

## An Advent Response

### Litany for Peace

*People: The nations rage and the peoples plot.*

Leader: He will bring peace.

*People: The lion destroys the lamb.*

Leader: He will bring peace.

*People: The kings and rulers of the earth take counsel together for war.*

Leader: He will bring peace.

*People: The bear tears apart the unprotected, and the children live in fear.*

Leader: He will bring peace.

*People: The judges and the attorneys create endless conflict without resolution.*

Leader: He will bring peace.

*People: The wolf deceives and slaughters the kid.*

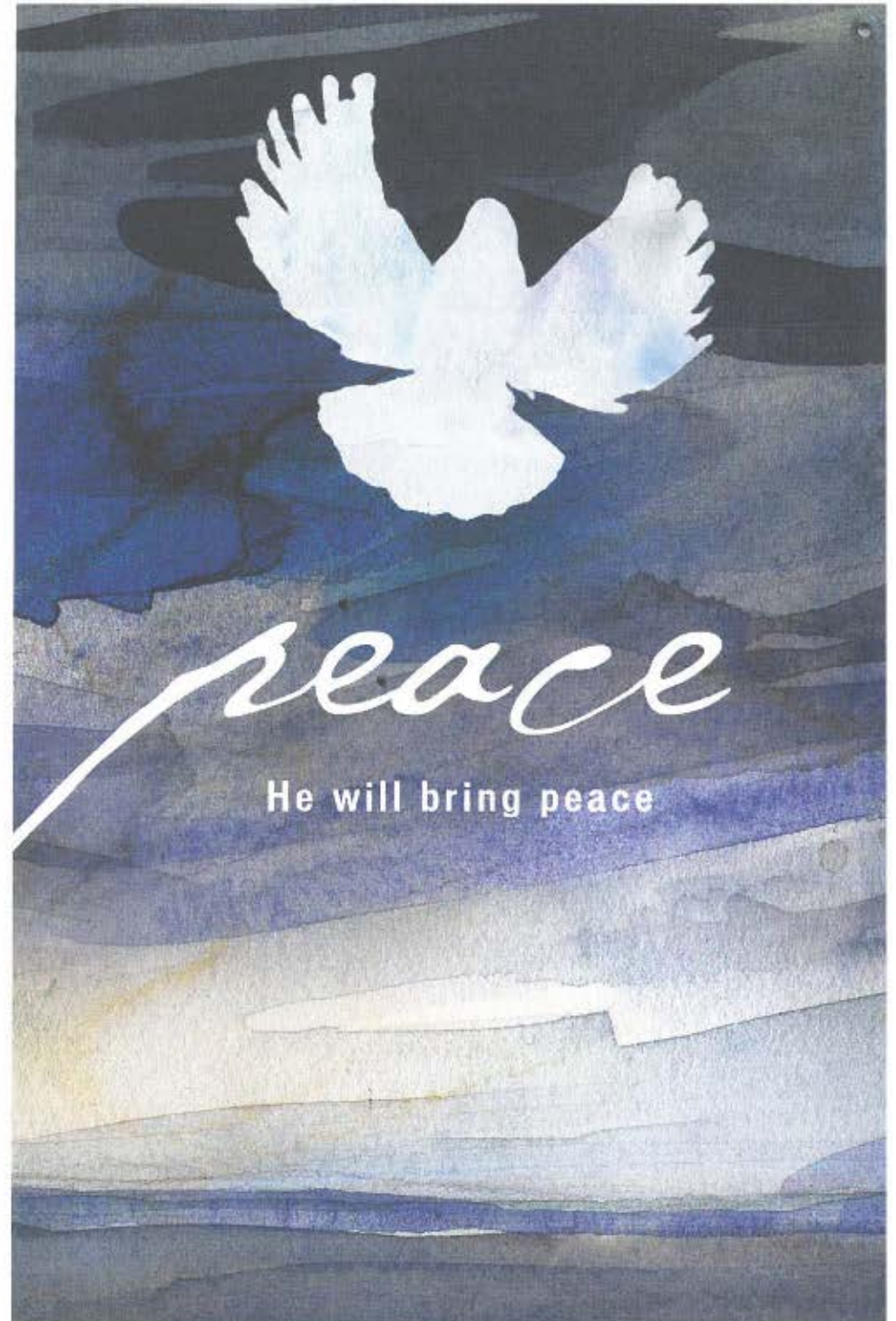
Leader: He will bring peace.

*All: O Bethlehem, from you shall come One who will care for his flock and bring peace to the ends of the earth. Nation will not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war anymore. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the calf and the lion together. They will not hurt or destroy one another, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, and peace shall reign over the globe as the waters cover the sea. Amen.*

— Robert W. Neff  
University Baptist & Brethren Church  
State College, Pennsylvania

**Text for today:** "Like a shepherd taking care of his sheep, this ruler will lead and care for his people by the power and glorious name of the Lord his God. His people will live securely, and the whole earth will know his true greatness, because *he will bring peace*" (Micah 5:4-5a, CEV). **Bible readings for today:** Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:3-10; Luke 1:39-45, (46-55).

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12-20-15, Fourth Sunday of Advent  
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# THE BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship December 20, 2015 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

## GATHERING

**FLUTE PRELUDES** (11:00) Cantique De Noel *Adolph Adam*  
Fum, Fum, Fum *Traditional Catalanian Carol*  
What Child Is This *17<sup>th</sup> Century English Air*

**ORGAN PRELUDE** (11:00) Pastorale (BWV 510) *J. S. Bach*

**BELL PROCESSIONAL** (11:00) Christmas Processional *M. Mazzatenta*

**CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER** Jeff Carr

Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshiping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

**\*HYMN # 212** *O come, all ye faithful* ADESTE FIDELES  
Verses 1 and 3

## ADVENT LITURGY

### Story of Light

**Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle** Cindy and Mike Fike

**Advent Prayer** (*Unison*) ~Sing the Story, #125, adapted

*God of Advent, in the darkest days and nights of the year,  
our hearts turn toward your promised light. With the first faint  
glimmer of a single candle, our hope is ignited once more. In these  
Advent days, lead us into your light to a manger where the face of  
God shines bright and clear. Amen.*

**\*Hymnal Insert** Longing for Light CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT  
Verses 1, 3, 4 & 5

## PROCLAIMING

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (11:00) Claire Wayman and the Puppets  
"Stars" ~Rachel Moore, adapted

Gena Day-Miller and Glenda Retize, Puppeteers

Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions.

**HAND BELL ANTHEM** (11:00) The First Noel *arr. Sandra Eithun*

**SCRIPTURE READING** Micah 5:2-5a

## OFFERING

### Invitation

### Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Berceuse on "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime" *John Barr*  
(Jesus your king is born, in excelsis Gloria)

**LITANY OF PEACE** Back of Bulletin

**HAND BELL TRIO** (11:00) Carol of the Bells for Three Ringers  
*arr. Kathleen Wissinger*

**SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 1:39-55

**\*HYMN # 191** *O little town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS

**SERMON** "The Long View" Jeff Carr

## RESPONDING

**REFLECTIONS** (8:30) Music for contemplation, followed by conversation.

**ADVENT SONGS WITH BRENT** (8:30)

**CHORAL ANTHEM** (11:00)  
Angels From The Realms Of Glory *arr. Dan Forrest*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Chris Zepp  
"Prayer at Christmas" (1994) ~David G. Metzler, adapted

**\*HYMN # 195** *It came upon a midnight clear* CAROL

**\*SENDING WORDS**

**POSTLUDE** (11:00) Fife and Drum (Patapan) *John Barr*

\* Rise as able in body and spirit.

## MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

**December 20-26, 2015** (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.  
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

<b>Today</b>	9 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	9 a.m. Puppets Rehearsal	Agape Room
	9:30 & 10:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic	Office Reception
	7:00 Christmas Tenebrae	Sanctuary
<b>Thurs.</b>	7 & 11 Christmas Eve Worship Services	Sanctuary
<b>Fri.</b>	<i>Merry Christmas!</i> Church Offices & Building Closed	

### NEXT SUNDAY– December 27, 2015 – *First Sunday of Christmas*

**Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Pastor Jeff Carr, preaching

Sermon: “Lost and Found”

Scripture Readings: Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

**Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

### **ATTENDANCE /STEWARDSHIP FOR LAST SUNDAY: 12/13/15**

**Worship Attendance: 8:30 –31 11:00 – 360 Sunday School: 172**

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$8,925.00
Loose Offering	336.00
Food Pantry	100.00
Messenger Subscriptions	58.00
Christmas Offering	905.00
Tree Lights of Love	355.00
Wednesday Night Meals	122.00
Women’s Fellowship	12.00
Back Pack Program	200.00
Advent Offering	10.00
Carson Kiracofe Memorial Fund	50.00
Friendship Circle	1,215.00

~ Leon Rhodes, Head Teller

## BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus  
and live the love of God.*

### ***Our Mission...***

*As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.*

### ***Our Values...***

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.  
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.  
Serving one another and our neighbor’s good.  
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

### PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

**Jeff Carr** – Senior Pastor

**Chris Zepp** – Associate Pastor

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

**Fortunato Correa** – Custodian

**Phil Flory** – Treasurer

**Shannon Puffenbarger** – Administrative Assistant

**Leon Rhodes** – Head Teller

**Glenna Wampler** – Business Manager

### PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

**Kathleen Arndt** – Child Care Center Administrator

**John Barr** – Organist

**Jim Benedict** – Bell Choir Director

**Jeanie Eye** – Christian Education Director

**Mary Beth Flory** – Pianist

**Marianne Houff** – Children’s Choir Director

**Ellsworth Neff** – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

**Curtis Nolley** – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

**Clarke & Hope Staton** – Youth Ministry Coordinators

### CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

[www.bwcob.org](http://www.bwcob.org) / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

## SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

### **HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall**

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.**

**Representative** – Joyce Wampler

*All Are Welcome* brochures, available in the pews and literature rack, list specific Christian Education opportunities and locations.

**PARKING ASSISTANCE:** 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a “cry room” for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

**Greeter** (8:30) – Laura Mapp

**Pianist** (8:30) – Cindy Fike

**Greeters** (11:00) – Bea Miller, Roma Jo Thompson

**Head Usher** (11:00) – Devin Bowman

**Sound/Light Operator** (11:00) – Ellsworth Neff

**Decorators** – Lori Lineweaver & Dwyann Stovall

**Deacon Caregivers** – David & Lori Lineweaver

**Van Driver** – Donnie Fulk

### **TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: James Montgomery**

Angels from the realms of glory wing your flight o'er all the earth.  
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.  
Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!  
Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.  
Sages, leave your contemplation, brighter visions beam afar.  
Seek the great Desire of Nations, ye have seen His natal star.  
All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son.  
Evermore your voices raising to th' eternal Three in One!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT**

The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, under the direction of Curtis Nolley, will present its 46<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas concert today at 3:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. The concert will include Antonio Vivaldi's *Magnificat*, and Ralph Vaughan William's *Fantasia On Christmas Carols* accompanied by the SVCS Chamber Orchestra and guest soloists. The second half of the concert will feature a variety of new and traditional carol settings. Tickets are available at the door. Admission is \$15 for adults/\$12 for seniors and students.

### **CHRISTMAS TENEBRAE:**

#### **Longing for Light...Waiting in Darkness**

A time of worship and contemplation for those who find it difficult to relate to the joyful and festive mood of the Christmas season.

This evening in our sanctuary -7 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** will be held at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. on December 24th. Candle lighting will take place at both services and communion will be served at 11 p.m.

### **CHURCH OFFICE & STAFF HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

The church office will be closed December 24-January 1 and will reopen on January 4, 2016. Some staff will be in and checking messages during that time. If you have pastoral needs please contact Pastor Jeff by leaving a message at the office or calling him at home. Pastor Chris will be taking vacation and holiday time for the better part of December 22 through January 2, excluding the evening of Christmas Eve, with only limited accessibility and availability during that time.

### **UPCOMING DEADLINE**

#### Bulletin Deadline

December 27 & January 3: Monday, December 22, at noon