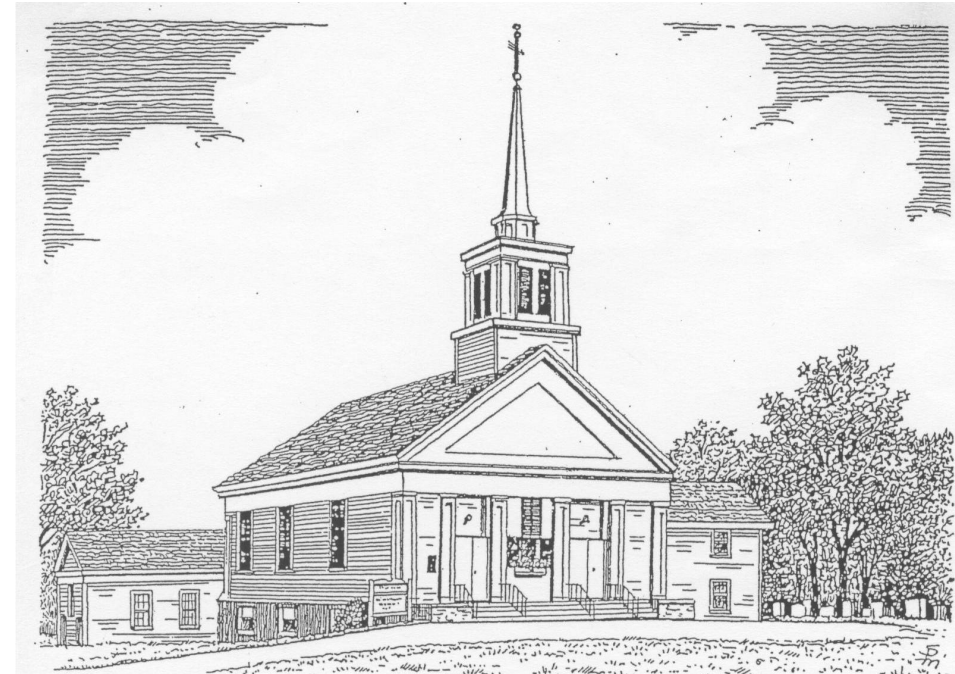
Pat Clark is in charge of providing flowers for Sunday Morning Worship for the month of December. If anyone would like to provide flowers for some Sunday during December please call Pat at 413-625-2949.

The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee has purchased 25 new pew Bibles. It was thought that some folks might want to donate the cost of a Bible and have it in memory of a loved one. The cost of each Bible is \$10. You can make your check payable to Mary Lyon Church and put pew Bible in the memo line, and let us know who you wish to have it in memory of.

From the Hilltown Churches Food Pantry: As we did last year at Christmas time we are giving each child who has been registered a \$100.00 gift card instead of clothes and toys. The program is now called "Sharing Gifts." If you would like to make a donation you can send a check to HILLTOWN Churches Food Pantry, Box 161, Ashfield, MA 01330. On the memo line of your check please write "Sharing Gifts" so that it goes into the Food Pantry account.

HELP WANTED

If you know of someone who might be interested in the job of cleaning the church, please refer them to Judy Willis at 413-625-2649. It takes 1 – 2 hours per week and the rate of pay is currently \$14.00 per hour. Or, if you would like to volunteer, sign up with a friend to make it go faster and have fun. A list of duties will be provided. Please contact Judy Willis if you are interested in the job or volunteering.



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P.O. Box 87
Buckland, MA 01338

