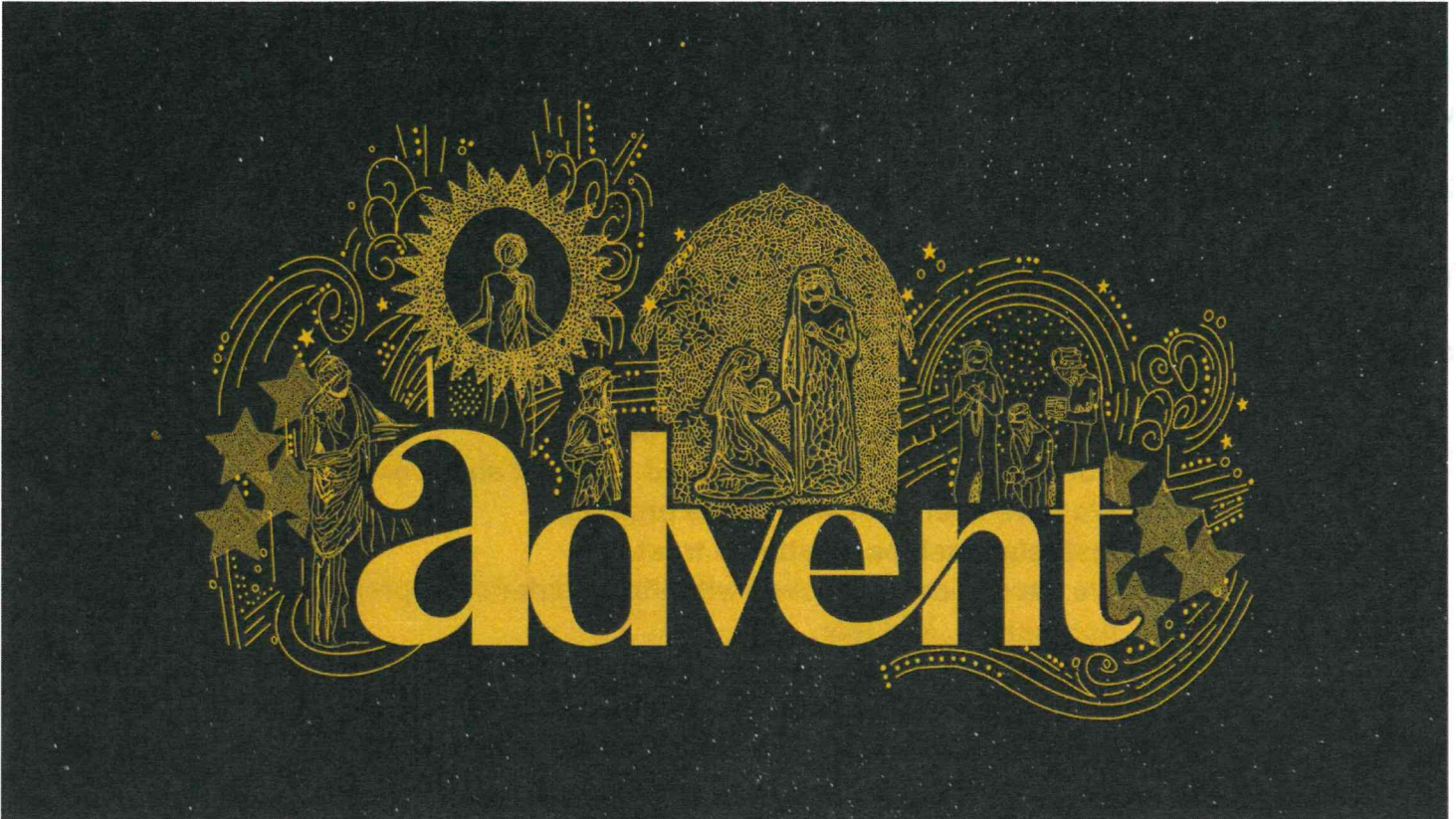


UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 8, 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent



“The Word of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, who did, through his transcendent love, become what we are, that he might bring us to be even what he is.” ~ St. Irenaeus

Sunday Worship
10:00 am

Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday

8:30 am – 12 Noon, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
541-926-5551



330 Fifth Avenue Southwest
Albany, OR 97321

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

"Siciliano"

John Alcock

*You are invited to make the transition from getting here to being here. Be still and know that God is God.
We are claimed by Christ in the waters of baptism; the light of Christ shines in our lives and in the world.*

**Welcome &
Announcements**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

**Lighting of the
Advent Candle**

The Hanson Family

+ **Gathering Hymn 366** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

We Offer Our Gratitude

Community Prayer

Creator God,
you created the earth whole,
and you created us to be whole people.
But we have become fragmented, cracked and broken.
We have been broken by false promises,
lost relationships, shattered trust.
We have become cracked with the experience of prejudice,
oppression, and fear.
We have become fragmented,
building up walls instead of lending hands.
Forgive us when we have done the breaking,
heal us where we have been hurt.
Let your light shine through our cracks and scars,
so that we might bring light to the world,
showing that in you we are made whole.
In you we find healing.
In you we find renewed life.
Help us to forgive, to love, to mend.
Amen.

Bev Beckendorf

Sung Response 110

"Love Has Come" (Verse 3)

+ **Sharing the Peace
of Christ**

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

As you are willing and able, please greet one another with signs of peace.

We Listen & Receive

Time with the Young Church

*Children of all ages are invited to come forward.
Nursery and Children's Worship info is on the back of the bulletin.*

Welcome

We are delighted that you have added to the joy of worship this morning at United Presbyterian Church. We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Jesus Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey - whatever grief, joy, or doubts you may bring today—you are welcome here.

Announcements

Journey Forward Support Group — If you or someone you know is struggling with grief after losing a spouse or partner please consider joining this group which gathers every second Wednesday of the month from 10am-11am in the Pfeiffer room.

Upcoming Events

Sunday 10:00 am 2:00 pm 4:00 pm	December 8 Sunday Worship Albany Historic Tour Kids Christmas Caroling / Light Viewing
Tuesday 10:00 am 6:30 pm	December 10 Sabbath Circle Book Study Stewardship and Finance Committee
Wednesday 11:00 am 5:30 pm	December 11 Journey Forward Support Group Youth Group
Thursday 12:30 pm 1:00 pm	December 12 YOGA Women's Bible Study
Friday 5:30 pm	December 13 TCP Staff Christmas Party
Saturday 9:00 am	December 14 Women's Scholarship Program

Serving Today

Thank you to all who served in worship today.

Special Music - J. Michael Rogers

Liturgist – Bev Beckendorf and The Hanson Family

Ushers – Judy Tichenor, Carol Harrison and Sue Van Meter

Coffee Hour – Deacons - Birthday Cake

Children's Programs – Sienna Bogart, Tarryn Scroggins, Estella Riddle and Josiah Blaisdell.

Children's Programs

We are thrilled that you have chosen to bring your family to worship with ours! We believe children soak up the love of God even when they draw and color, read and create, or rest their head in your lap. Please feel welcome to visit our Children's Space located in the Round Room in the back of the sanctuary.

Children's Nursery

The nursery (Room 208) will be available for infants– age 3 during worship services. Children can be dropped off any time after 9:30am and picked up following worship.

Godly Play

Age 3 – Grade 2 | Godly Play

As a continuation of worship, Godly Play is a formational practice of exploring the mystery of God's inviting presence in our lives, teaching children how to listen for God and then to make authentic and creative responses to God.

Creative Minds

Grade 3+ | Youth Room

Creative Minds is a formational practice for older children and youth to engage, explore, and re-create the fascinating biblical stories of our faith through the world of Minecraft technology.

Local Outreach | Ways to Serve

Linn Benton Food Share—Packing boxes of food for families who suffer from food insecurities. The next time will be **Thursday, December 12 at 5:30 pm** at the Linn Benton Food Share Warehouse, 33900 Looney Ln., Tangent, OR 97389.

Cesar Martinez Family Fund - If you can help their family recover from their house fire please go to: **GO FUND ME** at: <https://gofund.me/4754ebe9>.

The Annual Socks & Underwear Drive for FISH has begun.

During the month of December, we will be collecting **NEW** socks and underwear to help restock the clothes closet at **FISH**. Please put your donations in the box next to the elevator.

Prayers & Praise

Please send prayers of comfort and healing for:

Charlie Van Meter
Ashley Cary
Harry Kelley and Family
Bruce Boulton
Bill and Chrys Hulshof
Lindsay Jones & Parker Jones
Caryl & Denny Thomas's Family - Cory Whitney
Linda Melikian
Cesar Martinez and Family

CHURCH STAFF

Brandon Lewis, Pastor
Tami Van Ras, Pastoral Assistant
Sienna Bogart, Director of Children's & Family Ministries
Deborah Beier, Office Manager
Kason Stevens, Facilities-Manager
Michelle Mayers, Music Coordinator/Choir Director
Tao Li, Pianist
Chris Misa, AV Tech
Logan Breese, Bus Driver