

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

**November 27, 2022 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM**

**Reflecting the Sacred: Advent I "Sacred Time"**

Our Advent Series: Reflecting the Sacred

The shiny visuals and the lights of our Advent and Christmas decorations remind us that we are called to reflect the sacred each and every day. "Incarnation" is a word that means that God's presence came to dwell among all people, and we believe this happened in a special way in the birth of Jesus. All creation has always been imbued with the Creator's brilliance. This season, we will remember the call to shine with this holy light.

**Music for Gathering** *Behold, A Simple Tender Babe* Lee

**Announcements and Welcome**

**The Advent Light of Hope**

**Song** *Christ Be Our Light* Farrell

Congregation joins on the refrain:

**Christ, Be Our Light!**  
A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Congregation: Words and Music by BERNADETTE FARRELL

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day.

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**Response**

**We pray for Hope this day.  
We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.  
We open to see each moment  
as a gift of holy presence.  
This is the gift of the Christ Mystery,  
lighting the way to hope.**

**\*Hymn of Hope** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* UMH #279

\*You are invited to stand if you are able or comfortable

**Prayer**

**Living God, Christ Mystery, Spirit of Hope,  
we give you thanks for this holy moment together.  
As we take in the hope you offer,  
may we be a reflection of your light,  
expanding the sacred time of "right now"  
into the sacred time of "always and for all time."  
Amen.**

Proclaiming the Word

**Anthem** *Arise and Shine In Splendor* Opitz/Issac

**Hymn** *Jesus Loves Me, verse 1* UMH #261

**A Time for Young Disciples**

**Hymn** *Jesus Loves Me, verse 1* UMH # 261

**First Reading** Romans 13: 11-14 (The Message)

**Second Reading** Matthew 24: 36-44 (NRSVUE)

**Message** 'Reflecting the Sacred; Sacred Time" Brendan J. Fox

**Response** *Sanctuary* TFWS #2164

Responding to God's Word

**Our Tithes and Offerings**

Pledge cards for 2023 are available from the ushers. Pledges may be put in the offering plate.

**Offertory** *Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn* Haugen

**\*Singing Our Praises** *Doxology* to the tune of *What Child Is This* UMH #219

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God all heavens and the earth  
reflecting the sacred story.**

**This, this is Christ the One  
who mirrors hope for all of us.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Word of time eternal.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Our Joys and Concerns**

**Prayer Song** *Come, Emmanuel* Worship & Song #3130

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,  
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Hope**, 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 the evil one. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**\*Closing Hymn** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* UMH #206

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude** *Of The Father's Love Begotten* UMH #184  
11th century Sanctus trope

Please join us for Coffee Hour after the service hosted by The Outreach Committee

**Announcements**

Join us each Sunday night in **Advent at 5pm on Zoom** for an At-Home Advent Candle Lighting Service. The church has purchased sets of Advent candles and small Advent wreaths for folks to set up at home. During these services we will pause as a community, reflect on our journey towards Christmas thus far, and share in a time of prayer, music, meditation, and ritual. **If you'd like a wreath and set of candles, please ask an usher or pick up your candles after service in Knight Hall today. See Cathy Bryson.** The Zoom link will be emailed later in the week, but you can also email either of the pastors to get the link.

**Memorial Christmas Lights:** Is there a loved one that you would want to lift up in remembrance this holiday season? Sign up after services in Knight Hall **today** or contact Cathy Bryson at cat.bryson@aol.com or call 518-399-3253 (landline). The tree will be lit on **December 2** after the Advent Potluck.

**Advent Potluck: Friday, December 2** All ages! **6:00PM** potluck, **7:00pm** Chrismon tree decorating in Sanctuary then Memorial tree (on Rt.50) lighting with singing.

## Announcements -Continued-

**Lunch Bunch:** Last month was the first Lunch Bunch outing after a two and a half year hiatus due to Covid 19. Twelve of us met at Glenville Queen. It was great to be back together again sharing fellowship. Our next luncheon is at the **Charlton Tavern on Friday, December 2nd at 12:00 pm.** Contact Carol Borthwick (399-5405) or Lynn Christie (399-8838) if you would like to attend.

**Men's Breakfast** will be on **Saturday, December 3, at 8 am** in Knights Hall. Men of all ages are invited. Come and meet other people of the Church and share good food and fellowship. Hope to see you there.

**Help decorate the sanctuary for Advent.** This year our theme is **nativities.** Please consider bringing in nativities from home to place on the sanctuary window sills. Advent begins **Sunday, November 27th**, so please bring in your nativities starting Thanksgiving week.

### *Ways to Give This Season:*

**Thanksgiving Offering** - Happy Thanksgiving to all! We are thankful for so many blessings. Our Thanksgiving offering will be taken during the **month of November.** All money will be given to **Concerned For The Hungry**, an organization that gives away many Thanksgiving baskets in Schenectady, but is also active all year in helping to alleviate hunger in nearby communities. We are also asking for **donations of non-perishable food.** Most food will be given to food pantries we support ( **Life Works in Ballston Spa, Schenectady Community Ministries and Rensselaer UMC**) but a small amount is kept here for the pastors to give away at their discretion. Thank you for remembering those who are hungry! We appreciate your kindness.  
The Outreach Committee

**Fair Trade:** Our annual advent sale of fair trade items will be held in Knight Hall on **November 27** and **December 4** after both church services. Coffee, chocolates, textiles, baskets and ornaments will be displayed. Come shop where your dollars make a real difference in people's lives. Thank you!  
The Outreach Committee

**Heifer International:** For more than 75 years, Heifer International has worked with people around the globe to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth. **Animals, trees and seeds are provided to families to improve food security.** Your gifts save lives. We will have an information table in Knight Hall after Sunday services in December. Please stop by to see the animal gift cards and brochures. Your donation will be gratefully received.  
The Outreach Committee.

**The Giving Tree** is set up and full of "ornaments". On the back of each "ornaments" is a gift request. Please buy the item, **wrap it and ATTACH THE ORNAMENT** (the ornament information is the only way we know Who gets the gift). The best way to attach the ornament is to securely tape the sting to the package (this allows the information to be read). Bring the gifts to church and place under the Giving Tree by **December 18, 2022.** We need the gifts back by this date so we can sort them for distribution prior to Christmas. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mark Witkofsky (518-669-2978). Thank you for your generosity.

**Our Christmas Offering** helps neighbors near and far. Our church keeps none of the gifts that are received for this offering. This year we will again support **Schenectady Community Ministries, Skye Farm Camp, UMCOR** ( flood/hurricane relief), **Conference Ministries** ( specific to Outreach projects), **RISSE** ( support for refugees and recent immigrants), and the **food pantries of SCM** in Schenectady, **Life Works** in Ballston Spa and the **Rensselaer UMC.** Thank you for giving to people in need.

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

**Associate Pastor, Brendan Fox: pastorbrendanbhmc@gmail.com**  
**Church phone: 518-399-5144 press "2"**

### Prayers Needed?

We will be collecting prayer cards during the offering.

If you would like your prayer request forwarded to the Prayer Chain, please remember to check the appropriate box on the card.



**November 27, 2022**

**Advent I: "Sacred Time"**



### 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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