

December 16, 2018 **THE ORDER OF SERVICE** 8:30 a.m.

Gathering to Worship God

Welcome

Prelude: "Wondrous Love" Nick Capone
Dale Wood

Announcements
[Please sign the connection pad at the end of the pew and pass it down the pew and back again. Note who is sitting near you and greet one another.]

Moment for Missions Larry McCune

Introit: "How Brightly Beams the Morning Star" Chancel Choir
JS Bach

Lighting of the Advent Candle: *Love*

***Hymn:** "To God Be the Glory" Hymn 28

***Prayer of Confession**
Heavenly God,
Though we desire to honor You with our lives,
We still fall short of the glory You intended for us;
Lord have mercy.
People: Christ have mercy.
Even in our moments of sharpest clarity and wisdom,
We are still creatures of profound ignorance and foolishness;
Lord have mercy.
People: Christ have mercy.
Since You know how hard it is for us to see Your truth clearly,
To follow it fully, and to love You completely;
Lord have mercy.
People: Christ have mercy.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response of Praise:** "Gloria Patri"

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

Sharing Our Life Together

Reception of New Members

***Passing of the Peace**
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Offertory: "Advent Promise" Chancel Choir
Paul Laubengayer

***Doxology:** "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

***Hymn of Preparation:** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Hymn 176

Hearing God's Word

Message: Advent: Love Rev. Ryan Mowen
"God with Us? Redemption"
Ephesians 2:1-10

We Leave to Serve the Lord

***Hymn of Response:** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Hymn 172

Benediction

Postlude: "Postlude on Hyfrydol"
Jason D. Payne

***Indicates that the congregation will stand**

GRAYSTONE WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS
Eric and Merrylee Morschhauser
Elizabeth Pedder

SERMON NOTES:

Prayer List as of Thursday, December 13

Please remember to mention during the hospital admission process that you are a member of Graystone. Also, if you know of a member who has been hospitalized please notify the church office.

Prayer Concerns: Graystone Members

Floyd Lewis Lois Miller
Montie Miller Don and Gladys Rodgers
Clair Ruffner Beverly Stuck

Prayer Concerns: Friends and Relatives

Deloris Bishop Diana Campbell Family
Kathy Beatty's mother
Judy Cessna Dawne Davis Family
Lois Miller's daughter
Diane Eret Frank and Reatha Eret
McCune's sister-in-law Sonja McCune's parents
Courtney LeBlanc Andrew Manzek
Katie and Randy LeBlanc's daughter friend of Karen Brown
Bud and Peggy McCune Lindsay Regos
Larry McCune's parents Ron & Deb Port's daughter
Quinn Santini Pam Stroup
Clair & Donna Ruffner's great granddaughter Joe Stroup's mother: Praise that Pam is done with chemotherapy!
Norita Toy
Friend of Michelle Elgin

Serving in the Military

Caleb Bracken - US Navy
Justin Ming - Serving in Anchorage Alaska
Andy Neely - Serving in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Payton Smith - Navy; USS Delaware
Dylan Wells - Fort Bragg, North Carolina
Derek Watson, Shane Bothel, and Tyler Bothel - Navy Pilots

Mission Focus

Ned and Kathy Thomas

Retired to North Carolina from working as missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Kathy is living in Trinity Oaks Care Home and Ned is in nearby Oak Park. Ned writes us often with family news and a copy of JAARS Prayerline. Please pray for them as they face the difficulties of advanced years.

Ministry Focus

As we seek to Welcome People and Follow Jesus, let us be mindful and prayerful for opportunities to share the love of Christ with our family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Pray for God to open doors for a spiritual conversation and ask that God would give you eyes to see, ears to hear, and courage to speak.

Greeters: Camden Dean, Ida Mae Evans, Shari Costello, Lori Lezanic

Ushers: Jim Brown, Greg Holsinger, Dave Moore, Gaylene Robinson, James Wagner

The Chancel Flowers have been given to the glory of God and in honor of **our children and our granddaughters** by **Greg and Michelle Elgin**.

The greens and tree are presented to the glory of God and Christ in memory of **Francis and Sara (Sadie) Smith**, by **David, Katrina, Payton, Quinn, Raeleigh and Shae Smith** with special thanks given to all who helped make wreaths and hang the greens.

A PRAYER BOX, for your requests is available in the rear of the sanctuary as well as the office.

What's YOUR next step?

GATHER

EVERYONE WELCOME ONE

This season we have an amazing opportunity and challenge. What if each one of us lived into the mission of who we are and what we are about as we "welcome people and follow Jesus"? Invitation cards are available today and our challenge is to take one of these cards and approach someone in your life and invite them to join you with us this **Christmas Eve** for one of our services. We're prayerful for how God will use this to reach our community with good news for all people.

Kid-Friendly Service: 6:00 p.m.
Traditional, Candlelight Service: 9:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - Sunday January 27th we will be having a combined worship service at 10:00 am instead of our two service times. There will be no Sunday School hour and our services will be blended as we come together for our annual Congregational meeting and celebration of what God has done in our midst over the last year.

CONNECT

EPIC RETREAT – JR/SR HIGH YOUTH RETREAT - Registration is now open for our youth winter camp from Feb 1-3 as we go to Beulah Beach with over 200 other young people from our presbytery. This is an amazing weekend away of fun and learning about God and we'd love to have all 6th-12th grade students join us! For more information and for online registration. Visit www.graystoneyouth.org. Signs ups will go fast and space is limited so make sure you get signed up soon!

THE CHALLENGE CLASS - will soon begin an exciting new study focusing on a biblical, theological feast featuring, *Hebrews: A 12 Week Study (Knowing the Bible)*. Come join us in our preparation of applying the entire Bible to all of life with heart and mind wholly committing to Christ's priorities.

SERVE

PARKING OFF-SITE - This Christmas Eve we want to create the opportunity for those who have never heard the good news of Jesus to be impacted by the gospel. If you regularly attend, a great way to help us welcome people this Christmas Eve would be to **park offsite** when you arrive for **Christmas Eve services** so that guests and visitors can have easy access to the building. It's a simple thing that can remove a barrier from someone hearing the good news.

SAY YES TO THE NEXT GENERATION - God is working in our ministry to the next generation and we've been blessed to see our ministry to kids and youth grow, and that means we need some additional hands. Come check out the back of the Sanctuary today (look for the big red fence) to see and hear more about the specific ways we need some new help to welcome young ones into this church family.

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THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE has developed the position description for the transitional pastor which was subsequently approved by session. The position description has been given to the EPC's Presbytery of the Alleghenies Regional Church Development Coordinator for distribution throughout the EPC network. Our position description and church information has also been submitted to the EPC to be posted on the EPC website. We have received applications in response for this position. Our committee has requested references for the potential candidates and we are in the process of conducting interviews.

CALENDAR

Happening today

8:00 a.m. Prayer for Worship - Library
8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. Stone PM - Youth Room

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Happening this week

Monday, December 17

11:00 a.m. PEP Team - Library
6:30 p.m. Bells - Center Social Hall

Tuesday, December 18

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
6:30 p.m. Deacons - Library
6:30 p.m. Session - Room 101

Wednesday, December 19

8:00 a.m. Prayer Group - Library

Thursday, December 20

6:30 a.m. Promise Keepers Bible Study - Eat N Park
9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study - Room 101
1:00 p.m. Library Team - Library
6:00 p.m. Nomination Committee - Library
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - Room 211
7:30 p.m. Worship Team - Sanctuary

Saturday, December 22

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Perkin's Restaurant
9a.m.-2:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsals:
9:00-10:00 a.m. - Bells
10:00-10:30 a.m. - Bells and Organ
10:30-11:00 a.m. - Choir
12:00-12:30 p.m. - Pizza
12:30-1:00 p.m. - Kids and Worship Team
1:00-2:00 p.m. - Worship Team

Sunday, December 23

BELLS PLAY
8:00 a.m. Prayer for Worship - Library
8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Celebration Choir
6:00 p.m. Stone PM - Youth Room

Welcoming People, Following Jesus.

December 16, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Advent "God With Us? Redemption"

GRAYSTONE VALUES...

FOLLOWING JESUS WITH OUR WHOLE LIVES

We are not content to just follow Jesus on Sunday mornings but in every square inch of our lives.



TRUSTING GOD'S WORD

We are people who are anchored, fed, and shaped by God's Word.

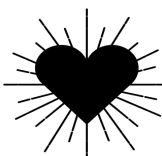


PURSUING COMMUNITY

We are together because God made us a family and even when it's messy, it's worth it.

SHARING THE LIFE- CHANGING MESSAGE OF JESUS

We bring the hope found only in Jesus into our homes, communities, and the world.



EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION

We equip parents, children, youth, and young adults to lead our church and the world into a future defined by the Gospel.

