

**Morning Worship  
The Third Sunday of Advent**

10:30 A.M. December 11, 2011  
Prelude (Titles of our organ Prelude, Offertory, & Postlude are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer this morning.)  
Greetings and Announcements  
Call to Worship Paul Mauger  
Introit (237) "When God Delivered Israel" Psalm 126

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Todd Stanford: This is the third Sunday in Advent. Today, we light two purple candles and the pink candle. The first Sunday, we lit the candle of hope. On the second Sunday, we lit the candle of love. Today, we light the candle of joy. One thing that sometimes happens as we get ready to celebrate Jesus' birth is that we expect to be happy all the time. Joy is not the same as happy. Joy is a deeper feeling created by knowing that God cares for us. Joy is remembering that God sent Jesus so we would always know of God's care. During Advent, we pray that we may remember again God's gift of Jesus to the world and know the joy which that gift brings to all people. *(Light three candles)*

\*Hymn "Joy to the World!" **40**  
Veronica Stanford: When we look at the third candle, we remember God's promise of joy. God promised to send a Savior to the people. Today we read from the Gospel of Luke. In the Scripture, we read Mary's song of praise and joy. There must have been times when Mary was frightened, worried, fearful, and sad. But we have these words of joy even in a time when she was unsure of the future. Her words can guide us to look for the joy of God even when things may be uncertain for us.  
Todd Stanford: **Luke 1: 46b-55.** How privileged we are to have this beautiful song of Mary. Can you imagine her singing the words written in Scripture? It is a testimony to her faith and joy at being chosen as God's servant. Who are the people in our world who need God's joy? What are our hopes for joy in our world today? How do we help others know that God gives joy?

**Prayer (Unison) Dear God, thank you for your son Jesus. Thank you for the joy remembering Jesus' birth brings to us today. Help us live in such a way that our words and our actions help others know of the joy you give. Amen.**

**Service of Confession**

Silent Prayers  
Prayer of Confession (Unison)  
**Spirit of Love and Truth, illuminate our hearts. Cleanse us of falsehood and fear. By the grace of forgiveness, free us rightly to live with one another and with You. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.**  
Assurance of Pardon  
The Lord's Prayer (Debts)  
Choral Response

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 126  
When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."**

The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.

**Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb!**

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy!

**He that goes forth weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.**

**Service of Giving**

\*Hymn "Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers" **15**  
\*Sentences  
Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory  
\*Doxology **592**  
\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

**Service of Reflection**

Children's Message  
Scripture Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11  
\*Hymn "Prepare the Way" **13**  
Gospel John 1: 6-8, 19-28  
Anthem "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Praetorius  
Sermon  
Pastoral Prayer  
\*Hymn "Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth" **7**  
\*Benediction  
\*Congregational Response  
**Christian, rise and act thy creed,  
Let thy prayer be in thy deed;  
Seek the right, perform the true,  
Raise thy work and life anew. Amen.**  
\*Postlude Dismissed to our service in the world  
\*Standing

**Serving Today**

Acolyte Lindsey Barrick  
Ushers Robert Rapp, David & Heidi Hall, Mark Bettner  
Greeter Arthur & Audrey Borden  
Reader Paul Mauger  
Nursery Kara Libby & Lori Wilson  
Junior Church Lisa Scott  
Coffee Hour Arthur & Audrey Borden  
Flower Delivery The Lopezes

**This Week**

Today	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Senior Choir
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
		Nursery provided
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour & Youth Choir
	11:30 a.m.	Pageant rehearsal & Pizza
	7:00 p.m.	Discussion Group Library
<b>Founders Room will be used by the Clothing Program Monday, December 12 thru Friday, December 16.</b>		
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Board of Deacons, Library
	7:00 p.m.	Property Committee
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Group, Library

**Notices**

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given in Memory of Rev. Jesse Blankenship by Ruth Blankenship and family.

### Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering

The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering totals \$ 575 to date.

### Discussion Group

The Discussion Group meets this Sunday December 11 at 7 p.m. Lee Mills will facilitate the discussion on "Richard Dawkins and His Challenge to Christianity". Copies of the article are in the Library.

### Poinsettia Orders

The last day to order is **Monday, December 12.**

### Clothing Program

Hood sweatshirt, flannel pj bottoms, toddler fleece sleepers, WalMart & Boscov gift cards or cash by **today Dec. 11.** See Sallie Pyper or Gayle Pepper.

### Volunteers Needed

Help is needed for the December 16 Christmas Food Distribution at First Baptist, 1:30- 3:30. Please contact Dick Ellis 524-4740, or [rellis@bucknell.edu](mailto:rellis@bucknell.edu)

**NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th**



The Christmas Pageant, Gifts for the Manger,

Blanket Sunday and the Christmas Luncheon following pageant. **Gift for the Manger** If you want to bring a gift to be gathered during the Christmas Pageant, bring gifts for children up to seventeen years old, unwrapped. Games are especially good for the older children. Haven Ministry has the parents wrap donated gifts for their children. FBC takes part in Church World Service's **"Blanket Sunday"** annually by donating undesignated cash offerings on Christmas Pageant Sunday and any checks given that day which have "Blanket Sunday" written on them.

### Offering Envelopes

The 2012 Offering envelopes will be in the foyer

### Church Snow Blower For Sale

An Ariens ST420 that runs fine, has a 20" opening, a 2 stage snow blower powered by a quick starting 4 HP engine. The Church would like \$250. The Contact Alan Barrick at 570-428-3784.

Minister	Members of First Baptist Church
Pastor	The Rev. MacKenzie Scott 523-6979
Church Office	Mon.-Fri., 8:45-11:45 524-7438
Secretary	Mary Ellen Beaver 522-9121
Music Director	Ruth Blankenship 523-9202
Organist	Lloyd Wolf 286-2769
Sexton	Harry Yost 568-4663
web page	<a href="http://www.lewisburgbaptist.org">www.lewisburgbaptist.org</a>
e-mail	<a href="mailto:fbclbg@lewisburgbaptist.org">fbclbg@lewisburgbaptist.org</a>
denomination's web page	<a href="http://www.abc-usa.org">www.abc-usa.org</a>

### For Your Prayers

The Rev. Gordon Kurtz is at Maitland Manor Nursing Home, 290 South Street, Goderich, ON N7A 4L5, Phone 226-421-2267.

Dennis Loreman had outpatient surgery at Geisinger last Friday. Lynda Blankenship Barrett is at Geisinger. Ben Austin, Peg Budd, Tamara Gerasimova, Herman Howard, Nicola Manning, Russ Mayberry, and Steve Rotolo are at home.

Bill Bobb at Riverview Manor. Chet & Margaret Jump at RidgeCrest. Beverly Fisher at RiverWoods. Cookie Goodall & Harriet Littell at Elmcroft. Gloria Miller at Rockwell.



### Christmas Eve

**Saturday, December 24th** at 7:30 p.m. there will be a Christmas Eve candlelight and communion service. The choir will meet at 6:30.

### OFFICERS, DEACONS, and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Annual reports are due in the office no later than **9:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 28th** so they can be compiled, sent to the printer and ready for distribution Sunday, January 8 before the Annual Congregational Business Meeting on January 15. They may be submitted via e-mail or written.

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