

December 9, 2018 **THE ORDER OF SERVICE** 8:30 a.m.

**Gathering to Worship God**

Welcome Rev. Ryan Mowen

Prelude: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence " Nick Capone  
Mark Roberts

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.]

Introit: "From Heaven on High I Come to You" Chancel Choir  
Martin Luther

Lighting of the Advent Candle: *Hope*

\*Hymn: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" Hymn 179

\*Prayer of Confession taken from Romans 8:26-27  
When we don't know how or what to pray, the Spirit knows. When all we muster are sighs and groans, the Spirit knows those also. When we feel that we aren't even worthy to approach God, the Spirit goes before us and with us and God welcomes us with arms open. Lord, we confess our sins together. Amen.

\*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**

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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory: "Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes" Chancel Choir  
Hal Hopson

\*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: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" Hymn 178

**Hearing God's Word**

Message: Advent: Hope Rev. Joe Stroup  
"God with Us? The Fall"

Scripture: Romans 8:18-25

**We Leave to Serve the Lord**

\*Hymn of Response: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Hymn 188

Benediction

Postlude: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" Franklin Ritter

\*Indicates that the congregation will stand

**SERMON NOTES:**

**Prayer List as of Thursday, December 6**

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 Kathy Beatty's mother	Diana Campbell Family
Judy Cessna Lois Miller's daughter	Dawne Davis Family
Diane Eret McCune's sister-in-law	Frank and Reatha Eret Sonja McCune's parents
Courtney LeBlanc Katie and Randy LeBlanc's daughter	Andrew Manzek friend of Karen Brown
Bud and Peggy McCune Larry McCune's parents	Lindsay Regos Ron & Deb Port's daughter
Quinn Santini Clair & Donna Ruffner's great granddaughter	Pam Stroup Joe Stroup's mother

**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  
MISSION FOCUS: WMUG Radio**

Indiana's low-power FM station at 105.1 whose mission is to spread the Gospel to a wandering world, broadcasting a wide variety of Christian music, and interview programs. Please pray that WMUG will reach people through the World Wide Web, ministering to the unchurched and shut-ins around the globe.

**Ministry Focus**

In this season of transition of leadership, we have a committee meeting to search for the Transitional Pastor to present a candidate to our session. We also have a committee working to nominate and present candidates to be elders/deacons/trustees at Graystone in the next year. All of this is very important work and we pray for the work of these committees and that God would give wisdom to our leaders as they seek God's will for this next season of discernment for us as a church. May the hand of God guide the right people to be in positions of service and leadership in our church family in the new year.

**Serving Today**

Greeters: Bob Simpson, Crystal Simpson, Michelle Hill, Judy Cunningham

Ushers: Ron and Marian Marshall, Amanda Lieb, Cindy Turnbull, Barry Uhron, Darlene Uhron, Sara Watkins

The Chancel Flowers have been given to the glory of God and in honor of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren by Frank and Peggy Moore.

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

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. Our kid-friendly service is at **6:00 p.m.** this year and our traditional, candlelight service is at **9:00 p.m.** We're prayerful for how God will use this to reach our community with good news for all people.

**THANK YOU!!!** - The PEP committee would like to **THANK EVERYONE** who contributed to our **VERY, VERY** successful Bake Sale. We look forward to the 2019 season and we think we have some interesting excursions lined up. **MORE TO COME!!!**

### CONNECT

**CHRISTMAS STORY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!** Dec 9 - 30, we'll take a fresh look at the various Bible accounts of the Christmas story in preparation for the season! Upstairs in room 202, during the 9:45 Sunday School Hour, led by Colin and Heather Ashe. Everyone is welcome!

**EPIC RETREAT – JR/SR HIGH YOUTH RETREAT** - Registration will be open Wednesday evening, December 12, 2018 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 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students join us! For more information and for online registration. Visit [www.graystoneyouth.org](http://www.graystoneyouth.org). Signs ups will go fast and space is limited so make sure you get signed up soon!

### SERVE

Weekly Income (12/02/18)	Weekly Attendance (12/02/18)
Core: \$11,665	8:30 a.m. 137
Mission: \$ 1,865	11:00 a.m. 207
Finish Strong: \$ 567	Total: 344
Total: \$14,097	

As 2018 comes to an end, let's get ready to close out the year and **finish strong**. Thank you for your gifts to help us close the year well financially!

This is also the time to be getting pledge cards in for 2019 so that we are in the best place to **start well** next year!

Also, 2019 **OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now in the church office. If you wish to have giving envelopes for 2019 and there are none ready for you, please contact the church office and we will assign you a number.

**THE FINANCE TEAM LOOKING FOR OFFERING COUNTERS** - If you would be willing to help count the Sunday offerings on Monday mornings, please contact Connie at the church office. Clearances will be required.

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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  
11:15 a.m. Celebration Choir  
12:00 noon CCO Lunch - Center Gathering Place  
6:00 p.m. Stone PM - Youth Room

### Happening this week

#### Monday, December 10

6:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Campus Room  
6:30 p.m. Bells - Center Social Hall

#### Tuesday, December 11

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library  
12:00 noon Mugs and Muffins - Room 101

#### Wednesday, December 12

8:00 a.m. Prayer Group - Library  
9:30 a.m. Image Bearers - Room 101  
12:00 noon Finance Team - Library  
7:30 p.m. CCO - Gathering Place

#### Thursday, December 13

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. Nominating Committee - Library  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - Room 211  
7:30 p.m. Worship Team - Sanctuary

#### Friday, December 14

6:30 p.m. Seeds of Faith Christian Academy Christmas Concert

#### Saturday, December 15

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Perkin's Restaurant

#### Sunday, December 16

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

# Welcoming People, Following Jesus.

December 9, 2018

8:30 a.m.

# Advent "God with Us? The Fall"

## 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.

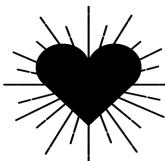


#### PURSuing COMMUNITY

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.

