

First Sunday of Advent

On this first Sunday of Advent, we come together as the people of God to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ. All are welcome!

CALL TO WORSHIP

PASTOR: But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

CONGREGATION: *For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.*

PASTOR: For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

CONGREGATION: *For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

PASTOR: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

CONGREGATION: *Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*

PASTOR: For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

CONGREGATION: *Who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.*

PASTOR: Since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, Looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

PASTOR AND CONGREGATION: *Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.*

I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Philippians 3:20, 21; II Peter 3:11-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- Christmas Choir Practice tonight after church.
- **December 16** - Caroling
- **December 20** - Christmas Musical
- **December 25 - Christmas** - 7:00 PM - Candlelight Service
- Our sister church to pray for this week is **Haverhill**. The pastor is Kurt Groder.
- Pray for **revival** in our church and community.
- Recent requests from the Cobleskill church include **Caroline, Ann, Ruth, Ralph, Todd, Sharon, and Laverne**.
- Pray for:
 - **Ed and Rosemary Snyder**, and the **Mincers** and the **Bowmans**, coping with fire losses.
 - The **Ford family**.
 - Neighbors, relatives and friends for whom prayer has been requested, including Julia, Butch, Barb, Wayne, and Tim.
 - Our **young people**.
 - The renovation of our church building.
 - Conference President Case and the Council.
 - Our armed services personnel.
 - Our President, Congress, and Supreme Court, that they may make righteous choices.
- Recent requests for physical needs:
 - **Dave, Andrew, Joy Montgomery, Paul Heckman, Erika (Slozat) LeBaron, Gwendolyn Lecates**
- Continue to pray for:
 - **Ernest Cook, Judy Williams and Mary Braun, Dean Hughes, Earl Bickford, Marie Rooney, Gary Vosburgh, Susan Ford, Kathy Moltzen, Noreen, Mark Vosburgh, Lillian Jamison, Duane Maxey**

Words cannot express our gratitude for the thoughtful and appropriate Thanksgiving pouding given to us Sunday. Every item was deeply appreciated and has been or will be put to good use!

Thank you to all who had a part in it.

— The Owens family and Sis. Schenck.

November is the month of Thanksgiving, but it often also includes the beginning of a new church year. This year, November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. The season of Advent is about Jesus, the Word, “coming.” It’s about anticipating and preparing for Christ’s arrival.

God comes to us in many and various ways. He comes and speaks to us when we are listening. He comes to us through the inspiration of His written Word. He comes through lives of ordinary people who are His saints. He comes in the promptings and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Most of all, God came in the person of Christ, speaking to us face to face, and will come again soon to those who watch for Him.

Pastor Edmund Steimle put it this way: “The Christian story is a story of God coming into the middle of life, of our lives, opening the dialogue with us,” [to redeem us to fellowship with Him].

That’s what Advent is really all about: God visiting the earth in person to speak with anyone and everyone who is ready to do so.

PHOTO: RDO -11/28/09

Suggested Daily Scripture Reading

	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
OT	Daniel 6:1-28	Daniel 7:1-28	Daniel 8:1-27	Daniel 9:1-11:1
NT	II Peter 3:1-18	1 John 1:1-10	1 John 2:1-17	1 John 2:18-3:6
PSA	Psalm 119:129-152	Psalm 119:153-176	Psalm 120:1-7	Psalm 121:1-8
PROV	Proverbs 29	Proverbs 30	Proverbs 1	Proverbs 2
	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	
	Daniel 11:2-35	Daniel 11:36-12:13	Hosea 1:1-3:5	
	1 John 3:7-24	1 John 4:1-21	1 John 5:1-21	
	Psalm 122:1-9	Psalm 123:1-4	Psalm 124:1-8	
	Proverbs 3	Proverbs 4	Proverbs 5	

SERVICES — SUNDAY: Sunday School 8:45 AM Morning Worship 9:30 AM, Cobleskill 4:00 PM, Evening 7:00 PM — WEDNESDAY: Midweek Service 7:00 PM