

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

11:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

PRELUDE "Preparation For the King" Corelli

ADVENT READING and LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

The Uncapher Family: Laura, Krystle, Natalie and Mia

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again?
Where do we start?

**All: Let us begin together. Let us begin arm in arm.
Let us begin by holding each other up, instead of
tearing each other down. Let us begin with words of
peace.**

One: Yes, let us begin with peace. Today we light the candles of
hope and peace.

**All: May these lights remind us of what could be.
May these lights mark a new beginning.
May peace flow like a river, and may it start with us.**

One: Arm in arm, hand in hand, side by side.
May we begin again. Amen.

***HYMN #103 "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"**

CALL TO CONFESSION Carol Kopnicky

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

One: I have tried to make my own way.

I have tried to lace my own shoes, to build my own house,
to kindle my own faith.

I have said a thousand times, "turn back," as if I am fine on
my own. But the days are long and I am forgetful. I need
your help. Can you remind me?

**All: We will remind you of this everlasting truth: You are
not alone. Where you go, God goes. You are held in
grace. Trust in this good news.**

One: Thanks be to God! I remember. I believe.

**All: Now we need your help. We, too, have tried to make
our own way. We have tried to lace our own shoes, to
build our own houses, to kindle our own faiths.
We have said a thousand times, "turn back," as if we
are fine on our own. But the days are long and we are
forgetful. We need your help. Can you remind us?**

One: I will remind you of this everlasting truth:

You are not alone.

Where you go, God goes.

You are held in grace.

Trust in this good news.

**All: Thanks be to God! We remember. We believe.
Alleluia! Amen.**

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

We Listen to God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON **Philippians 1:3-11** NT p. 196

A MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER

WISDOM LESSON **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12** OT p. 616

PREACHING OF THE WORD **"We Can't Go Alone"**

***HYMN #465** **"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Insert

We Respond to God's Word

INVITATION TO OFFER OURSELVES IN MINISTRY

Offertory "Emmanuel"
Doxology

McGee
p. 606

Holy Communion

Insert

We Go Forth to Serve

*HYMN #630 "Fairest Lord Jesus"

***CHARGE & BLESSING**

POSTLUDE "Soon and Very Soon"

Crouch

*Please stand in body or spirit

ACOLYTE TODAY: ADELYNN CARWILE

PLEASE GET A NAME TAG FROM THE VESTIBULE.
It will help our visitors know who we are and
we will also know our visitors by name.

Wrapping our community in God's love, one person at a time.

We believe that we are all ministers supported by:

Rev. Niki Atkinson – Office Hours Wed. & Fri. 9:30-4:00

Please call for appointments.

E-mail pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

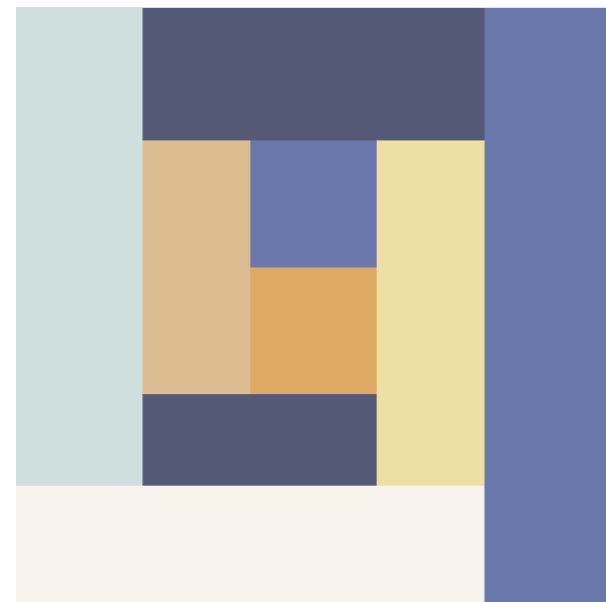
Dan Tomlinson, Custodian

Church Address: 401 First Street, Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613

Church Phone: 724-478-4807 Fax: 724-478-2708

Website: www.apollopresby.org E-mail office@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday – 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM



This quilt square design is called a "log cabin", and is meant to symbolize that together we can hold one another up and make something greater.

Liturgy for this series is adapted from materials written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS
 Household: Gil and Ruth Filer
 Amanda, Michael, Alex(Dunmire) & Caleb Flickinger
 Faith Friend: Nancy Reynolds
 Our Church: Staff
 Church(s): East Brady Church Pastor: Ray Eichler
 Presbytery: North Central Iowa (Synod of Lakes & Prairies)
 Denomination: Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East
 Nation Burundi - Bumumbura

IMMEDIATE Families of house fires, Betty Bateman, Katie, Jennie Baustert family, Steve Pavetti family, Adam Greece family, traveling mercies for Melissa & family, **Ann Cloonan, Nancy, Missy “Hurley”, LaRue Mumaw, Jerry Travis family, Carwile’s nephew Liam, Jordan, Ron George.**

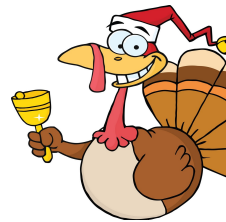
CONTINUING Veterans, John ☺. Bill Toland family, Jess Carwile ☺, Lisa B. ☺, Jim Eckenrod, Nancy, Pastor Niki’s step-father Dave, **Don Dick, Brenda Kaskan, Pat and Ann Cloonan, Darlene S.**

ONGOING Bob Reed, Donnie Riggle, Gary Harkcom, Donna Fry, Bill & Linda Crabtree, Frank Kovak, Josh Hanus, Shannon Pruss, LaRue Mumaw, Chris Hilker, Carol Gallagher, Linda Gould, Snedecor family, Alan Shockey, Bonnie Machak, Lani Knox, Nick Arnoldy, Benjamin Mumaw, Sean George.

MINISTRY All those affected by the Coronavirus and those working in the health care field, first responders, research, and government. Food 4 Kids, AUPC Deacon’s Emergency Fund, Support for our church, EPR Mugombwa; Victims of violence and natural disasters; President Joe Biden, our country, other world leaders, our church and its leaders, the war & military personnel, wounded military at home and in hospitals, terrorist victims, Kiskiminetas’ Rwanda Partnership.

COMING UP: Friday, Dec. 13 ~ Kid’s Krafts ~ 6:30 PM
 Saturday, Dec. 14 ~ Play Dress Rehearsal & Sunday School Christmas Party
 Sunday, Dec. 15 ~ Kids Christmas Play & Reception
 Tuesday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve Service ~ 7:30 PM

December 8, 2024 CHURCH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
SUNDAY Worship, Youth Sunday School 11:00AM
Welcome home Pastor Niki & Family
CEF Christmas Party after Worship
TUESDAY Admin Team Meeting 6:00 PM
 Mission Team Meeting 6:00 PM
THURSDAY Ministry Team Meeting 9:30 AM
FRIDAY Office Closed
KID’S KRAFTS 6:30 PM
SATURDAY Children’s Play Dress Rehearsal 10:00 AM
 Sunday School Christmas Party Noon
SUNDAY Worship, Youth Sunday School 11:00 AM
Children’s Christmas Play & Reception



We’re a little behind compared to years past. Don’t miss your opportunity to help a family in need have a wonderful Christmas dinner!! A \$20 donation for the Apollo Area Food Bank Christmas Turkey Drive will do it! (Donation can be included on the “other” line of your giving envelope. Checks made payable to AUPC. THANKS!)

SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS & CLOSERS
 December 8 ~ Laura Uncapher & Bill Speer
 December 15 ~ Bill Speer & Derek Hilty

Affirmation *of* Faith

**We believe in a with-us God:
a God who walks with us in the valley,
dances with us on the mountaintop,
sings with us through the night
and rejoices in the morning.
We believe that this with-us God
wired us for relationship,
saying to creation on the very first week,
“Humans should not be alone.”
Therefore, in an effort to be who God called
us to be,
we strive to live like the Trinity—
connected, united, and centered.
We believe in the power of community.
We commit to learning each other’s names.
We choose to journey with each other,
like Ruth with Naomi.
And we remember that no one can go
through life alone.**

Thanks be to God, for lighting our way.



Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

**Prayer following Communion (unison)
Nourishing God, sometimes we tell
ourselves that too much has taken place
in this world or in our lives to begin again.
But then we come to this Table and we get
a glimpse of your kingdom. We come to
this Table and all are welcomed, all are
seen, all are fed. And just like that, we
have hope. Just like that, we begin again.
Thank you for the gift of this fresh start.
Thank you for planting hope deep in our
bones. Thank you for meeting us in
ordinary bread and juice to remind us that
it’s never too late to build your kingdom
here. We are grateful. Amen.**

