

# Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

www.avonlakechurch.com

“Friends in Christ, Serving Together with Love”

www.Facebook.com/avonlakepc - at 10:00am for the service

Search YouTube for Avon Lake Presbyterian Church Worship for the video uploaded at 10:00

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas/Communion

January 3, 2021

## GATHERING MUSIC/PRELUDE

*Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella*  
(Barbara Graves, organ)

French Carol Melody

## WELCOME

We will have a virtual coffee hour after worship on Zoom.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Have a form of bread (cracker, cookie, slice of bread) and a form of juice (cooking wine, good wine, apple juice, water) ready to use as we will take Communion together in this worship service.

- **Monday:** Program staff meeting at 10:00 am; Christian Education meeting at 7:00 pm on Zoom; Worship Committee meeting at 7:00 pm on Zoom
- **Tuesday:** Prayer meeting at 3:00 pm on Zoom
- **Wednesday:** Epiphany meeting on Zoom at 2:00 pm; Bell Choir and Chancel Choir on Zoom at 8:00 pm.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As we gather for this first worship of a new year, let us offer our praise and prayers to God who has promised to be with us always.

All: **Let us celebrate God's love in our worship and our lives.**

## HYMN

“O Word of God Incarnate” (MUNICH)

No. 459

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Creator God, who calls us into a new year, we ask forgiveness for all that was left undone last year and for all that should not have been done or said. We seek your guidance as we begin again to show your love in every time and place in our lives. Send your Holy Spirit upon us we pray. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God sent Jesus into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might have life and all may know that they are loved and welcomed by God.

All: **Thanks be to God for new hope and new life.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE - “Peace be with you”

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tarra Oppewall

## HYMN

“I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry” (WATERLIFE)

No. 488

## SCRIPTURE – Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; John 1:1-5, 14

Margre Lind Mills

## SERMON

“What Season is This?”

The Rev. June Begany

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERTORY PRAYERS

God of endings and beginnings, we give thanks for your good gifts to us. We bring these gifts to you now that you may bless and use them in this new time to spread news of your love to others. Amen.

### HOLY SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*Please have a form of bread and juice ready to receive.*

#### Invitation:

Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. I am the bread of life. Whoever come to me will never be hungry and whoever believes in my will never be thirsty. This is not a Presbyterian Table. This is Christ's table and so all are welcome at this table.

One: The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

#### Words of Institution

#### Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ

#### Prayer of Communion

## BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*In the Bulb There is a Flower (PROMISE)*

Natalie Sleeth

(Rick Fortney, piano)

**We welcome the Rev. June Begany to lead us in worship again.** Rev. Begany led us in worship last summer. Rev. Begany has served various pastorates and capacities in Cleveland, Ohio, including Old Stone Church, Pioneer Church in Solon and Trinity Presbyterian in Ashtabula. She has also filled the pulpit here at ALPC. Prior to seminary she taught history in the Cleveland schools and served on the staff of Church of the Covenant.

June completed her certification in Older Adult Ministry, and has served as secretary to the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministry Network Board for 5 years. She also works with the local Presbyterian Women's group as a resource for spirituality and has developed several courses for adults at various Presbyterian churches. June has been married to her husband Paul for 40 years. They reside in Mayfield Heights.

#### **Prayers of celebration for the following birthdays:**

**Mike Richardson** January 7

**Sharon Call** January 9

#### **Prayers:**

**Deb Gantz's brother, David,** is still recovering from COVID.

**Lew Bush** died on Christmas morning. There will be a service in the spring. Please keep Eddie Lou Bush in your prayers also as she mourns her beloved husband's death. Eddie Lou's address is: 267 Briargate Court, Avon Lake, OH 44012

**Mary Ann Blunk** died on Monday, December 28. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

**Prayers of Celebration for The Rev. Beau Dansizen** as he has been admitted into the Doctor of Ministry program at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary for the 2020-2021 academic year, beginning this month.

<https://youtu.be/KNhSCnwuC9M> We put together this **Music Link with Highlights from the Advent / Christmas Season**, entitled ***A Musical Gift to the Christ Child*** followed by additional Holiday Favorites! We hope this will add to your time of reflection and joy this Christmas Week. In addition, we included the Fall Anthems from both the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir along with various solos shared throughout the Fall Season. Enjoy! **Richard A. Fortney, Director of Music Ministry**

**WORSHIP ON TV** - Our worship service is now on the Avon Lake public access channels (1024 for Spectrum and 22 for WOW!). Sunday services will begin showing the following Wednesday, at 2:00 am, 10:00 am and 6:00 pm and then show every day at those times throughout the week. That means that on Sunday what is broadcast is the previous week's service.

**We are thankful to those who have returned their pledge cards.** Please return yours to help the Session make the budget for 2021.

**We would like to add a new "share your story" page to the newsletter each month.** Missing being close while we are apart due to the pandemic has been hard for our church family, and of course we all have stories to tell. If you would like to "share your story," please send an article to Cindi at [alpresby@avonlakepc.org](mailto:alpresby@avonlakepc.org) by January 15.

**Topic for February: What is your favorite name for Jesus?**

Steps to accomplish:

- ⇒ To start, a topic will be printed in the January newsletter (sent out on December 25).
- ⇒ Responses that tell your story can be emailed, mailed or dropped off in the church office.
- ⇒ The responses should be received in the church office ([alpresby@avonlakepc.org](mailto:alpresby@avonlakepc.org)) by January 15th in order to be printed in the February ***Saints Alive!***
- ⇒ Regarding the scheduled topic, responses can be written in the style of a journal entry, a personal experience, reflections on a sermon series, pictures you have drawn, etc.