

# St. John's Presbyterian Church

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Communion Sunday**

December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m.



## **Vision Statement**

*Worship God*

*Love One Another*

*Serve the World*

### **Worship Participants**

The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor  
Elaine York, Pastor  
Bob Baumez, Lay Reader  
Susan Horst, Music Director  
Sue Goodenow, Organist  
Chancel Choir

1070 W. Plumb Lane  
Reno, Nevada 89509  
(775) 826-0990

**Website**

[www.stjohnschurch.org](http://www.stjohnschurch.org)

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

### Communion Sunday

December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m.

\*Please stand as you are able.

**BOLD** People Response

## GATHERING

Prelude (Sue Goodenow, Organist)

Arranged by: Phillip Keveren

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Welcome and Announcements (The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor)

*Please sign our Ministry of Friendship pad and pass it to the person sitting next to you.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle (Hope)

Marc and Judith Ullom

\*Hymn No. 485     *To God Be the Glory*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 23426 Public Domain/One License# 298243

\*Call to Confession (Bob Baumez, Lay Reader)

Jesus said: "Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of life, but watch and pray for the grace of God, who will save you." With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

\*Prayer of Confession

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for Your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us Your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in Your truth and teach us Your ways, for You are the God of our salvation. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Leader:        Friends, believe the good news:  
                  In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

**People:        Thanks be to God.**

\*The Passing of the Peace

Leader:        Knowing the grace and mercy of the Lord, we share it with one another.  
                  The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:        And also with you.**

\*Please stand as you are able.  
**BOLD** People Response

\*Hymn

*Glory Be to the Father*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 577; CCLI# 221194

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## THE WORD

Anthem (Susan Horst, Music Director)  
Chancel Choir

Message

**Jesus's Big Return Is Coming  
(First Sunday of Advent)**

The Rev. Kent Meads

### **Luke 21:25-36—New English Translation**

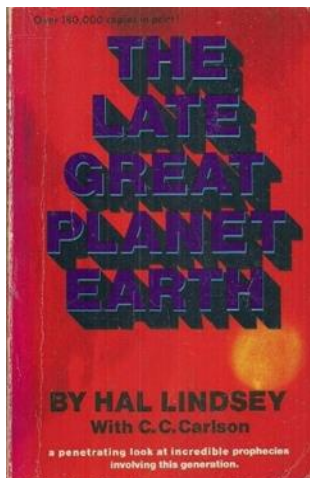
<sup>25</sup>“And there will be **signs in** the sun and moon and stars, and **on** the earth nations will be in distress, anxious over the roaring of the sea and the surging waves. <sup>26</sup> People will be fainting from fear and from the expectation of what is coming on the world, for *the powers of the heavens will be shaken*.

<sup>27</sup>**Then** they will see *the Son of Man arriving in a cloud* with power and great glory.

<sup>28</sup>But when these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because **your redemption** is drawing near.”

<sup>34</sup>“**But be on your guard** so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day close down upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>**For** it will overtake all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>**But stay alert** at all times, **praying** that you may have strength to escape all these things that must happen, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

### **Introduction**



We've entered the **Advent** season.  
Advent comes from the Latin for “**arrival**” or “**coming**”.

For us it has a double meaning.  
It refers to both Jesus First Coming and His Second Coming.  
All we are given are **Signs of His Coming and Commands**.  
**First, Signs preceding Jesus's Return (vv. 25-28).**

Cosmic – Earth-Nation – People

"The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come." ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer

\*Please stand as you are able.  
**BOLD** People Response

## Then, *the Son of Man Comes*

### **Second, Jesus's Commands as we Wait (vv. 34-36)**

But be on your guard – **For** it will overtake all

But stay alert – praying – to stand

### **Conclusion**

In a few minutes we will celebrate the Lord's Supper.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11.26: For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death **until he comes**.

So, every month when we celebrate the Lord's Supper we are reminded of Jesus's Coming.

And as William Barclay once said,

*"The best way to prepare for the coming of Christ is never to forget the presence of Christ."*

A prayer for this week: "God of hope, I look to you with an open heart and yearning spirit. During this Advent season, I will keep alert and awake, listening for your word and keeping to your precepts. My hope is in you." ~ Matthew Kelly

\*\*\*\*\*

\*Hymn No. 379      *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* (vv. 1 & 4)

—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 25417 Public Domain/One License# 84086

Prayers of the People (Pray for the future Pastor)

## **THE EUCHARIST**

Receiving the Morning Offering

Offertory

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Arranged by: Dan Coates

\*Doxology

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 592; One License# 96892; Public Domain

Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation

Institution

Prayer

Distribution of the Elements

Commissioning of the Servants

Hymn No. 440

*The Lord's Prayer*

See page 4-5

—Hymns for the Family of God; One License# FBC-A018046

\*Please stand as you are able.  
**BOLD** People Response

440

# The Lord's Prayer

*And when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father . . . — Matthew 6:6*

MALOTTE  
Albert Hay Malotte  
Arranged by Fred Bock

Matthew 6:9-13

*Unison*

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed

The first system of musical notation for 'The Lord's Prayer'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The melody is written in a unison style. The lyrics 'Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed' are placed below the treble staff.

be Thy name. Thy king-dom come,

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues from the first system. The lyrics 'be Thy name. Thy king-dom come,' are placed below the treble staff.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in

The third system of musical notation. The melody continues. The lyrics 'Thy will be done on earth as it is in' are placed below the treble staff.

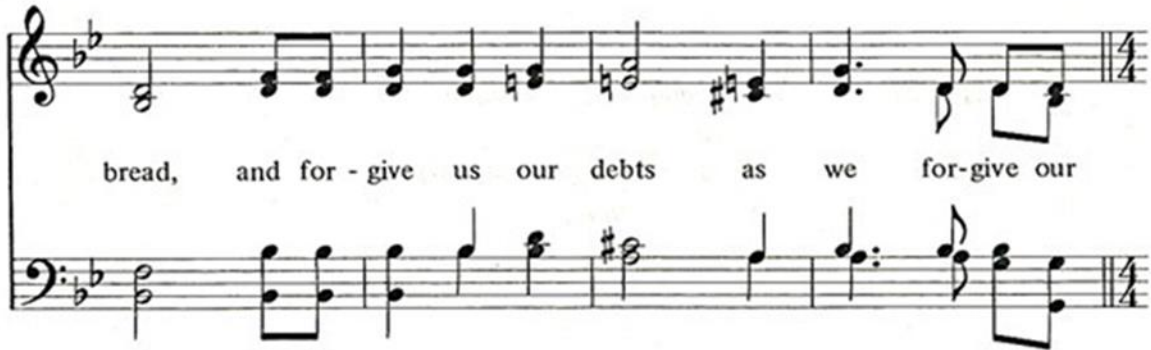
heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly

The fourth system of musical notation. The melody concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics 'heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly' are placed below the treble staff.

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PRAYER AND INTERCESSION

\*Please stand as you are able.  
**BOLD** People Response



bread, and for - give us our debts as we for-give our



debt-ors. And lead us not in-to temp-tation, but de - liv-er us from



e - vil, for Thine is the King-dom and the Pow-er and the



Glo - ry, for - ev - er. A - men.

\*Please stand as you are able.  
**BOLD** People Response

## **SENDING**

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Mary Did You Know?*

Arranged by: Mark Hayes

\*\*\*\*\*

*Join us for Fellowship Time  
in Martin Hall after our worship service.*

### **DONATE ONLINE**



Use your mobile device to scan the QR code and donate online! Please note that any online donations should be made before the 27th of each month. Donations made after that may not be transferred to our account in time to be included in that month's totals. While they will be counted in the next month, this could impact your year-end totals.

### **THANK YOU!**

The Christian Education Committee, along with Tom Day and myself (Bev Zakariassen), extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to making our ADVENTure Craft Day a resounding success!

We were blessed to host around 30 children, joined by many enthusiastic adults. The day featured 12 creative craft tables and an abundance of delicious treats. Special thanks to our volunteers who guided both kids and adults in creating beautiful projects: Elaine York, Marlene Hansen, June Rosta, Jane Barnes, Ron and Carolyn Scovill, Amy Willoughby, Kathryn Smith, Bob Baumez, Rick and Ann McElreath, and Winnie Kortemeier. We are also deeply grateful to the talented teachers of St. John's Children's Center — Angela, Chyannah, Billie, and Rosie.

A huge thank you to Pat and Bob Hammond for their invaluable help in the kitchen with set-up and cleanup. Pat also captured wonderful photos of the day's joy for everyone to enjoy.

It was a memorable day filled with creativity, fellowship, and fun. Thank you to all who participated and helped make it so special — we truly appreciate you!

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW)**

Join us on Wednesday, December 4, at 10:30 am in the Clawson Memorial Library for our next Presbyterian Women (PW) meeting! We'll be diving into Chapter 7 of our study, *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*, focusing on "Creation Laments." Zoom access will be available upon request. Come connect, reflect, and explore hope through scripture and fellowship!

**SPECIAL CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays (Dec. 1, 9, 16, 23, 30) 8:00 am-12:00 pm  
Closed December 24 – 25  
Closed on Fridays

**CLAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY HOURS**

**Sundays:** 10:00 to 10:30 AM/after worship until 12:30 PM  
**Wednesdays:** 12:00 to 3:00 PM  
**Closed December 25 (Christmas Day)**

**OPERATION STOCKING STUFFER**

This holiday season, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada will be distributing stockings to families to bring some Christmas magic to children in need. If you would like to support this mission, please consider donating a pre-filled stocking valued at \$25, clearly labeled with the intended gender and age group. Stockings can be turned in at St. John’s by December 4, 2024. Thank you for helping spread joy this Christmas!

**NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION OPPORTUNITY**

The Mission Committee of St. John’s feels called to respond to recent and ongoing crises in the Southeastern United States and Sudan. This fall, Hurricanes Helene and Milton brought immense tragedy, destruction, and loss of life. Simultaneously, Sudan continues to suffer from a devastating civil war, leading to the collapse of infrastructure, healthcare systems, and severe food insecurity and famine.

In response, the Missions Committee will be sending a donation to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), an organization with proven expertise in addressing both immediate and long-term recovery efforts. This contribution will be designated for U.S. hurricane relief and humanitarian aid in Sudan.

If you feel moved to contribute additional funds, please note “Disaster Assistance” on your check or envelope. Together, we can embody Christ’s love and hope, offering healing to those in desperate need. Thank you for your support and prayers.

**Call/Text-em-all**

It may, on rare occasions, be necessary to cancel a church service for the protection of the congregation. At all times, the safety of our members is paramount. In the event that it is necessary to cancel a church service due to extreme weather conditions, power outage at the church, fire, or other unforeseen problems, phone calls and/or text messages will be sent as soon as it is deemed necessary to cancel the service. If you have not yet done so and you would like to be on the calling/texting list, please contact the church office at [office@stjohnschurch.org](mailto:office@stjohnschurch.org). In your message, please specify your type of phone (landline or cell phone), and tell us if you prefer text, voice message or both.



## **JOIN THE MULTI MEDIA COMMITTEE!**

We are in need of a **volunteer** to help keep our church website updated! If you're comfortable with basic website management and would like to serve in this important role, please contact the church office ([office@stjohnschurch.org](mailto:office@stjohnschurch.org) or 775-826-0990). Your help will ensure we keep our community informed, engaged, and updated!

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!** Vacation Bible School (VBS)—June 16-20, 2025. Super Meer will be joining Kathryn Smith in Martin Hall on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Stop by and learn about volunteer leadership opportunities, review Leader Guides, and commit to helping Hero Hotline VBS 2025 be a success!

We're looking for the following leaders:

- Co-chair – to be present and onsite the week of VBS
- Assembly leaders/actors
- Bible Study leader
- Craft leader
- Decorations
- Music leader
- Science leader
- Snack leader



**Plan to answer the call on December 1<sup>st</sup>!**

**RENO BURRITO PROJECT** was created with the intention of feeding and connecting with the houseless population of Reno. Beyond food, people need genuine human connection to nourish them, and both of these may be difficult for folks to get on a regular basis. Taking the time to talk to the community creates the opportunity to uplift each other and allows another human being to feel heard, seen, and valued. This outreach is also important in order to discover other potential needs that can be met. For more information go to [renoburritoproject.com](http://renoburritoproject.com). The next opportunities to volunteer are **December 1** and **December 15** starting at 12:00 pm to “roll burritos” and 2:00 pm to distribute.

Donations can be dropped off in Martin Hall labeled Reno Burrito Project:

### ***Hygiene Products***

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Kleenex
- Hand Sanitizer
- Deodorant
- Soap Bars
- Feminine Products

### ***Individually Wrapped Snacks***

- Snack Sized Canned Fruit (With Pull Tops)
- Snack Sized Nut Packages
- Granola Bars
- Fruit Snacks
- Snack Sized Cracker Packets

**This Week at St. John's Presbyterian Church**  
**December 1—8, 2024**

<b>This Week at St. John's Presbyterian Church</b>		
<b>December 1—8, 2024</b>		
<b>Sun. Dec. 1</b>	<b><i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</i></b>	
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
10:00 am-10:30 am	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
10:30 am	Worship/Communion Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship/Coffee Time	Martin Hall
12:00 pm-12:30 pm	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
<b>Mon. Dec. 2</b>		
9:30 am	AlAnon-Monday Morning Wake-Up	Martin Hall
3:30 pm	Building & Grounds Comm.	Clawson Memorial Library
6:30 pm	Bella Voce Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>Tues. Dec. 3</b>		
9:00 am	Children's Cabinet Stitches	Martin Hall
10:00 am	Mission Comm.	Clawson Memorial Library
1:00 pm	AlAnon-Family Group	Martin Hall
5:30pm	Worship Comm.	Zoom
6:30 pm	Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band	Martin Hall
<b>Wed. Dec. 4</b>		
10:30 am	Presbyterian Women Bible Study	Clawson Memorial Library
11:30 am	Newcomers Artist	Martin Hall
1:00 pm	The Other Brothers Two Band Rehearsal	Music Room
6:00 pm	Coyote Crossing Band Rehearsal	D104,106,108
6:30 pm	AlAnon Wednesday Night Beginner's Group	Martin Hall
<b>Thurs. Dec. 5</b>		
3:30 pm	Sierra NV. Children's Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
6:00 pm	Cub Scouts Pack 10	Geneva Room
6:00 pm	Pastor Nominating Comm.	Clawson Memorial Library
<b>Fri. Dec. 6</b>		
	No Events Scheduled	
<b>Sat. Dec. 7</b>		
12:00 pm	Living Church of God	Martin Hall
3:00 pm	Sierra NV. Children's Choir Concert	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Back to Basics-Alcoholics Anonymous	Martin Hall
<b>Sun. Dec. 8</b>	<b><i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i></b>	
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
10:00 am-10:30 am	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:00 pm-12:30 pm	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
11:30 am	Fellowship/Coffee Time	Martin Hall
6:00 pm	Compassionate Friends of Reno	Martin Hall



### **Staff**

The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor  
Elaine York, Pastor  
Maria Winchester, Administrative Assistant  
Liz Salas, Financial Secretary  
Lucas Parke, Security Sexton  
Ann Peterson, Librarian

### **Music Staff**

Susan Horst, Music Director  
David Brock, Organist

### **Elders**

#### **Class of 2024**

John Dutton, St. John's Children's Center  
Rew Goodenow, Personnel  
Winnie Kortemeier, Worship  
Jeannine Stewart, Membership/Welcoming

#### **Class of 2025**

Aaron Karr, Multi Media  
Doris Krater, Finance  
Amy Willoughby, Nominating  
Elaine York, Fellowship and Nurture

#### **Class of 2026**

Nancy Lim (2<sup>nd</sup> Term), Missions  
Stan Peck, Membership/Welcoming  
Kathryn Smith, Christian Education  
Stan White, Building and Grounds

### **Deacons**

#### **Class of 2024**

Judy Mahon  
Christie Pierce  
Jewel White  
Bev Zakariassen

#### **Class of 2025**

Ron Scovill  
Ann Peterson  
June Rosta

#### **Class of 2026**

Sarah Deardorff (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
Ann McElreath, Chair  
John Mahon  
Marc Ullom

### **Pastor Nominating Committee**

Dale Clark, Chair  
John Dutton, Vice Chair  
Jann Carmichael, Secretary  
Kelley Bottomley, Treasurer

Sue Goodenow  
Sarah Deardorff  
Nancy Lim  
Marc Ullom

### **Multi Media Team**

Aaron Karr, Chair  
John Dutton  
Lucas Parke  
Chyannah Rowe, Staff  
Maria Winchester, Staff