

Anthem *“When Will The Little King Come”*

November Birthday Celebration

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Rev. R.W. Williams

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

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 and ever. Amen

***Closing Hymn #2 “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”**

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Postlude *“Great is The Lord”*

Belinda Vair Accompanist/Choir Director

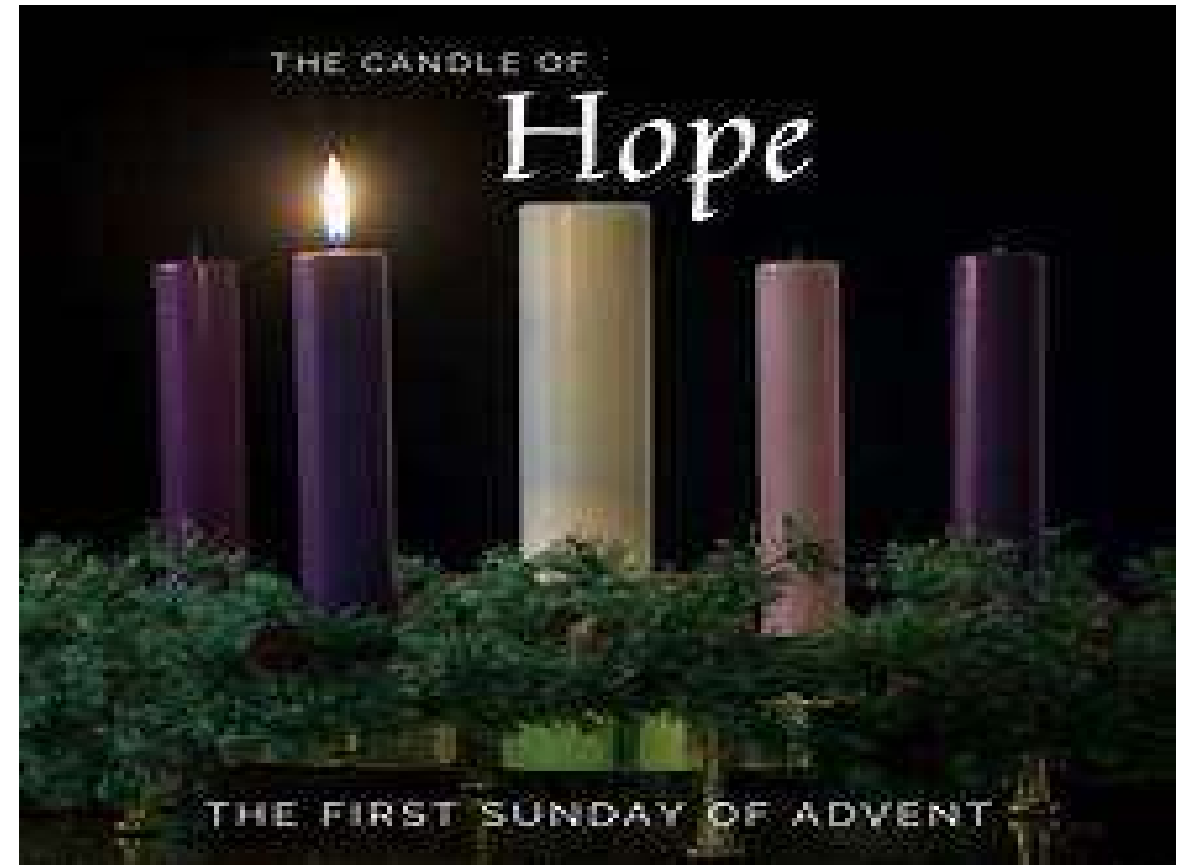
The flowers this morning are placed by Connie Chamberlain in memory of her mother, Nina Duross. ❤️

Thank you to the Deacons for supplying the Birthday Celebration cake for Coffee Hour today.

First Presbyterian Church of Johnstown, NY – YouTube link:

www.youtube.com/%40FirstPresbyterianJohnstown

Website Address: www.johnstownpresbyterian.org



November 30, 2025

10:30am

WELCOME: TO JOHNSTOWN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. WELCOME TO ALL JOINING US HERE AND ON YOUTUBE. PLEASE REMEMBER TO SHARE THE SERVICE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY. WE WANT TO REMIND YOU THAT YOU ALWAYS HAVE A PLACE HERE.

LAURA RUEHLE

Mission of the Month Food Pantry

Prelude *“I Wonder as I Wander”*

Belinda Vair Accompanist/Choir Director

Walt & Sandy Lane

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Candle of Hope – See Insert

Followed by Choral Introit – *“An Advent Carol”*

Call To Worship

Laura Ruehle

Leader: As we enter this season of watching and waiting, God calls us to walk in the way of wisdom.

People: We gather to turn our hearts toward the path of light, not the way of shadows.

Leader: “Let your eyes look straight ahead,” the Scripture says, “and keep your feet from wandering.”

People: In this busy season, we seek the clarity and steadiness of God’s presence.

Leader: Jesus reminds us that nothing hidden will remain in the dark, and that God’s care reaches even the smallest sparrow.

People: We come trusting that we are seen, known, and held by God.

Leader: With steady steps and expectant hearts, we turn toward the One who is coming.

People: Come, let us walk in God’s wisdom and worship the Lord with hope.

All: Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!

(PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT)

***Opening Hymn #8** “Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates”

Call to Confession

Laura Ruehle

Friends, Advent invites us to walk in God’s light and keep our steps on the path of wisdom. Yet we confess that we let worry lead us, we hide what we fear to face, and we forget how deeply God cares for us. Trusting in the One who sees us, knows us, and loves us still, let us turn toward God’s mercy and confess our sin together.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: O God of justice and mercy, as Advent begins, we lift our eyes toward the hope that dawns with Christ’s coming. Yet we know how easily we grow weary in the waiting and uncertain in the dark. Trusting in God’s promise to meet us with grace, let us confess our sin together.

People: God of wisdom and light, we confess that our steps often stray from the path You set before us. We let fear cloud our vision, worry distract our hearts, and hidden corners of our lives remain untouched by Your grace. You remind us that we are precious in Your sight, yet we act as though we must fend for ourselves.

Forgive us, Lord. Straighten our paths, steady our hearts, and turn our eyes toward the light of Christ who is coming. In Your mercy, lead us once again into the way of life. Amen.

Leader: Let us take a moment for silent confession and personal reflection.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear the good news: The God who calls us to walk the path of wisdom is the same God who steadies our steps when we stumble. The One who sees every hidden thing is the One who names us precious and beloved. Even the sparrows are not forgotten—and neither are we.

People: In Christ, the light has already begun to break into our darkness. In Christ, our fears lose their power. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to walk in hope. Thanks be to God! Amen

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

World without end, amen! Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Helen Thompson

Almighty God, Jesus said, “Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it!” Open our hearts and minds to the reading and hearing of your holy Word today, that we may be doers of the Word, and not hearers only. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Helen Thompson

Proverbs 4:19-27 (Pew Bible Old Testament Page #587-88)

Luke 12: 1-7 (Pew Bible New Testament Page #74)

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God. And we all say:

People: Thanks be to God.

The Candle of Hope

Leader: Children of God, what are we waiting for?

People: We wait for light in the darkness, for chains to fall, for hope to rise. We wait with prophets, ancestors, and weary souls, trusting God's faithful promise.

Leader: Today we light one candle, small but bright.

People: It pierces the dark and reminds us that hope lives.

Leader: We call this candle Hope. (Light the first candle.)

People: Its glow whispers that despair is not the end, its warmth reminds us that God is near, its spark stirs courage as we wait.

Leader: Holy One, waiting wears us down.

People: Our patience falters, our hope grows dim.

Leader: Yet You do not despise small beginnings.

People: You breathe on our weakness, kindling the flame of faith. Renew us, O Lord, as we wait in You.

Leader: Hear the promise of Isaiah:

People: "Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength... they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

Leader: We stand in awe of hope that endures.

People: Though shadows lengthen, the light will not fail.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, and make hope our son