



# Ardmore Moravian Church

December 7, 2025

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WATCH WORD FOR THE WEEK:

*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.*

Matthew 3:2

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## Matthew 3:1-12

**3** In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ”

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**ARDMORE MORAVIAN CHURCH**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 7, 2025**

Prelude      “Carillon On Creator Of The Stars Of Night”  
Charles Callahan

Call to Worship

(Please Stand, as you are able.)

Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

**We will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of God’s deeds in songs of joy.**

Awake, awake, you people of God, put on your festive garments.

**For God has already clothed us with the garments of salvation and has covered us with the robe of righteousness.**

The Holy One has delivered us and has become our salvation.

*“How Shall I Meet My Saviour?” RH # 60*

*How shall I meet my Saviour? How shall I welcome Thee?*

*What manner of behavior is now required of me?*

*I wait of Thy salvation; grant me Thy Spirit’s light;*

*Thus will my preparation be pleasing in Thy sight.*

*Love caused Thine incarnation; love brought Thee down to me;  
Thy thirst for my salvation procured my liberty;  
O love beyond all telling, that led Thee to embrace,  
In love all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.*

*Rejoice, then, ye sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,  
Who mourn o'er joys departed, and tremble at your doom;  
He Who alone can cheer you is standing at the door;  
He brings His pity near you and bids you weep no more.*

Greeting One Another in Hope and Peace

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Advent Candles of Hope and Peace      Deron Mabe

Liturgy for Advent

“O Come, O Come. Immanuel” MBW # 274

*O come, O come, Immanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel!*

*O come, O wisdom from on high,  
and order all things far and nigh;*

*to us the path of knowledge show  
and teach us in her ways to go.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel!*

*O come, O bright and morning star,  
and bring us comfort from afar!*

*Dispel the shadows of the night  
and turn our darkness into light.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel!*

*O come, Desire of Nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel!*

We give thanks to you, eternal God, for the Word in human form given to us in the child of Bethlehem.

**The Word speaks to us in ways that we cannot avoid:**

Therefore, let us put aside the masks of pretended righteousness and confess our sins to God.

**Gracious God, this Advent season stirs a longing to have Christ come alive within us, yet we allow ourselves to become enslaved to cynicism, selfishness, and greed. In**

**a season for freely giving and receiving, we tend to live by debt and obligation. We rush from task to task, scarcely opening our eyes to the peace and beauty around us. We glory in the visions of the old man Zechariah in the temple, which were fulfilled in his wife, Elizabeth; but our ministry to the elderly in our midst falls short. We sing of One who was laid in a borrowed manger, but we ignore the poor and homeless among us. We decry the violence of a wicked king, yet we are too often silent in the face of abuse and injustice around us. For these and all our sins, forgive us, we pray, gracious God.**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to them and proclaim that they have suffered long enough, that their penalty is paid, and their sins are forgiven.

**The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. Christ Jesus gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify a people of his own.**

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” MBW # 271

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand,  
ponder nothing earthly minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descended,  
our full homage to command.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of light descending  
from the realms of endless day;  
that the powers of hell may vanquish  
as the darkness clears away.*

*At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
    alleluia, alleluia,  
    alleluia, Lord Most High!*

We believe in Jesus Christ, God Incarnate, who lived among us as foretold by the prophets, who was descended from the royal line of David, and who was baptized in the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might.

**He does not judge by what his eyes see, nor decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he judges the poor and decides with equity for the meek of the earth.**

We believe in the coming reign of God when justice will be established in the earth.

**How wonderful it is to see a messenger coming across the mountain who brings good news, the news of**

**peace, who announces salvation, who says, “Your God reigns.”**

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

**The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.**

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” Rejoice 151 I

*Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear!  
Arise, the sun so longed for, o’er this benighted sphere!  
with hearts and hands uplifted, we look, O Lord, to you  
For all the earth’s redemption, creation made anew.*

Christ, the Light of the world, empower us to shine as lights in this dark world of sin.

**Christ, the Creative Word, by whom all things were made, lead us into good stewardship of creation that we and our children may preserve and enjoy the world entrusted to us.**

Christ, the Living Truth, give us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that sees beyond temporal values to discern your truth and to declare it.

**Christ, our Righteous Judge, give us the courage to stand by the poor, the meek, and the oppressed; and strengthen our support for all who are their advocates.**



Christ, the Lamb of God, send us forth as your ambassadors of reconciliation in a broken and troubled world; bring peace to the conflicts of nations, races, and tribes.

**We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that we might proclaim the mighty acts of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light. May our lives show forth that which we truly are. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

(Standing.)

"O Savior Of Our Race" RH # 53

*O Savior of our race, welcome indeed Thou art,  
Blessed Redeemer, Fount of grace, to this my longing heart!*

*Light of the world, abide through faith within my heart;  
Leave me to seek no other guide, nor e'er from Thee depart.*

*Thou art the Life, O Lord! Sole Light of life Thou art!  
Let not Thy glorious rays be poured in vain on my dark heart.*

May the Lord make us increase in love for one another and for all.

**May the Holy Spirit strengthen us to become more like Christ as we eagerly await his coming.**

## Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory            “Celtic Advent Carol”

David Angerman & Michael Barrett

Response            “O Little Town Of Bethlehem” MBW # 282

*How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.*

Prayer

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 40:1-5

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Matthew 3:1-12

“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry” MBW #267

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and harken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!*

*Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,*

*and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.*

*We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.*

*Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more;  
O let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.*

*All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.*

Sermon

“The Voice of One”

Rev. Joe Moore

Prayer

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” MBW # 264  
*"Comfort, comfort now my people;  
tell of peace!" So says our God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness  
bowed beneath oppression's load.  
To God's people now proclaim*

*that God's pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their war is over;  
God will reign in peace forever!*

*For the herald's voice is crying  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to true repentance,  
since the Kingdom now is here.*

*O, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way!  
Let the valleys rise to meet him,  
and the hills bow down to greet him!*

*Straight shall be what long was crooked,  
and the rougher places plain!  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign!  
For the glory of the Lord  
now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that God's word is never broken.*

## Benediction

Please be seated and use this time to listen to the Postlude and reflect upon how God is calling you to live, to love, and to serve in the week to come.

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*The Advent Wreath is given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ira Kiger and Rita Kiger by Beth Kiger Mabe. The White Candles are provided in memory of Ruth Duggins Lee, a longtime member of our congregation.*

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*The lovely poinsettias are placed in the Sanctuary this morning to the glory of God:*

***In Loving Memory Of:***

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Blazer  
Amanda Bowles  
Josh Conrad  
Lawrence Fulp  
James F. Lyons  
Mary Celeste Bost Lyons  
Mr. & Mrs. C. R. Parker  
Betty Powell  
J. W. "Cotton" Powell

***By:***

Barbara & Ed Blazer  
Grayson and Meredith  
The Family  
The Family  
Carol & Barry Lyons  
Carol & Barry Lyons  
Barbara & Ed Blazer  
The Family  
The Family

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

### **Sunday, December 7 – Second Sunday of Advent**

9:30 AM Sunay School Classes

10:30 AM Worship Service – Rev. Joe Moore

### **Tuesday, December 9**

10:00 AM Circle # 3 @ JoAnn Goodson's home

1:30 PM Circle # 4 @ Church

5:30 PM Circle # 5 @ Terri Kessler's home

### **Wednesday, December 10**

5:30 PM Meal

6:15 PM Bible Study

7:00 PM Choir Practice

### **Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent**

9:30 AM Sunay School Classes

10:30 AM Worship Service – Rev. Joe Moore

## **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

For congregational and community fellowship

**December 9** – Women's Fellowship Circle Meetings

**December 18** – 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast @ Café

Arthurs

**December 24** Christmas Eve Lovefeast & Candle Service

Services at 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM

**December 25** Christmas

# PEOPLE FOR WHOM WE ARE PRAYING



## ***Members***

Cindy Clore  
Beverly Dillon  
Fanchon Funk  
Adam Lefevre  
Mike Meritt

Alice Pierce  
Carolyn Spainhour  
Polly Story  
Frances Walker  
Donna Ebert Williams

## ***Friends***

Dr. Bill J. Beason  
Lizanne Butner  
Dwayne Jones  
Wanda Jones  
Ray Shelton  
Larry  
Juan

Ann M<sup>c</sup>Curdy  
Terry Moore  
Allison Murray  
Marlyn Schauss  
Jerry Seivers  
Steven Starling

***\*Please contact the church office to add or remove individuals from the prayer list.***



Minister: Rev. Joe Moore

Director of Music/Organist: Chris Heckman

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