November 29, 2026
4th Sunday of Extended Advent –
"Running Out of Time"

PRELUDE *(A Time for Quiet Meditation)*

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night *Martha Sobaje*

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE



The Tevepaugh Family

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #92

While We Are Waiting, Come *Waiting (Cason)*

(verse 2)

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

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***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather today.
All: It is time to worship!
One: We listen for God.
All: It is time to hear!
One: We receive God's grace.
All: It is time to be loved!
One: We leave in peace.
All: It is time to serve others!
One: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

***GATHERING SONG** *Out of Time*

(verse 1)

Out of time, out of space, now we hope for better days, keeping watch when the waiting wears us down. Drawn out thin, pulled in tight, searching for the break of day, will we ever find you drawing near?

(refrain)

You come to us from just beyond, you call to us from out of time, you tear the heavens open wide, shining love across the starlit sky.

(verse 2)

Time flows fast; make it slow, give more time for all we love. Time grows long; turn our waiting to its end. In our years, in our days, God, your goodness is at work. Can it be you might be drawing near?

(refrain)

(verse 3)

When the earth yearns for peace and the people cry for bread with a hunger that you alone can fill, we will pray, we will work, we will all prepare the way, and in time we find you drawing near.

(refrain)

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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSSION (from Isaiah 12:2, 64:9)

One: Surely, God is our salvation. Have faith and do not be afraid. We have all sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin, first together and aloud and then in silence.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy One, we have not stayed awake. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. We have failed to be alert when you appeared to us through neighbors and strangers: near or half a world away. At time, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God, is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts and heal what we have done.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: People of God, hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #137** *He Came Down* *He Came Down (verse 1)*

He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Forgiven and set free, let us be reconciled with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit, prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Psalm 80:1-7*

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are
enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth **2** before Ephraim and Benjamin and
Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us! **3** Restore us, O God; let
your face shine, that we may be saved. **4** O Lord God of hosts, how long will you
be angry with your people's prayers? **5** You have fed them with the bread of
tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. **6** You make us the scorn of
our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves. **7** Restore us, O God of
hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

*Please stand as you are able.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Prepare! Diane Hannibal & Douglas Nolan*
Performed by: John Kautzman

TIME FOR CHILDREN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 13:28-37

28 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and
puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see
these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly
I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken
place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
32 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor
the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the
time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and
puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to
be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master
of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn,
36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what
I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

THE MESSAGE *"Running Out of Time"* *Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING
We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY *Christmas Is Coming* *Joel Raney*
Performed by: Marilyn Rodenhausen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
We give thanks together for God's gifts as we offer them back to God.
*After each prompt, please respond with the simple phrase: "**Thank you**."*
Loving God, for the time we have, we say…
For the gifts we offer, we say…
For the chance to help others, we say…
For the people whose lives will be made better because of these gifts, we say…
For the ways you are changing the world, we say…
We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG #82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* *Hyfrydol*

(verse 1)

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

(verse 2)

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Waiting for a King* *Martin*

***POSTLUDE** *Nun danket alle Gott* *Albert L. Travis*

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Turkey, potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, vegetables, butter, milk, eggs, anything for a Thanksgiving meal, or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations. You can, also, leave them in the blue donation bin in the Narthex.

Christmas Poinsettias Order Form



The Christmas Poinsettias order form is available on the table in the Narthex. Please return completed form to arrive in the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 6. Any questions, please see Marilyn Rodenhausen.

Christmas Caroling - Sunday, December 6

Carolers of all ages are invited to join with our friends from Bainbridge Community Church and visit the residents of three care facilities. We will begin at Eliza (formerly The Weils) at 1:15 p.m. If you need a ride from the Church, contact Brenda Wahl (440-829-7841).

Angel Tree



Each Christmas season, Valley has an Angel Tree project. This year, we will be supporting Geauga County Family Services.

We are collecting gift cards. The suggested gift cards are Giant Eagle, Walmart, Aldi, Amazon. A box for the gift cards is available in the Narthex. **Please return the gift cards by Sunday, December 13.**

$5 for Feet, Fingers, and Fares for North Church



Valley is participating in $5 for Feet and Fingers to help our neighbors in need at North Church. Hats, gloves, socks, and fares will be purchased and given to the congregation at North Church. Envelopes are available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Thank you so much for giving the gift of warmth.



In Christ, your Mission Commission

Knitting For Others

Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group.



The group will meet on Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.:
December 13

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but have not used quite all the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. We are currently making items for babies and young children. If you have any size-3 or 4 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked "yarn" in the Library. Thank you so much for your help. For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl	Bev Keough
502-553-7255	330-888-5385

Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

Credit card donations are available on-line at the Valley Presbyterian website below:

http://valleypresbychurch.org

Look for "Donations" in the header. Can only be used for donations.
Can not pay for holiday flowers, VBS, books, etc. at this link.
Use the following QR Code to donate or purchase via **Zelle**:

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
www.valleypresbychurch.org
VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Liturgist: Jerry Moreno — Greeter: Gerry Chittock