

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Schaller, Iowa**

**10:00 A. M.**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 14, 2025**

**Bev Logsdon**

**PRELUDE**

**Janice Ploeger, Organist**

**LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE – THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

**LIGHTING THE SECOND CANDLE – THE CANDLE OF PEACE**

**LIGHTING THE THIRD CANDLE – THE CANDLE OF JOY**

**(SEE INSERT)**

**(Bruce & Jackie Mentzer)**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Elder**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Elder**

L: My soul magnifies the Lord;

C: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

L: The Mighty One has done great things.

C: Holy is God's name!

**\*HYMN “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” #124**

**INVOCATION (Please be seated) Bev**

**CALL TO CONFESSION Bev**

Let the desert rejoice, and let the dry land be glad, for God has come to save us. Let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON): Elder**

God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace. You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray. We hide our eyes from your presence. We do not listen to your word. We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing. Forgive us, O Lord. Speak peace to our fearful hearts, strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees as we seek to follow in your holy way. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Bev**

Now return to the Lord with joy and gladness. Sing a song of redemption! Let sorrow and sighing be no more. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

**\* GLORIA PATRI #623**

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

**New Testament: James 5:7-10**

**Bev**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**Bev**

**HYMN “Joy to the World” #125**

**SERMON “Be Patient” Bev**

**\*APOSTLE’S CREED**

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Response #421 (Verse 1)

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY #625**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN “Angels from the Realms of Glory” #131**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION SONG “Freely, Freely” (V. 1) #447**

**\*EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES**

**\*POSTLUDE**

(\*Those who are able please stand.)



## **CHALLENGE FUND**

We received another anonymous \$10,000 matching gift challenge to the Church. For every dollar you contribute, the donor will match it up to a maximum amount of

\$10,000. So please make your contributions between now and December 29th, 2025. If you wish to mail a check, you can use the following address: First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 69, Schaller, IA 51053, or you can drop the check off at the State Bank of Schaller. PLEASE mark your checks "Challenge Fund" on the memo line.

The donor does wish to restrict the use of these funds solely for the benefit of the local church body and not be used for any purpose beyond the local church body of Schaller.

**YTD: \$9,100.00**

## **2025 PER CAPITA**

2025 Per Capita amount is \$55.70. It is a very important way we can contribute to the operation and mission of the Presbyterian Church. Session encourages all members to contribute. Please mark your check "Per Capita".

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**December 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Judy Fells & Jane Bisenius**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**John & Brenna Franken**

## **PULPIT SUPPLY FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY**

<b>January 4</b>	<b>Jay Grogan</b>
<b>January 11</b>	<b>Rev. Ken Fells (Congregational Meeting)</b>
<b>January 18</b>	<b>Melanie Hauser (BV College)</b>
<b>January 25</b>	<b>Rev. Ken Fells (Snow Date for Congregational Meeting)</b>
<b>February 1</b>	<b>Rev. Ken Fells (Communion)</b>
<b>February 8</b>	<b>Jay Grogan</b>
<b>February 15</b>	<b>Norman Prather</b>
<b>February 22</b>	<b>Rev. Dr. Cambria Kaltwasser</b>

## **LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

**READER:** Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. (Psalm 33:20-22)

**Leader:** Something's coming.

**People:** **We're waiting. We're eager.**

**Leader:** It's more than presents.

**People:** **It's more than lights.**

**Leader:** We open the Book of Hope and read the promise.

**People:** **God will be with us.**

**Leader:** Our hearts are glad; we trust God's holy name.

**People:** **God's never-ending love surrounds us.**

**Leader:** Today we light the candle of Hope.

**(Light the first candle.)**

**People:** **Our hope is in the Lord. (Light the Purple Candle)**

### **Advent Season – Hope, Peace, Joy, Love**

Each Sunday of Advent brings us closer to the manger. Join us as we light the candles of hope, peace, joy and love, preparing our hearts for Christ's coming.

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING (Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>- Dec 24<sup>th</sup>)

The Christmas Joy Offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers and their families in need. Thanks in part to support from this Offering, church workers can receive critical financial assistance to support them through life's challenging circumstances. These generous actions bear witness to our faithful response to God's charge to love one another as Christ commanded.



Christmas Joy Offering envelopes and children's coin boxes can be found in

the back of the Sanctuary throughout the season of Advent, PLEASE mark your check "JOY". Please give generously.

## The Schaller-Early-Nemaha Community Food Pantry (Mission Project)

The Food Pantry, which our church supports, is collecting Hy Vee (Storm Lake only) grocery and gas receipts. You will find a bucket at the Library, the Presbyterian Church, and at the Methodist Church. This runs until the end of April. Our Food Pantry will earn a percentage of the receipts and will be reimbursed with a check from Des Moines. This money may help cover costs to maintain our Food Pantry. Please drop all your HyVee receipts in one of the buckets.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

Jim McDonough (20<sup>th</sup>); David Siebrecht (21<sup>st</sup>); Bruce Mentzer (26<sup>th</sup>).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DECEMBER 2025

14 Sunday (Bev Logsdon filling the pulpit)

Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

15 Monday

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

17 Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Ladies Fellowship

21 Sunday (Pulpit Supply: Rev. Fells) Communion

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

24 Wednesday (Pulpit Supply: Jay Grogan)

5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

28 Sunday (Pulpit Supply: Lue Baker)

10:00 a.m. Worship

## CORPORATION/CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a Corporation/Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> which will serve as the annual meeting. There is a snow date of January 25<sup>th</sup>. We will elect officers, treasurers, and discuss reports from last year. The budget will be discussed as an information item.



## THE GIVING TREE

All gifts must be brought back to the church by Sunday, December 14.



## SHARE THE WARMTH

Please have all your gifts of warmth at the church no later than Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.



Please help provide our church with a festive look by sharing poinsettias for the season.

## ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual Reports and Nominating Committee Reports are due to Denise no later than January 4<sup>th</sup>, so she can have them ready. (Reports needed Session, Christian Growth, Ladies Fellowship, Nominating Report, Sunday School, Treasurer's Reports.

## ATTENTION!

Our church is looking for a person or persons to be the Treasurer starting in 2026. Lorna Currie will be retiring, but will stay on to help the new Treasurer. She says it's not a hard job. Having more than one person can act as backup. Please pray about stepping up to help in this capacity!

## JOYS:

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Jaxon & Skye Franken on the birth of their son Wells Hunter Franken born on December 1<sup>st</sup>. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 19.7 inches long. Proud grandparents are John & Brenna Franken. Also proud Great-Grandma Betty Franken.

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

The Family of CA Rininger

The Family of Shirley Sims

Jan Langner

(In the loss of her husband Don)

Our Church, Our Session, Our School Kids, Our School Teachers, Rev. Ken Fells, Doug O'Bannon (Liver Surgery), Keith Siebrecht (had hip surgery), Keith Kenny, Denny & LaRae Mauser, Shari O'Bannon, Florene Cork, Deb Langner, Jeremy Plagman, Rod Plagman, Dexter Meseck, Ken Fells Jr., The Family of Kyle Albers), Our Military, First Responders

Thank you for keeping us informed about joys and concerns. Remember, hospitalized members and friends don't always get on the list at the hospital. We'd rather get several calls than none! If you would like to add someone to the prayer list please call Denise King (275-4516).

## PRAYER FOR CHURCHES

December 14, 2025 - Theological Institutions in the PC(USA)

December 21, 2025

Pray for the Commissioned Ruling Elders in the Presbytery

## **LIGHTING THE SECOND CANDLE THE CANDLE OF PEACE**

**READER:** Let me hear what God the Lord will speak for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. (Psalm 85:8-10)

**Leader:** Can you hear it?

**People:** **What is it?**

**Leader:** God's Word is coming.

**People:** **We're listening. We're eager to hear.**

**Leader:** A voice cries out and declares the Promise of Peace.

**People:** **We stand in awe.**

**Leader:** Things are going to even out in the world.

**People:** **All people will embrace each other.**

**Leader:** Today we light the candle of Peace

**(Light the Second Purple Candle.)**

**People:** **Our peace comes from God.**

## **LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE THE CANDLE OF JOY**

**READER:** O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God. (Psalm 43:3-4)

**Leader:** It's getting closer.

**People:** **We feel it!**

**Leader:** The days are shorter, but the lights burn brighter.

**People:** **We're listening. We're eager to hear good news.**

**Leader:** We've gathered together in the House of Joy.

**People:** **We're here to praise God with our voices.**

**Leader:** We're here to praise God with beautiful music.

**People:** **We're here to praise God with all we have.**

**Leader:** Today we light the candle of Joy.

**(Light the third candle.)**

**All:** **We worship God with exceeding joy!**

