WELCOME TO
THE PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2026 at 10:00 AM



"This is the irrational season
when love blooms bright and wild.
Had Mary been filled with reason
there'd have been no room for the child."

—Madeleine L'Engle, "After the Annunciation"

Congregation standing, as able

GATHERING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG "Light the Advent Candle" Arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Light of Hope

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.
They who dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them has light shined.

Be of good courage, all you who hope in the Lord,
And the Lord will strengthen your heart.

In a world waiting for dawn, we keep watch with hope and prayer.
Come, O Emmanuel, and awaken our hope.

As we light the first candle, we remember God's promise that darkness will not have the final word.
Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with awe and wonder. Christ, our hope, is near.

 *(Lighting the Candle of Hope)*

SALUTATION

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (The children are invited to Sunday school at this time.)

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE **56** "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

ADVENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of promise and coming light, we confess that we are often sleepy and unprepared. We get caught up in distraction, hurry, and fear, missing your quiet presence in our daily lives. We call for you to come and make

things right, yet we hesitate when your grace asks us to change our ways. We have spoken harsh words turned away from neighbors in need, and left undone the good you call us to do. Wake us from our slumber, steady our restless hearts, and forgive our sins. Shape us by your mercy so that we may watch with hope, walk in peace, and welcome Christ with joy….

(continue with silent prayers of confession)

WORDS OF GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Prepare the way of the Lord, and let His peace reign among us.
We receive His peace, to share it with the world.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

(Please share the peace of Christ with one another.)

GOD'S WORD IS OUR LIGHT FOR THE JOURNEY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:26-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

MESSAGE "Christmas in a Mysterious Place: Mary"

REFLECTING GOD'S LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

SONG OF REFLECTION **72** "Imagine" IMAGINE

PRAYERS AROUND THE TABLE… concluding with 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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 35 & 36

What does it mean that he "was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary"?
That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that he might also become David's true descendant, like his brothers and sisters in every way except for sin.

How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?
He is our mediator and, in God's sight, he covers with his innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.

CLOSING SONG **69** "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"
(verses 1, 2, and 4) *STAR OF COUNTY DOWN*

BENEDICTION

As we go from this place, may we remember that wherever life takes us, God goes with us.
In every place and every season, Christ is with us.

In moments of uncertainty, and the messiness of life, in the wilderness, and in the ordinary moments of our days, may we make room for the one who comes to dwell among us.
We will make room for Christ, wherever we are.

Go in hope, walk in faith, and live in the light of God's love.
Amen.

POSTLUDE

Assisting God's people in worship are Pastor Kim Pavlovich, worship leader; Pastor Eric Nichols, liturgist; Priscilla Durkin, worship host; Tech Team; Chancel Choir; Kevin Lynch, accompanist; Dan King, Director of Music Ministries.

Calendar and Notices

Sun, Nov 29	9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room) 10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00 am Advent Wreath-making (Berdan Hall)
Tue, Dec 1	9:15 am Helping Hands
Thu, Dec 3	12:15 pm Brown Bags and Bibles (Parlor) 7:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
Sun, Dec 6	9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room) 10:00 am Sunday Worship with St. Nicholas (Sanctuary) 11:00 am Youth Group w/Nicole Carline (Oxbow) 11:00 am Bread of Life Mission

***Please include in your prayers of intercession**: Gerda Wittlinger, Jen Graf, Rafael Sanchez (Rita and Bob Janney's brother-in-law), Nancy Frank and her friend, Trina, Bill Mariniello, Tom McKay (Jennie Franklyn's father), Pastor Eric and his friend, Steven Eckert, Janet Wright, Judi (Roben Roon's cousin), Jac Young (Glenn O'Connell's uncle), Peggy Carroll, Cindy Van Lunen, June Jesch, Tiffany Nix and her brother, Donald, and those awaiting diagnosis or undergoing treatments.*

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Anne Drake by Patricia, Donna, Kelly, Michael, and Rome.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Bill Frauenhoff. Bill's sister, Karen Lorraine Frauenhoff Jones, passed away last weekend. (1st Corinthians 15:20)

URGENT NEED: The Bread of Life team is collecting hats, gloves, and scarves to bring to Newark on Sun, Dec 6. Please drop off donations on the bench outside the office. Your continued support of this ministry is greatly appreciated!

A note from our Outreach Committee…Thank you to all who helped to spread the warmth with donations to our winter clothing drives! We delivered 4 boxes of hats, scarves, and gloves to Christian Appalachian Project in Lexington, KY, and 32 coats and jackets plus a bag full of sweaters were collected for the Bessie Green Community Center in Newark, NJ. Your support was greatly appreciated!

Last call for sock donations! Our Sunday School children are participating in **Warm Feet for Warriors,** an annual sock collection campaign run by Soldiers' Angels, a nonprofit organization that provides new socks to deployed service members and hospitalized veterans. They are currently accepting donations of new, unworn socks in any color style, or adult size. Please drop off your donations at the Giving Table in the parlor by Mon, Nov 30 (either before or after worship, or during office hours). **You may also order socks from Amazon and have them delivered directly to the church**.

The Christmas Gifting Tree will run from Nov 22 thru Dec 6. There will be a tree with ornamental tags with suggested gift ideas for the residents of Complete Care at Wayne Hills (the Lakeview Nursing Home in Wayne). Please select a tag, wrap the gift, and put the tag back on the package. The packages may be left in the hallway box outside of the Sunday School rooms. Thank you for spreading some Christmas cheer to this community!

Book Club Movie Night will be on Tue, Dec 8 at 7 pm in Nan's Room. Please join us as we watch *The Nativity Story*, and experience the extraordinary journey of Mary and Joseph. Everyone is welcome, whether you've read the book or not!

The North Reformed Church is hosting the Gabrieli Brass Quintet to perform "The Sounds of the Season" on Sunday, December 13 at 2 pm. Freewill offerings will be gratefully received, and proceeds will be used to help make the church building more accessible to their community members. For more information, email: NorthReformedChurch@gmail.com.

Christmas Poinsettias…Each year during Advent, the sanctuary is decorated with beautiful poinsettias donated by members of the congregation who want to remember their loved ones at this special time of year. If you would like to contribute to the poinsettia fund, please complete a Christmas flower offering envelope and drop it in the offering plate or return it to the church office no later than **Dec 13**. *Thank you so much for your contributions!*

WIN Food Collection will run from Dec 1 to Jan 17. Non-perishable food donations can be left on the bench outside Pastor Kim's office.

Advent Schedule

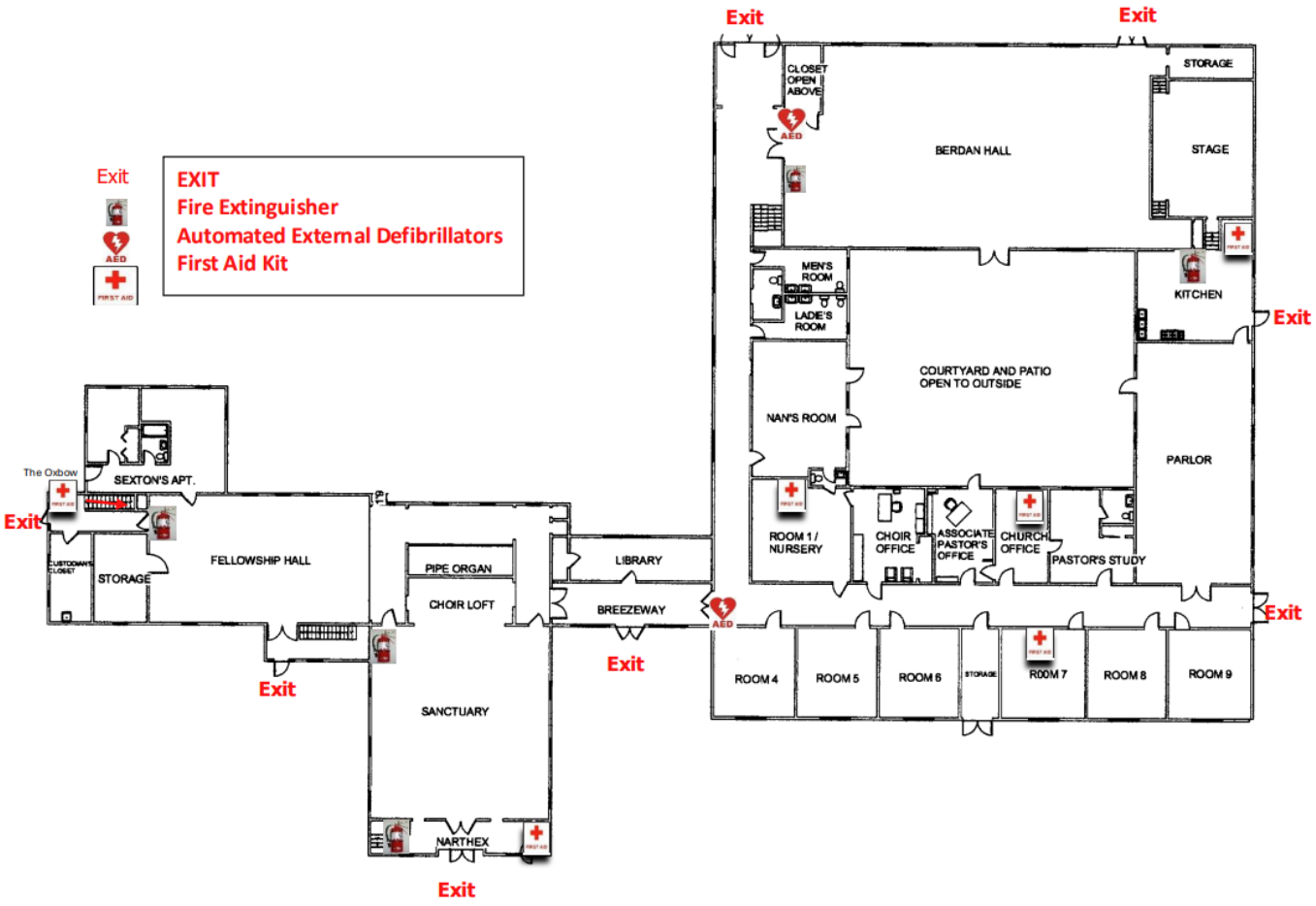
December 6	10:00 am Worship and A Visit from St. Nick
December 13	Third Sunday of Advent
December 20	10:00 am Christmas Pageant
December 24	10:00 am Christmas Eve Family Worship Service
December 24	11:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
December 27	10:00 am First Sunday of Christmas





Assisting in Worship

	Nov 29	Dec 6
Flowers	-	-
Counter	Laura O'Connell	Bruce Hinners
Head Usher	Tim Coyne	Holly Ryan
Usher	Bruce Hinners	Scott Ryan
	Basia Hinners	Dan O'Connell



Please note: If you need to exit the sanctuary during our worship services for any reason, you may exit through the front of the sanctuary (the door beneath the cross), preferably during a transition time in worship (e.g. the beginning of a song, passing the peace, etc.).

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