

The Lord Is Near

November 27th, 2011
First Sunday of Advent



The Federated Church of Paxton
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Pastor Colleen Lawrence, Minister
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Colleen - C (815) 994-0674 • Don - C (815) 994-2262
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 *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (All verses)* PH, #2

Sharing of Joys, News, Concerns

Opening Prayer

***Prelude** *"Creator of the Stars of Night"* McCabe

***BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

***Opening Hymn** *"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"* PH, #398

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (insert)**

The Decoration of the Sanctuary

***Hymn** *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* PH, #9

The Paraments

***Hymn** *"Deck the Halls"* Insert

The Greens

***Hymn** *"The Holly and the Ivy"* Insert

Investment of Time, Talents & Treasures

Offertory *"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"* arr. Karvonen

***Hymn** *"We Give Thee but Thine Own" (one verse)* PH, #428

***Prayer of Dedication (in unison)** *Mark 13*

**Holy God, triumphant liberating savior of all,
receive these gifts and the hopeful hearts that offer them
as part of your bountiful harvest.**

**Strengthen and sustain us through our hungers and our fears
until your unexpected advent.**

**Help us as we wait to know each day that we are a part of your
generous, expectant household, the body of Christ. Amen.**

The Wreaths

The WORD

Lectionary Scripture

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9;

*All who are able, PLEASE STAND

Anthem *"Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending"* arr. ?

Gospel Mark 13:24-37

Message

The Christmas Tree

The Christmons

***Hymn** *"O Christmas Tree"* Insert

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer

Sharing the Gifts

Prayer

***Closing Hymn** *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"* PH, #276

***Benediction**

***TAKING OUT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

***Postlude** *"Psalm 80"* setting by Diemer



Poinsettia Memorial/Honorariums

Would you like to sponsor a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one for the Christmas season? This year, poinsettias will be burgundy in color, wrapped in foil with a bow and a drip pan for \$15.00 per plant.

Please make checks payable to the Federated Church and indicate on the check memo that it is for a poinsettia and drop it in the offering plate or mail to the church. The listing will be posted in the Christmas Eve bulletin, so we need sponsorship completed by December 18, 2011.

Please indicate below your name and who you are dedicating the plant to.

Your name: _____

In Memory/Honor (circle your preference) of:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, November 27th

1st Sunday of Advent (Communion Elders - Vicki Cole & Deana Niewold)
December Newsletter Deadline

Monday, November 28th

Messiah Practice in Gibson City at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 30th

Confirmation-6p.m./ Youth Group-7p.m./Choir Practice-7p.m.

Sunday, December 4th

Coffee Hour for December birthday & anniversary celebrants
Messiah Production at 3:00pm at Gibson City Bible Church

November Greeters Liturgists Ushers Elders ~ Tipsord, Williams, Scott
December Greeters Liturgists Ushers Elders ~ W. Niewold, Taylor, Cole

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

9th - Dave & Laura Adkins
Anniversary

21st - Don Lawrence

25th - Grace Funk

27th - John Turner

28th - Marissa Williams

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.**