

SERMON

Darkness Gives Birth to Light!

Pastor Bill Lentz

The Sundays and weekdays leading up to Christmas startle us in a way that makes it difficult sometimes to pay attention to other important concerns. The weeks before Christmas are filled with activities and festivities that potentially distract us from engaging competing concerns. Work, home, school, and even church activities challenge us to be truly present to unwrap the meaning of Advent. Here at the beginning of Advent you may wish to ask yourself: How will I keep alert to God's nearer presence? How might I inhibit all that distracts me from being present for God?

▲ HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

No. 196

OFFERINGS OF GRATITUDE

Cantilene

Peeters

The flowers are given by the Chancel Committee
in memory of Myrtle Keisling.

▲ PROCESSION OF GRATITUDE

Doxology

No. 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

▲ PRAYERS FOR OTHERS (Insert)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

CHORAL RESPONSE (11:00)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

▲ HYMN

CHORAL RESPONSE (11:00)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

POSTLUDE

Rejoice Greatly in the Lord

Koury



UNWRAP THE TRUE MEANING OF ADVENT



300 S. YORK ROAD,
HATBORO, PENNSYLVANIA 19040
NOVEMBER 26, 2017

8:15 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
Charlie de Mets, Organist

Mansfield

APOSTOLIC BLESSING AND WELCOME

Pastor Bill Lentz

Welcome to our service of worship. Your presence is a great joy to us. Our hope is that you'll feel welcome and that the Spirit of God will touch your soul in worship. Please sign the Covenant of Fellowship, sharing as much information as you'd like, and then pass it down the pew for others to sign.

▲ Please stand if comfortable

▲ CHIMES

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP

Ms. Charlotte Schultz

Leader: Imagine the heavens split open!

People: Imagine Jesus' second advent is near!

Leader: Be alert! Keep awake! Watch the signs!

People: This is the beginning of the good news!

Leader: The Sunday of hope is upon us!

People: We welcome the wonder of this day!

▲ HYMN

Hail to the Lord's Anointed (1,2,4)

No. 203

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

No. 891

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

INTERLUDE

Intermezzo

Peeters

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Stephanie McCurry, 8:15; Chuck McClain, 11:00

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-5, 8-9

Pew Bible (OT), p. 801

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER (Response 1)

Psalm 80

No. 797

ANTHEM (11:00)

Come, Messiah, Come

Schrader

Sanctuary Choir, Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith, Director

▲ GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

Pew Bible (NT), p. 50

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

▲ GLORIA

Glory Be to the Father

No. 70

**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.**

▲ PRAYER FOR OTHERS

O God of Advent's waiting,
like your people in the wilderness,
we too have known your love,
and experienced your care and provision.
You invite us to extend that love to the world around us—
to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves.
And so we bring the needs of our world before you now.
We ask that you be merciful to us.
Merciful Lord, hear our ardent prayers.

We pray for the many who do not have enough:
enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm;
enough employment, or money to pay their bills;
enough medicine or medical care.
We ask that you be merciful to us.
Merciful Lord, hear our ardent prayers.

We also pray for those who have more than enough,
but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life;
who indulge in greed or self-serving deeds
to dull their pain or loneliness.
We ask that you be merciful to us.
Merciful Lord, hear our ardent prayers.

God, your grace reaches out to all of us.
you call us to live as children of light,
working together with one heart and mind.
Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy
Of the Good News we have received offering
our lives in service to your realm of glory,
where the last are first, and the first are last,
and there is grace enough for all.
We ask that you be merciful to us.
Merciful Lord, hear our ardent prayers.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior,
Let us pray his prayer.

SERVING GOD AND YOU TODAY

Preacher	The Rev. J. William Lentz, Jr.
Liturgist	Ms. Charlotte Schultz
Organist	Charlie de Mets
Acolytes	Alex Zadroga, 8:15; Thomas Gheen, 11:00
Lectors	Stephanie McCurry 8:15; Chuck McClain, 11:00
Greeters	Dottie Montgomery; 8:15; Chris Johnson 9:30; Joanne Lambert, 11:00
Head Usher	Jack Tarman
Ushers	Lyn Matthews, Dick Rapson, Charlie Rumbel, 8:15 Gloria Inlander, Erika Gratzinger, The Iaia Family 11:00
Sound Operators	Brad Beck, 8:15; Brad Beck and Ed Travis 9:30; Rudy Cieri, 11:00

PASTORS AND STAFF

J. William Lentz, Jr., Senior Pastor
Nancy M. Ludwig, Associate Pastor
Lilian L. Cotto, Pastor of Latino Ministries

Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith – Director of Music
Charlie de Mets - Organist
Susan Tinney – Handbells and Childrens'
Choir Conductor
Brad Beck – Sexton, Technical Director
Brad Beck – Interim Youth Coordinator

Karen Douglass – Parish Nurse
Deborah Gwynn – Business Manager
Diane Lendzinski – Church Secretary
Lisa Lang – Administrative Asst.
Nancy Collier – Media Consultant

NURSERY STAFF

Danielle Cole - Nursery Coordinator

Samantha Ford - Nursery Asst.

LEHMAN CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL STAFF

Phyllis Morocco – Director and Teacher
Joanne Tompkins – Teacher

Kathie Beck – Assistant Director and Teacher
Julie Brown - Teacher

Teacher Assistants –
Julie Brown, Jamie Enge,
Kate Kirsch, Heather Zadroga