



LEWISTOWN CHURCH  
**Presbyterian**

Shining the light of the gospel into the heart of Lewistown since 1785

**December 8, 2019**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Children's Program**

*"The Christmas Story: Through the Eyes  
of the Friendly Beasts"*

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Pastors: Sarah Sedgwick and Robert Zorn

# LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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heart of Lewistown since 1785

**December 8, 2019**

**10:30 AM**

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<b>Prelude</b>	There's a Song in the Air Of the Father's Love Begotten Variations on "Sleepers, Wake!"	Powell Gawthrop Lau
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## **Welcome and Announcements**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

**All: And also with you!**

## **Introit**

## **Call to Worship & Lighting of the Advent Candles**

**The Merry Family**

Leader: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and  
hill made low; the rough ground shall become level,  
the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD  
will be revealed, and all people will see it together.  
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." Isaiah 40:3-5

**All: Today we relight the candle of hope and  
expectation. Let this candle remind us of the  
great hope we have in Christ the Messiah and  
in God's promises. As we light the candle of  
peace and preparation, let it remind us to  
prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.**

Leader: Let us worship God together.

\* **Hymn #8** (blue) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

## **Call to Confession**

Let us lay before God and one another  
The distances between us,  
The impatience, idolatries, and lack of compassion  
That form our confessions this day.  
For if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves.  
Yet in mercy, God will forgive us and renew us.

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we do not believe in your incarnation. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.**

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

### **Declaration of Pardon**

The reign of God has come near. The repentant will be judged with righteousness. You are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. **Rejoice and believe. Amen.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ by exchanging signs of peace with one another. The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **Children's Chat**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

### **Children's Musical**

### **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.**

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

### Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Comfort Ye, My People

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Doxology #592 (blue)

Prayer of Dedication

\* **Hymn #14** (blue)

Savior of the Nations, Come

### Charge and Benediction

\* **Closing Chorus #576** (blue)

Gloria, Gloria

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Postlude**

As With Gladness

Hughes

*\*if comfortably able, please stand*

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

**Accompanist:** Joan Loewen

**Introit:** Children's Choir; Director, Leah Riden

**Liturgist:** Lisa Snyder

**Next Week:** Ginny Westover

**Acolyte:** Abi Riden

**Children's Chat:** Sue Garner

**Next Week:** Ginny Westover

**Ushers:** Lonnie Griffith (head usher), Christopher Griffith,  
Harold & Gerri Aitkin, Larry & Janie Welshans

**Children's Church:** No children's church; Children's Program

**Next Week:** Ginny Westover

**Infants/Preschool:** Zoe Finan

**Next Week:** Mercy Westover

**Deacon for the Month:** Janie Welshans

**Counters:** Jack Wilson & Kari Cullen

**Next Week:** Dave Noss & Maryann Haines

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME!** If you are visiting with us, please sign the Visitors' Register and pick up a Welcome Brochure. Children's activity bags, Bibles, large print hymnals and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** There will be a meeting of the congregation at the closure of the worship service next Sunday to elect officers. Please make plans to attend.

**ATTENTION ELDERS AND DEACONS!** A joint session/deacons meeting will be held **Thursday, Dec 12**, 7:00 PM for the purpose of receiving new officers and discussing mutual church ministries. Please make plans to attend! Come early at 6:30 PM for fellowship and Christmas treats, provided by Pastor Sarah.

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY FOR POINTSETTIAS!** If you are interested in ordering flowers for Christmas, please get your order in today. Order forms are inserted in today's bulletin.

**HONORING PASTOR ZORN** Please join us on Sunday, December 29, during our service and at the community luncheon as we honor Pastor Zorn's dedicated years of service as our Minister of Visitation. Cards of encouragement/congratulations will be collected.

**BACKYARD MINISTRIES:** Today is the deadline to bring in gifts.  
**CHRISTMAS DINNER BAGS:** We are accepting donations of instant potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy packet, canned corn and beans for Christmas dinners. You may bring donations to the narthex by **NEXT SUNDAY, DEC 15.**

**A FAMILY EPIPHANY EVENT!** What is epiphany? Find out the answer by attending our Epiphany event on Saturday, January 4, from 10 AM to 12 noon. We will gather in the sanctuary and continue our journey upstairs for stories, crafts, sensory experiences and snacks. Lots of fun for all ages! RSVP by emailing or calling the church office.

**CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE:** The Fellowship Committee has provided a tree in the narthex and invite you to write on the provided ornaments the name of someone on your mind this season. Someone who has died; someone who lives far away; someone who is hurting; or maybe someone for whom you are grateful.

## **WEEKLY REFLECTION PAGE**

You are encouraged to use the Advent activities and reflection questions throughout the week to prepare your heart to receive the good news of Christmas.

### **Unwrapping More of His Love in the World**

As you make your ordinary preparations today – shopping, cleaning, baking, traveling – breathe a silent prayer, asking God to clear the way, turning your secular tasks into something sacred.

### **A Moment for Reflection**

Look around you.

What are the sacred things among you in the ordinary?

*When will he come  
And how will he come  
And will there be warnings  
And will there be thunders  
And rumbling of armies  
Coming before him  
And banners and trumpets  
When will he come  
and how will he come  
and will we be ready  
Madeleine L'Engle*

Feel free to share some thoughts on the reflection question with Pastor Sarah by emailing her at [pastorsedgwick@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsedgwick@gmail.com)



## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **SUNDAY, December 8** Children's Musical

9:00 AM Adult Study Group – Library

10:30 AM Worship Service

11:30 AM Deacons' Meeting

### **MONDAY, December 9**

11:30 AM Prayer Ministry

### **TUESDAY, December 10**

6:30 PM Small Group Study – third floor

### **WEDNESDAY, December 11**

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, December 12**

7:00 PM Joint Session/Deacons

### **SUNDAY, December 15**

9:00 AM Adult Study Group – Library

10:30 AM Worship Service

11:30 AM Congregational Meeting

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### **GIVING REPORT AS OF 12/1/19**

Weekly Need: \$ 3,173.08      YTD Need:      \$ 152,315.84

Received:      \$ 1,348.00      YTD Received: \$ 148,510.61

If you would like to schedule a meeting or event at the church, please call the church office so that we can avoid conflicts and properly publicize church related events.

A number of 12 Step Groups meet in the church building throughout the week. If you or someone you know is interested, call the church office or check the listing at the Third Street church entrance for a list of meeting times.