

Lectionary for December

November 29: Isaiah 64:1–9 Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19 1 Corinthians 1:3–9 Mark 13:24–37

December 6: Isaiah 40:1–11 Psalm 85:1–2, 8–13 2 Peter 3:8–15a Mark 1:1–8

December 13: Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b–55 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 John 1:6–8, 19–28

December 20: 2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16 Luke 1:46b–55 or Psalm 89:1–4, 19–26 Romans 16:25–27 Luke 1:26–38

December 24 Christmas Eve: Isaiah 9:2–7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11–14 Luke 2:1–14 [15–20]

December 25 Christmas Day: Isaiah 52:7–10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1–4 [5–12] John 1:1–14

December 27: Isaiah 61:10–63:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4–7, Luke 2: 22–40

Keep these members in your prayers:

Don & Sally Day	Stephanie Bennett	Billie Bauer
Arlene Besner	Vera Dice	Carole Fowler
Robert Jones	Chuck Kememer	Sandy Reese
Heather Rousseau		

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Second Presbyterian Church Newsletter November – December 2020



*Seeking and Serving Christ we are a Place for Growing
Christians*

Christmas Eve Service

5:30p.m. - Service of Lessons and Carols

This will be **virtual only** on YouTube channel
Second Presbyterian Church spcsaginaw.

Indoor Worship Postponed

Grace and Peace in Christ!

In the past few weeks, we have been able to worship together in the church Sanctuary with all the safety protocols in place. Due to the recent surge of the COVID-19 and the recommendation on the health and safety guidelines from the CDC, Michigan Health Department and Presbytery of Lake Huron, Session have decided to stop all **Indoor Worship in the Sanctuary** beginning Next Sunday November 29 through December 31, 2020. The Live-Stream worship will continue at the same time our regular Sunday Worship, 9:30am.

Praying for everyone to be safe and if you have any pastoral needs, we ask you to contact the church office at (989) 792-1023 or secondpres@sbcglobal.net or email Pastor Philomena at pastorphilomena20@gmail.com

Stay Safe and Blessed

In Christ,

Your Session &
Pastor Philomena

First Sunday of Advent Communion

Please join us via YouTube livestream Sunday, November 29th for the First Sunday of Advent Communion @ 9:30a.m. Since we will be worshipping from home, we encourage you to share in Communion with us from home using your own elements. We are thankful to be able to share in Communion together as a congregation.

Mission Study

Mission Study of the church Survey has been sent by mail to you. Kindly take time to fill it out and return it the church by November 24, in the stamped envelope provided or email it to secondpres@sbcglobal.net.

Estimate of Giving



If you have not already done so, please turn in your bright pink **2021 Estimate of Giving** slip by either mailing it to the church or dropping it in the donation box. We are working on our budget for 2021 and many programs of the church depend upon your

Estimate of Giving.

Poinsettias



If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special, please call the office to sign up and place payment in the mail.

The deadline to order is December 6. These beautiful poinsettias are \$10.00 each and have multiple large blossoms and a bow attached. They will decorate the church for worship beginning on Sunday, December 20, and will stay until after the Christmas Eve service. Take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service.

Christmas Joy Offering



The Christmas Joy Offering supports the work of Presbyterian racial ethnic schools provides supplemental income and medical insurance for former ministers, missionaries, church workers, and their families. The Christmas Joy Offering will be received on December 20th.

Church Communications

During 2020 we have increased our use of email communications and found this to be an efficient way of communicating with our church family. If you have an email address, please ensure you are receiving our weekly email regarding church activities. Email is the quickest way to contact the congregation with last minute updates or changes. To be added to the email list please contact the church office at (989) 792-1023 or secondpres@sbcglobal.net.

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

"Go also the second mile" Matthew 5:41

Angel Tree



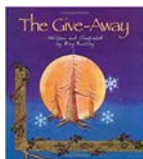
All Angel Tree gifts are due Sunday, December 6th. Please contact Linda Mattson for drop off information.

Thank You!

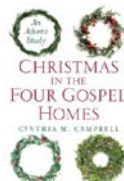
CROP Walk 2020 was a huge success thanks to all who participated, sponsored, supported or prayed for the Second Presbyterian Church team! As a group, we raised \$1020 and collected countless pantry items to help feed those in need in Mid-Michigan!

Christmas Pageant

On Sunday, December 13th @ 9:30 a.m. see and hear the recitation of the book “**The Give-away**” written by Ray Buckley. In this story, the oldest and wisest of every walking and flying animal gather in the oldest forest to discuss the state of humanity. They recognize how humans have forgotten their connections with God, each other, the animals, and the Earth. Each animal offers a gift to help the humans learn to do what is right; then the Creator speaks, promising a gift that will bring hope to the world. This is a virtual only event



A Very Special 2nd @ Second



We will be having an Advent focused 2nd @ Second @ 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. We will look at the 4 Gospels, each as an individual house, in “Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes” By Dr. Cynthia Campbell. For each week of Advent, we will discuss and reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ. The church has ordered 12 paperback copies of the book, so it will be first come first served on the copies. You will need to sign-up by phone 989-792-1023, or email secondpres@sbcglobal.net so that we can email you the invitation for the Zoom meeting.

- Week One: A Christmas at Marks House, on Sunday, November 29th
- Week Two: A Christmas at Matthew’s House on Sunday, December 6th
- Week Three: A Christmas at Luke’s House on Sunday, December 13th
- Week Four: A Christmas at John’s House and One Last Stop on Sunday, December 20th

If you have any questions, please call Peggy or Pastor Philomena at (989)792-1023.

PayPal Donations

We now have the ability to support the work of Christ by giving to the church via PayPal. Simply visit www.spcsaginaw.org/donate and follow the steps to make a donation. Some folks have found this to be a convenient method of giving. As always, there is a cost to convenience. PayPal charges the church 2.9% plus \$0.30 for each transaction. Even with the added cost, we feel it is important to let you know this option is available. As always, we thank you for your continued support of Second Presbyterian Church, which supports the work of Christ here, and around the world.



Our Condolences

Our congregation mourns the passing of Charles Severance on November 11, 2020. Our prayers go out to his wife Gloria and the family in Texas. The address is P.O. Box 8494, Horseshoe Bay, TX. 78657.

Our prayers go out to the Hunt family at the death of Jerry’s brother Frank Hunt. May his soul rest in peace with the Lord.

SCRIP

The church has decided **not** to participate in the SCRIP program any longer due to rising costs of shipping. There are some cards left in stock if you are interested in purchasing for the holiday season.

2 - \$25 Applebee’s **3 - \$10 Bath & Body Works**
1 - \$25 Logan’s **4 - \$25 Bath & Body Works**
6 - \$25 Olive Garden **1 - \$25 TJ Maxx**

Please call Sonia in the church office @ 792-1023.

Please read the weekly updates. They will contain the up to date information!

From the Pastor's Desk

Peace and Grace in Christ,

In a year that have been particularly challenging for everyone, we still have much to be thankful for. God has been so good to our church and church family through all the difficult times.

One may be wondering where we are going from here. In the beginning of the COVID-19, our worship went virtual, many of our meetings and fellowship were move online. Now that we are back to in person worship, things are not quite the same. Yet it is wonderful to be back together to celebrate the Lord's Day.

Although it may be a while before we get back to the "normal" way we worship and fellowship, we can continue to pray for one another and for the treatment for the COVID virus. Only God can resolve the situation at hand, for God hold the key to wisdom and understanding.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, may be more than ever, we can thank God that in such a time as this, we have a Savoir who is still in our lives. A reminder from 1 Thessalonians 5:18, *"Be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus."* Today what are you thankful for? Today let us be thankful for God who give us a new day. I am hopeful for all that God will do in the rest of this year and the next. God is doing something new and may we continue to wait and trust in the Love of Jesus Christ.

As we enter the Season of Advent at the end of the month, we remember the world changed when God sent His Son Jesus Christ so, we look forward with hope and expectation to the day the Son will come again. Advent is a time to listen for the mercy of God in meditation. Christ's whistles grace and love to us in the season of Advent, let us prepare to STOP, LOOK and LISTEN, as we examine ourselves. May we continue to stay in prayer with the hope of God who give us peace!

Be Thankful, Grateful and Blessed!

May the Peace and Hope of Christ Birth be with you now and the Days Ahead!

In Christ Peace,
Pastor Philomena



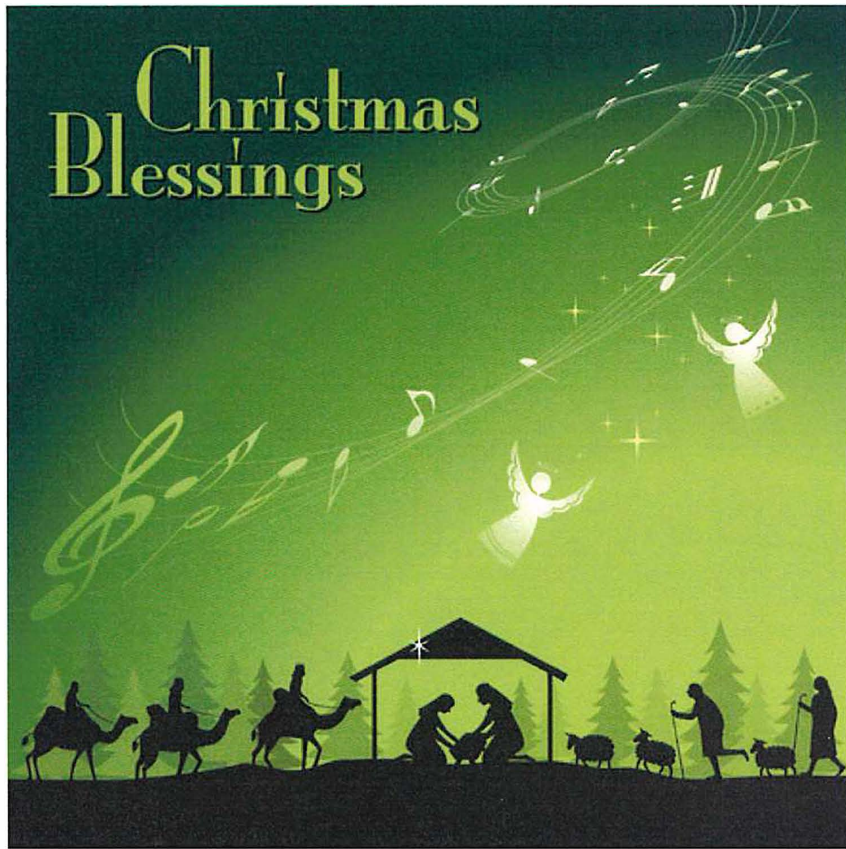
Preaching Schedule:

DATE:	SCRIPTURE
November 29	Mark 13:24-37 The Son of Man is Coming
December 6	Mark 1:1-8 John the Baptist Prepares the Way
December 13	John 1:6-8, 19-28 The Light Shine in the Darkness
December 20	Luke 1:26-38 The Angel Gabriel appears to Mary
December 24	Luke 2:1-14 Jesus is Born in Bethlehem

For Those in Need

If you know of a family in the church that could use extra help this Christmastime, please let Pastor Philomena know. We have helped with Consumer's Energy gift certificates, toys, clothing, and food when we know of the need. Christmastime is a great time to show our generosity.

HERE
to
HELP



Merry Christmas from the Staff

The Sovere's

Sam

Julia

Pastor Philomena

Peggy



Holly

Ken

Carol

Cathy

Doug

Michael