

Advent Wreath Lighting
Dec. 4th
2nd Sunday in Advent

Bill Breeden: Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

Bill Breeden & Congregation (*Unison*): How does this happen?

Bill Breeden: God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

Bill Breeden & Congregation (*Unison*): "Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of the prophets and forsake our sins, so that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer."

Bill Breeden: A reading from the prophet Malachi: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts," (**Malachi 3:1**).

Bill Breeden & Congregation (*Unison*): We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, then lit one candle. Today, on the second Sunday of Advent, we light the candles of HOPE and PEACE.

Deacon Family Member (Lighting of the Candles)
(Lighting the 1 PINK CANDLE AND 1 PURPLE CANDLE) ...

Bill Breeden: Every week in Advent, we light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus.

Bill Breeden & Congregation (*Unison*): The Way of the Lord is being prepared in our hearts. May every valley be filled, and every mountain and hill be made low. May the crooked paths be made straight and the rough ways smooth. When our Lord comes, may all of us then see the salvation of God.

Bill Breeden Closing Prayer: (feel free to use these words), Gracious God, Grant that we may find peace as we prepare for our Lord's birth. May divisions in ourselves and in our families be peacefully resolved. May there be peace in our cities and in the countries of our world. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give to us courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that you only are the giver of lasting peace and that you are always with us. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

A Called Business Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 6:30pm. The following items will be discussed:

- 1) Recommendation from the Nominating Committee to approve the committee assignments for 2023.
- 2) Recommendation from the Stewardship Committee to approve the 2023 Budget.
- 3) Stewardship Committee requests \$6,300.00 for New Audio/Visual Equipment to come out of the General Fund. The requested audio/visual equipment is as follows:
 - Buy Sanctuary camera, controller & HDMI/Cat5 converters to get Worship video in the Narthex. Same camera will be used for displaying video of Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall.

2022 ADVENT BOOKS

Please pick up your families copy of this year's 'The Joy of Anticipation' Advent Book. The books are located in the Narthex. We thank each one of you who wrote a devotion this year and artist Jason Kissinger who created the cover art. -Advent Book Team

HELP FOR THOSE WHO NEED FOOD

In our own area, there are those who suffer from food deprivation and the need for basic hygiene products. We are still collecting nonperishable food items and hygiene items, along with nonperishable baby food and baby hygiene items. Your donations can be brought to our church on Sunday mornings or during office hours, M-F 9am-12pm, and dropped in the box inside the Narthex entrance. **Food distribution will take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday, prior to 11:00am at Bellamy United Methodist Church.**

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