

The Lord's Day Worship

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent "Love" - Cantata

The congregation's responses are in **bold**.
* Please stand as you are able

THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude *Christmas Gloria* arr. Mary MacDonald and Lloyd Larson

Welcome

Call to Worship *Isaiah 60:1-2a, 2b-3* Pg. 639

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

But the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Lighting of the Advent Candles Dana & Garry Taylor

* **Presbyterian Hymnal #48** *Lo How a Rose E're Blooming*

THE CHURCH APPROACHES THE THRONE OF GRACE

Confession of Sin Please be seated.

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ You came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted the good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to the glory in our midst, expecting little and hoping for less. Lord, please forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace and live every moment of every day in the light of Your love. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and our light. Amen.

Let us take a moment for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon *Acts 26:18*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* **The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

* **Response of Praise** *Gloria Patri* **Presbyterian Hymnal #579**

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, Amen.

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 42:1-9* pg. 622

* **Presbyterian Hymnal #12 vss. 1& 4** *People, Look East* arr. Martin Shaw

New Testament Reading *John 1:1-5* Pg. 922

Homily *Light Shines in the Darkness*

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD

Call To Offering *Luke 6:38*

Offertory *The First Noel - Traditional English Carol*

* **Song of Thanksgiving** *Doxology* **Presbyterian Hymnal #592**

Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, all that we have, we have received from Your hand. You provide our every need and fulfill our deepest desire in Jesus Christ. Please receive these tithes and offerings as a loving response representing our hearts given to You through Him. Amen

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Bass:

Glenn Coleman Jeff Janiak

Bruce Kempton Sang-il Lee

Special information about the cantata, Seekers of the Light:

Prelude

Sing We Now of Christmas

Prepare!

Come Near to the Manger: Keegan deBernard, soloist

Angels Shout the News Tonight: Cynthia Erb, soloist

Hurry to Bethlehem!

Seekers of the Light: Kelly deBernard, Bruce Kempton, soloist

Behold! Go Tell! Shine!: Cynthia Erb, Mark Younkin, soloists

***Charge & Benediction**

CHORAL CANTATA

Seekers of the Light, A Cantata For Christmas Lloyd Larson & Mark Hayes

Stephanie Moehlenkamp, Director

Linda Giles, Organist & Pianist

Martha & Jerry Moore, Narrators

Choir Members:

Soprano:

Cynthia Coleman Keegan deBernard

Cynthia Erb Linda Janiak

Alto:

Barbie Andrews Kelly deBernard

Fay Kempton Dana Taylor

Tenor:

Mark Younkin

Servers

Today's Lay Reader	Gary Andrews
Usher(s)	Sang-il Lee & Gary Andrews
Advent Readers & Candle Lighting	Garry & Dana Taylor

Prayer Requests

God's guidance at APC	Our Session, Church Leaders & Musicians
All of our Church Families and Visitors	
Our Nation & Elected Leaders	Our Homeless and Displaced
All of our Active and Veteran Military Personnel & Families	
Victims of Helene, Milton, and all other disasters	

Evan Adcock	Aaron Albrecht	Silas Allen
Alice Barkdoll	Sue Boring	Karen & Joey Cook, & Family
Wilson Dickerson & Family	Luther "Mark" Eades Family	Robin Elliot
Payton Emore	Granddaughter Shirley	Rosa Hall
Jo Ann Houchins	Mike Jennings	Margaret Liebchen
Mayhew Family	Joanne Midkiff	Essie Moore
Lindsay Orme	Sue Pearson	William (Jo Jo) Phillips
The Ragsdale & Dunn Family	Andrea Rice	Linda Riley
Shane Roach	Janie Roark	Billy Robertson
Marie Hicks Smith	Mike Smith	Wayne Stafford
Tim Storey	Tammy	Susan & Mo Vetter
Barbara Walker	Wilson Family	

Leadership at APC

Session Elders

Mark Younkin ('25)
Administration

Barbie Andrews ('25)
Outreach

Ron Coleman ('25)
Discipleship

Cynthia Coleman ('26)
Congregational Care

Randy Dunn ('26)
Congregational Care

Davis Hewett ('26)
Congregational Care

John Erb
Clerk of Session

Staff

Rev. Glenn Coleman
Interim Pastor

Nancy Dalton
Church Secretary

Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Choir Director

Linda Giles
Organist & Pianist

Gary Andrews
Co-Treasurer

Mark Younkin
Co-Treasurer

Calendar of Events

December 22 10 AM Worship/ Fourth Day of Advent "Love"
Christmas Cantata and Joy Offering
Stewardship Pledge Due

December 23 December Link newsletter articles due

December 24 4 PM Christmas Eve Worship

Dec. 24th-27th APC office will be closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday

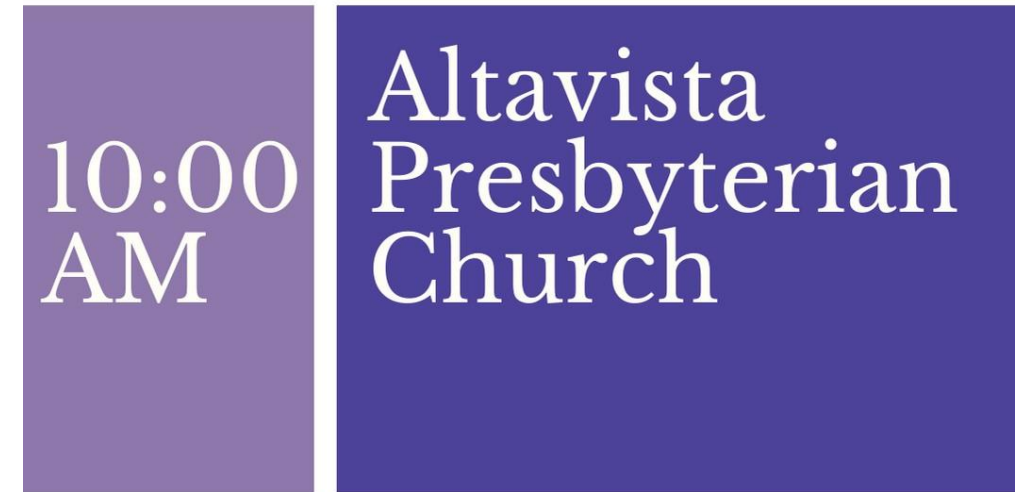
December 29 10 AM Worship/ First Sunday of Christmas
Fifth Sunday Service in fellowship Hall

January 1 APC office will be closed on New Year's Day

January 5 10 AM Worship/ Communion
Two Cents-A-Meal Offering

Announcements

- * **Christmas Joy Offering** collection today, Dec. 22nd, your offerings will be matched by the ACT for Missions funds.
- * **Stewardship Pledge** Please consider making a pledge for 2025 by filling out an APC 2025 Pledge Card. Please return to the office today, **Dec. 22nd**. Additional forms available at front hallway door. You may contact the office with any questions or assistance. Thank you.
- * **Christmas Eve Service:** Please join us for Worship on Dec. 24th at 4 PM.
- * **Dec. 24th – 27th** APC office will be closed in observance of the Christmas holiday. If you should need spiritual assistance, please feel free to reach out to Rev. Coleman. RevGColeman@gmail.com 540-817-9266
- * **Dec. 29th Worship will be held** in the Fellowship Hall. This is not a covered dish Sunday.
- * **January 1st** APC office will be closed News Year Day. If you should need spiritual assistance, please feel free to reach out to Rev. Coleman. RevGColeman@gmail.com 540-817-9266
- * The **2025 Sunday Participant** sign up sheet is up in the hallway. Thank you to all volunteers for serving during worship.
- * **Visitor/Prayer card:** If you are new to or visiting Altavista Presbyterian Church today, we extend our "Welcome." Please find a in the seat pocket in front of you.
- * **Inclement Weather Policy** In the event of inclement weather, please consult <https://wset.com/weather/closings> for APC info before leaving home for worship, Sunday morning.



4th | SUNDAY OF ADVENT LOVE