

We are here to: Love God, Love Our Neighbor and Serve the World.

December 8, 2024 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM Advent II: "Passion"

Prelude *Away in a Manger & The Huron Carol*,
arr. Darhon Rees- Rohrbacher
Away in a Manger, by J.R. Murray and W.J. Kirkpatrick,
The Huron Carol, French Canadian Carol

Help us to find that place where we can receive as well as give, wait as well as act, and listen as well as speak. Our whole world needs your peace. Let us come before you and learn your ways, laying down our weapons and feeding the hungry. Come to us now, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Amy

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle: Peace

Congregation: In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

Song *Christ Be Our Light* Farrell

Congregation joins on the refrain:

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

***Call to Worship** by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries

Children of God, prepare the way! The Word of God is coming!

We come to listen and receive God's Word among us.

Children of God, the prophets call to us now and from generations past, urging us to prepare and refine our hearts for the coming of the Word of God. Are you listening?

We come to listen and prepare to receive God's Word among us.

Children of God, this is the mark of our preparation: that passion for God's Word would burn within us, cleansing us and renewing us to reflect God's love throughout the world.

May God ignite our passion for God's Word that has come among us as we listen, prepare, and receive all that God has for us today.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* UMH #196

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Compassionate God, greet us with your grace this day, for we need you. We cannot save ourselves. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield peace, peace as you can give. Today we would be quiet enough to hear your voice. Today we would be still enough to feel your touch.

*You are invited to stand, in body or in spirit.

Special Music *Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child*,
English carol, arr. by Daniel Burton

Hymn *Jesus Loves Me*, verse 1 UMH # 191

A Time for Young Disciples

Hymn *Jesus Loves Me*, verse 1 UMH #191

Gospel Reading Luke 3:1-6

Message Rev. Amy B. Gregory

Response *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* UMH #204

Invitation to Generosity: Offering our Gifts, our Thanks and our Pledges
Please use the special offering envelope to give to the "Christmas Offering" You may also give online and choose that option in the menu.

Offertory *In the Bleak Midwinter*, Gustav Holst,
arr. by Daniel Burton

***Singing Our Praises** *to the tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* UMH #211

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
And praise Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing our Joys and Concerns Pastor Ian Carlos Urriola

Song as Prayer *Slumber My Darling*, Stephen Foster,
Arr. Van Keuren

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in your heart language) UMH #895

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** *In the Bleak Midwinter*, vs. 1,3 UMH #221

***Benediction**

Postlude *The First Noel*,
Cornish carol, arr. by Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher

A very special thanks to our guest musicians today: Karlinda Caldicott, harp and Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin. Thank you for blessing us with the gift of music this morning.

WEEKLY CALENDAR	
Sunday, December 8	Advent II with harp and violin
9:00 AM	Worship
9:45 AM	Youth Choir
10:30 AM	Worship
11:30 AM	Voices of Hope Choir
12:00 PM	Pageant Rehearsal
Monday, December 9	
9:30 AM	Earlybirds
Tuesday, December 10	
9:30 AM	Tuesday Connections
10:00 AM	Guided Meditation/S.R. High room
6:30 PM	Finance Meeting/Fireside/Hybrid
Wednesday, December 11	
8:30 AM	Fix-its
	Explorers on hiatus until January
10:00 AM	Marty Wade memorial service followed by reception in Knight Hall
6:00 AM	Beth's music group/KH
7:00 PM	AA/Fireside Room
7:00 PM	Table Talk/Pizza Works
7:30 PM	Guided Meditation/S.R. room
Thursday, December 12	
9:15AM	Seekers/KH
6:30 PM	Choir rehearsal
Saturday, December 14	
2:30 PM	Piano recital and reception/Sanctuary/KH
5:30 PM	Troop #2169/KH
Sunday, December 15	Advent III
9:00 AM	Worship
10:00 AM	Youth Choir/Voices of Hope Choir
10:30 AM	Worship
12:00 PM	Pageant Rehearsal

Please join us for Coffee Hour after the service hosted by Beth McLaughlin and Steve and Diane Skibinski.

Announcements

- **The Giving Tree** has no more “ornaments”! Thank you for taking care of all of the gift requests. **Bring the gifts (with the “ornament” taped to the gift) and place under the Giving Tree by December 15, 2024** so they can be sorted for distribution prior to Christmas. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mark Witkofsky (518-669-2978). Thank you for your generosity.
- Join us for an evening of **joy and song** as we bring holiday cheer to the residents of Glendale Nursing Home! On **Wednesday, December 18, we’ll meet at 6:00 p.m. at Glendale Nursing Home (59 Hetcheltown Rd, Schenectady)** for caroling and fellowship.
- **Volunteers needed for Longest Night service**
We will be holding space for those who are grieving during the holiday season with a **Longest Night** worship service on **Friday, December 20, at 7:00pm**. This will be a contemplative service with many opportunities for individuals to participate in worship leadership (reading pre-written prayers and scripture, lighting candles, etc). If you would like to help with leadership in this worship service, contact Pastor Ian at iurriola@burnthillsumc.org.
- **Readers needed for Christmas Eve at 9:00 pm.** Please contact Amy if you can help.
- Our Christmas Offering helps neighbors near and far. Our church keeps none of your gifts received for this offering. We will again support **Schenectady Community Ministries, RISE, Chacocente Scholars, Guardian House, Captain/CHS, local food pantries of Sycamore** in Schenectady, **Life Works** in Ballston Spa and **Rensselaer UMC**. **Place your offering in the collection plate using the special offering envelope marked “Christmas Offering”** or drop it off at the church office. To give electronically, please visit the church website at: nybhmc.com/online-giving.html. There is a dropdown box for the Christmas Offering.
- **For more than 75 years, Heifer International has worked with people around the globe to end hunger and poverty, and care for the earth** Information about donating to Heifer will be in Knight Hall after church services in December. Please stop by the table to see the animal gift cards and brochures. You may make a donation at the table, send the donation to the church office or make your donation electronically by using: nybhmc.com/online-giving.html. There is a drop down box for Heifer on our online giving link through vanco. Thank you so much!
- Decorating the sanctuary window sills this year will be **Angels**. If you have any that you would like to share, please bring them to church. Place them anywhere you desire on either window sill. Thank you and please only bring Angels that are not priceless heirlooms. Please contact Patty Riley if you have any questions.

Pastor Ian will be hosting weekly in-person meet-ups to discuss **Advent and Christmas in Crisis Theology** at restaurants around Burnt Hills, Schenectady, Clifton Park, and Saratoga Springs. These meet-ups will take place from 6-8pm (come and go as your schedule permits) on:

- Friday, December 6 (Katie O'Byrnes in Schenectady)
- Friday, December 13 (Uncommon Grounds in Clifton Park)
- Thursday, December 19 (Pizza Works in Burnt Hills)
- Monday, December 23 (Druther's Brewing Company in Saratoga Springs)

Contact Pastor Ian to sign up for these meet-ups.

- On **Sunday, December 29**, we will have **one service at 9:30 a.m.** This service will be very casual (as in, wear your pajamas) **Lessons and Carols** service, weaving poetry about the Christmas season with carols and scripture. **Volunteers are needed** to help us lead this service through reading different elements. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor Ian.

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church
816 Route 50
Burnt Hills, NY 12027
www.nybhmc.com

Christmas Eve at Burnt Hills United Methodist Church
COME LET US ADORE HIM!

Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24

3:30pm Short & Sweet Christmas
Come as you are Christmas!
30 minute/ low sensory service with the Christmas story, carols and candlelight (glow stick & battery candle options)
Snacks served. Home before dark.

7pm Christmas Pageant
Our youth and friends share the the birth of Jesus in story and music. All are invited to sing “Silent Night” by candlelight.

9pm Candlelight Service scripture, music, carols & peaceful candlelight. Welcome Christmas by singing “Silent Night” by candlelight.

Lead Pastor, Amy Gregory: revgregorybhmc@gmail.com
Church phone: 518-399-5144 press “1”

Associate, Ian Urriola: iurriola@burnthillsumc.org
Church phone: 518-399-5144 press “2”

Burnt Hills

United Methodist Church

December 8, 2024

COME, LET US ADORE HIM

WEEK 2

Passion

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

BHUMC Welcome Statement

At Burnt Hills UMC, we aspire to be a community of grace and unconditional love, where all people will find hospitality, compassion and mercy. We seek to welcome all on the journey, to grow together in faith and to go out to serve the world. We welcome people of any age, culture, race, nationality, ability, marital status, economic status, sexual orientation and gender identity, as full participants in the life of our congregation. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be part of Jesus’ movement of love and justice for all of God’s children. All are welcome to worship, grow and serve with us.

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