

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
December 1, 2024
1st Sunday of Advent

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

“Largo”

G.F. Handel

GREETING, WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

This is the day the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

Hymn, “Creator of the Stars of Night” (#84)

**Creator of the stars of night,
Your people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call.**

Prayer

Lord Jesus, as we search for signs of hope this week, help us to *become* the signs of hope that others are searching for. As these candles are but a glimpse of the light of the heavens, help us to be a glimpse of heaven’s hope. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

**Justice and righteousness will fill the land
and all will live in peace and safety.**

Let us pray:

God, as we open another year of Advent, another year of waiting for your coming and celebrating that you are here, may our time together honor you, and may we know your voice. Amen.

***Hymn**

“Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

#348

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, have mercy on us.
We are not ready for your coming.
We live in sin, as though there were no justice.
We live in fear, as though there were no grace.**

**Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and your steadfast love.
Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths,
For you are the God of our salvation.**

(Silence is observed.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, here the good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***THE PEACE**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Emmanuel Comes!”
(Kim Karchenes, piano)

Mark Hayes

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

A TIME WITH GOD’S CHILDREN

*(Children are invited to participate in activities at the Prayground area
in front of the pulpit for the remainder of the service.)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God our salvation, there is wisdom, peace, and joy for those who live by your Word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, open our ears, minds, and hearts to be led by your truth. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Luke 21:25-36

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Waiting In The Welcome”

Rev. Annica Gage

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(The Apostles’ Creed)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and 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 rose 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.

*Hymn

“The Days are Surely Coming”

#357

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer

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“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.

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation, you have united us with Christ, and you have connected us with each other. Help us to remember and embody this connection well beyond our shared time at this table. Motivate us to proclaim your love to the world, and to live as beloved members of your family. Amen.

OFFERING

Call for the Offering

Offertory

*Celebrating God’s Generosity

Hymn #609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

God of righteousness, you have saved us from the worst the world can do and have promised to redeem the whole creation when Christ comes again. In faith and hope we offer our gifts of money and self, that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now, as we watch for Christ’s coming in glory. Amen.

GOING IN GOD’S NAME

*Hymn

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

#93

*CHARGE and BLESSING

Go in peace, live in love, and seek to be holy in all that you do.

May the God of mercy keep you, the Holy Spirit cheer you, and Christ in glory greet you, now and at the day of his coming. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

“Alleluia”

W.A. Mozart

Go in Peace
A special word of thanks to all those who helped make this worship service possible.
It is good to be together!

Remember in Prayer
Bill Kyle, Norm Holmes, Melanie Magruder, Evelyn Vaughn,
Mary Hockenberry, Chuck Clark, Bill Anderson, Verna Williams,
Jake Mohn, Jeffrey Schmidt,
and all Service Personnel and their families.
All those who are Caregivers, and all those affected by tragic world events.

CCLI#20544224 & 20544

Welcome! We warmly greet all who have come to worship God.

We are so glad that you are here. We hope that joining us for worship today will nurture your heart and transform your mind. Here at Beulah our mission is transforming lives through the love of Jesus Christ – that simple and that challenging. We realize we need each other and commit to pray for each other. We reach out in love and compassion to a world in need, and we know we are a work in progress. If you are new to Beulah, we hope you will join us again and consider attending any of our mission, fellowship, and education opportunities. God's peace to you today.

Membership ~ If you are interested in becoming a member or you have any questions about membership, see Pastor Bill or one of the greeters, call the church office at 502-239-3231 or email carol@beulahpres.org.

Learn more by visiting us on our website at www.beulahpres.org, and on our Facebook page at Beulah Presbyterian Church.

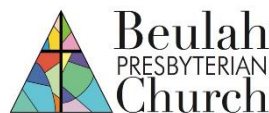
Assisting in worship ~ Rev. Annica Gage; Music Director/Accompanist Kim Karchenes; Liturgist Kyle Dreher; Advent Readers Kimberly and Steve Clements; Sound Crew, Brent Dellacoletta and Jim Harris.

Virtual Ministry ~ Please follow us on our Website www.beulahpres.org, Facebook, Instagram@beulah_pres, and YouTube to stay up to date on upcoming events, view previous worship services, live stream services, and see what's happening in the life and ministry of Beulah!

Listening Devices ~ The Sanctuary is equipped with Listening Devices for persons with hearing difficulty. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Electronic Devices ~ In the hustle and bustle of getting ourselves ready for church it is easy to forget to turn off our cell phones. We offer this gentle reminder to please power off cell phones and other electronic devices so that the worship service is not disrupted by them.

Large Print Worship Bulletin ~ If you or someone you know needs a large print bulletin of today's service, please ask one of the ushers and they will assist you.



6704 Bardstown Road
P.O. Box 91072
Louisville, KY 40291
www.beulahpres.org ~ 502.239.3231

156 Years of Faith & Service