

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
November 27, 2022
First Sunday of Advent



COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

- *Masking is now optional during the service (including while singing).*
- *Remember that young children may not have been vaccinated.*

Preparation: “I believe that each of us comes from the Creator trailing wisps of glory.” -- Poet Maya Angelou

Prelude Voluntary and Fughetta on *Stuttgart* Charles Callahan
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Invitation to our Shared Ministry Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Call to Worship Bill Given, Liturgist

One: We believe in a God who promised to Abraham,

All: who wrestled with Jacob, who walked with Ruth,

One: who spoke with Moses, who grieved with Bathsheba,

All: who danced with David, who dreamed with Joseph, and who hoped like Mary.

One: We believe in a God who has been loving, inviting, transforming, and challenging us from generation to generation.

All: And we believe that same God is here with us now, saying, “Come on in; there’s room for you here.”

* **Hymn #83** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*, vs. 1-4
[Stuttgart]

Prayer of Confession Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: In God’s house, everyone is welcome—those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there’s room for us here. With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray:

All: God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, “Bring your full self. There’s room for you here.” But we say, “Our lives are too messy.” You say, “Bring your hopes and your dreams. There’s room for you here.” But we say, “It’s too risky to hope.” You say, “Bring your grief and your prayers. There’s room for you here.” But we say, “Some things are easier to forget.” God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there’s room for us here. Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best. Help us remember, today and tomorrow, there’s room for every story. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: Family of faith, we who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, “There’s room for you here.” From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God!
Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

*** Act of Praise #583***Gloria, Gloria*

Jacques Berthier

[Gloria]

Will be sung once by soloist; please join on the second time

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!***Lighting the Candle of Hope**Kjerstin and Esther Thorson,
Maddie, Matt and Will Pearson

Children are invited to come forward as we light the Advent candles and begin our journey to Bethlehem.

Journey to Bethlehem

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Nativity: Shepherds and Sheep

Musical Response #88*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, vs. 1*

Children ages 3-8 may depart for the Children’s Worship Service in the Chapel during the musical response.

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

God of the ages, in scripture we hear stories of people like us—ordinary people, people who longed to know you, people who longed to follow you, people who made mistakes, people who tried to grow— old, young, native, immigrant, new to the faith, lifelong believer. In scripture we hear stories of people like us, so just as you walked with them, help us to hear and remember all the ways that you walk with us. We are listening. We are grateful. We are yours. Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 1:1-17

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Education Time: Digging Deeper into Advent: From Generation to Generation. The Genealogy of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew led by Pastor Lisa.

There will not be Sunday School for children or youth this week.

Next Week's Education Time: *Visio Divina* on Luke 1:26-38. This is similar to the practice of *Lectio Divina*, with images as the focus.

Next Week's Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Ushers: *Catherine Holdway, Richard Norton, Brett & Lynn Cone*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thank you to the Bobays for preparing coffee and providing snacks for us this morning.*

This morning's liturgy is by the Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed. Graphic design by the Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman. A Sanctified Art LLC - *From Generation to Generation*. sanctifiedart.org.

You are in an active recording environment, and your likeness may be captured in photographs and videos. By entering, you acknowledge giving consent to The Presbyterian Church of Okemos to take, own and use images containing your likeness at its sole discretion in perpetuity. If you do not wish to convey this consent, please contact a staff member immediately.

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864
(517) 349-9536
Website: <https://okemospres.org>
Email: office@okemospres.org
<https://twitter.com/okemospres>
<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Associate Pastor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Colleen Chester, Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager