

## THE WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we thank you for the mystery of your presence with us in this meal. We praise you for humbling yourself and coming into the world as one of us. Send us out in peace for we have seen, have heard, and been fed by your grace. Keep us faithful and alert for signs of Christ's coming and lead us to live lives marked by truth and light, in the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

### HYMN #38

*"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*  
(verses 1, 2, & 4, The Presbyterian Hymnal)

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

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#### Congregational Meeting, December 14th

The BPC Session has approved a called congregational meeting immediately following the worship service for Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of hearing a report from the nominating committee and electing the 2028 class of elders.

#### Our Visitors

*We welcome you to worship today. If you are visiting with us please feel free to speak to the pastor or one of our greeters if you have questions or want more information about Bethpage.*

*Bethpage is a church committed to children and families and their needs. We have a nursery for infants through three-year-olds and Kids of the Kingdom for four-year-olds through first grade. There are activity sheets and children's Bibles for older children. Feel free to keep your child with you in worship through the Time With Children if that works for your family. Our nursery caregiver is Stephanie Pritchard. Stephanie will text you if your child needs you during worship.*



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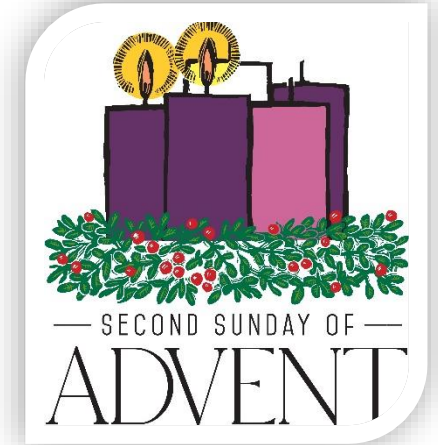
website: [www.bethpagechurch.org](http://www.bethpagechurch.org)  
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## Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!

*"A family of faith in Jesus  
Christ, yesterday, today,  
and tomorrow."*

December 7, 2025  
10:00 AM



### GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

#### WELCOME AND GREETING

#### PRELUDE

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Judy Petrea and Melissa Wright*

The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness" (Malachi 3:2b-3).

**In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.**

We light the first candle of hope. We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

#### OPENING MUSIC

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### HYMN #9

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*  
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

## ***PRAYER OF CONFESSION***

**O promised Saviour: We are a world at war. Our peace depends on your coming. We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on your coming. We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises; Send us your Spirit that we might do your will. Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Word made flesh; We your people ask for your forgiveness as we wait for your peace to break from into our lives and into our world. We are so grateful for your grace beyond measure. Hear our silent prayers . . . *Silent Confession***

## ***RESPONSE #2152***

*“Change My Heart, O God”  
(Sing the Faith Hymnal)*

## ***GOD’S GRACE AND PROMISE***

The Lord, declares, “return to me with all your heart,

**Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;**

Friends believe the good news of the gospel, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***RESPONSE***

*“Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me”*

## ***STEWARDSHIP MOMENT***

### ***THE WORD PROCLAIMED***

## ***TIME WITH CHILDREN***

## ***ANTHEM***

*“Star of Advent”*

## ***OLD TESTAMENT READING***

Psalm 25:1-5 (New Revised Standard Version)

## ***RESPONSE***

*“Listen to the Word that God has Spoken”*

## ***NEW TESTAMENT READING***

Acts 8:26-40 (Common English Bible)

## ***SERMON***

*“Jesus is Lord”*

Valerie Hicks

## ***GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND***

## ***GIVING GOD OUR OFFERING***

Offertory

Hymn

*“A Grateful Heart”  
(verse 1 only)*

Prayer of Dedication

**Holy One, this Advent season we wait in peace. Your peace is deeper than our anxiety and fear. Help us to grow in our trust of your loving power. Receive this offering given to further your peace in the world. Amen.**

## ***CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER***

## ***HYMN #513***

*“Let Us Break Bread Together”  
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)*

## ***INVITATION TO COMMUNION***

## ***GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER***

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Minister continues . . .*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**