West Hempfield Presbyterian Church

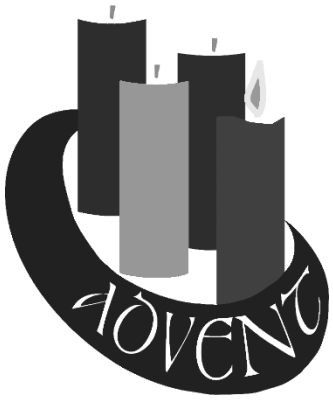
westhempfieldpc.org

November 29, 2026

First Sunday of Advent

9:30AM Sunday School

10:45AM Worship Service



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Where you see the star (*), you are invited to stand if you are comfortable.

PRELUDE *Youth Acolytes will light the candles on the Lord's Table*

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER Advent Candle Lighting

Reader: As we begin this season anew, we gather with age-old burdens. Somehow these burdens feel fresh, even as our shoulders may be heavy with having carried them for so long. What word can Advent speak into such weariness?

All: We do not gather seeking easy answers. We gather to await a presence: Emmanuel, God with us. We gather in community with those who have walked these difficult valleys before.

Reader: We call the first candle Hope. … *Reader continues …*

***HYMN # 93** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God-with-us, even in Advent, we confess that You can seem far away. You seem hidden when we need You near. In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to You. Instead, we lash out – against You, our neighbor, even those we love. Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us! Let Your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins are faded, and our hope is restored. After all, we belong to You and in Your hands, we can be made new. ... (a moment for offering personal confessions in silence) … in Christ's name we pray, **Amen.**

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***GLORIA PATRI**

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-3,8-12

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MINUTE FOR WORSHIP Poinsettias

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

The offering plate can be found on the table by the bulletins. It is also possible to give online from the church website (westhempfieldpc.org) or by texting WHPC to 73256. With online giving it is possible to make a one-time gift or set up automatic, recurring donations.

Offertory
*Doxology
*Prayer of Dedication

SCRIPTURE Mark 13:28-37

SERMON Keep Awake

***HYMN # 150** As with Gladness Men of Old

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN # 134** Joy to the World

***BENEDICTION**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE



Christmas Eve Poinsettia Orders
are due next Sunday.

