

December 4th, 2011
Second Sunday of Advent



The Federated Church of Paxton

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Pastor Colleen Lawrence, Minister

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Rev. Dr. Robert Ross, Pastor Emeritus

Organist - Priscilla Andreae



Welcome to our guests!

Please take a minute to sign our guest book located at the back of the sanctuary.

Unison Song *"People, Look East" (Verses 1 & 2)*

PH, #12

Sharing of Joys, News, Concerns

Opening Prayer (*in unison*)

Isaiah 40, Psalm 85, 2 Peter 3

**God of winter and starlight,
you have promised us your presence:
to live among us, to right all wrongs,
to bring good things to all who wait for your new day.
In these dark days, we look for signs of your coming:
the sounds of children at play,
the music that fills our hearts with anticipation,
the company of all who serve the last and the least.
Make us at home with righteousness,
that we may be ready to walk in your holy ways. Amen.**

***Prelude** *"Noel for Flutes"*

D'Aquin

***BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

*"Light the Advent candle, two: Think of humble shepherds who
Filled with wonder at the sight, Of the child on Christmas night.
Candle, candle, burning bright, Shining in the cold winter night:
Candle, candle, burning bright, Fill our hearts with Christmas light."*

*** Call to Worship** (*responsively*)

Isaiah 40

One: The world is dark and cold.

All: We look for signs of your coming.

One: The world is hungry for righteousness.

All: We look for signs of your coming.

One: The world yearns for your love.

All: We look for signs of your coming.

***Hymn** *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

PH, #263

Youth Moment

*All who are able, PLEASE STAND

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

Isaiah 40, Psalm 85

**God of love and kindness,
you have promised to renew our lives,
to be with us in a new heaven and new earth—
a realm where steadfast love and faithfulness embrace forever.
We are afraid of your promised coming.
We cling to rules we understand:
the rules of privilege and power.
We are afraid of a world of true justice and peace,
afraid that you will change the way things have always been.
As we wait for you to live among us,
we confess our unwillingness to see
that you have always been here.**

Assurance *"Amazing Grace" (Verse 1)*

PH, #280

Investment of Time, Talents & Treasures

Offertory *"Angels We Have Heard"*

arr. Gehrke

***Hymn** *"We Give Thee but Thine Own" (one verse)*

PH, #428

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Affirmation of Faith**

***Gloria Patri**

Lectionary Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a;

Anthem *"Angel Carol"*

Anna Page

***Gospel** Mark 1:1-8

Message

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Response *"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

***Closing Hymn** *"As With Gladness Men of Old"*

PH, #63

***TAKING OUT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

***Benediction**

***Postlude** *"Sing with Joy"*

Schroeder

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, December 4th

Coffee Hour for December Birthday & Anniversary Celebrants
Messiah Production at 3:00pm at Gibson City Bible Church

Wednesday, December 7th

PAMA Meeting, Noon @ Monical's
Confirmation-6pm/Youth Group-7pm/Choir Practice-7pm

Monday, December 12th

Church Council Meeting at 6:30p.m.

Wednesday, December 14th

Confirmation-6pm/Youth Group-7pm/Choir Practice-7pm

December Greeters Liturgists Ushers Elders ~ W. Niewold, Taylor, Cole

December

*Birthdays
& Anniversaries*

1st - Nancy Taylor

15th - Storm Smith

22nd - Ivan & Priscilla Andreae Ann.

28th - Brock Johnson

Annual Meeting

The Annual
Congregational Meeting
will be held
Sunday, January 15th.
Please make every effort to
be in attendance.

***Lord, We ask thanksgiving, comfort, healing
and faith for these friends and family members***

Marcella Woodworth - bad knees; Jeff Legener;
Brent Lawrence - surgery; Bill Cofel; John Lateer

Homebound or in Nursing Homes

Sue Moore - c/o J. Schmidt, 511 Ridge Lane, Eureka, IL 61530
Donald Rhodes

Jani Fraim - Room 219, GC Hospital & Health Center

Wanda Larson - La Canada Care Facility, Tucson, AZ

Marcella Woodworth - Prairie Village, Rantoul

Eloise Shear at Gilman Nursing Home, Gilman

**For the month of December, please bring peanut butter, spaghetti & spaghetti sauce, canned stews, & cereal for the Food Pantry.
As always, all non-perishable food items are welcomed.**