

Worship for the Lord's Day

December 23, 2018 – 4th Sunday of Advent
10:00 AM

Welcome The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Announcements *Please see the bulletin insert for all announcements.*

Prelude *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Mark Hayes
In order to prepare for worship, you are invited to pray silently during the prelude.

Call to Worship

The Lord has done great things for us!
And we are filled with joy!
Our God has turned our weeping into singing,
Our tears into songs of joy!
O Christ of God, come anew in our hearts this day,
And remain in us forever.

Lighting of Advent Candles The Moehlenkamp Family

Prayer of Confession

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

Assurance of Pardon

Our sins are pardoned; the penalty is paid.
Thanks be to God!

* Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ is with you. *And also with you.*

* **Song of Praise** *Gloria Patri* See Back

* **Profession of Faith** *Apostles' Creed (Traditional)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine* German Carol

During the offertory, you are invited to offer silent prayers of gratitude.

* **Song of Thanksgiving** *Doxology* See Back

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Advent Litany

Remember your church, O Christ; send your Spirit of unity, courage, and holiness.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

By shedding your blood, you have purified us; keep us ready to welcome the Day of your coming.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Call from among us bearers of your presence; may they go to the far ends of the earth as tokens of your friendship and signs of your light.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Give joy to all your faithful servants; may they follow you all the days of their life.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Nurture within us your Spirit of love; may we never close our hearts to any of our sisters and brothers.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Bring to an end the divisions between Christians; gather us in one visible communion.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Have mercy on all who suffer persecution for your name's sake; uphold them by your strong Spirit, that they may remain true to you in all their trials.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Comfort all who are suffering in their hearts or in their bodies; give them health and peace to sing of your power.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

We pray for all who are leading the nations; give them a sense of what is right, that they may work toward peace and fullness of life for all.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

Give eternal rest to all who are dying; may the light that never sets shine upon them.

Come to us in power, O Christ.

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

* **Hymn** *People, Look East* **Hymnal #12**

Choral Cantata *Let There Be Christmas* Joseph M. Martin

* **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *He is Born, the Holy Child* arr. David Paxton



* **Song of Praise** **Gloria Patri**

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
6
Spir - it: as it was in the be - gin - ning is now, and will be for
10
ev - er A - men. A - - men. A - Men.

* **Song of Thanksgiving** **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow:
4
Praise God all crea - tures here be - low; Praise God a - bove ye
7
heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men. A - men.
12
A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.

Upcoming Events

December 2	10 AM Hanging of the Greens Service Return Angel Tree Gifts & Food Boxes
December 3	7 PM Boy Scouts Meets in FH
December 4	10 AM Bible Study Noon Men's Lunch at Taste of Italy
December 5	11-12:30 PM Second Helping Lunch
December 6	8 AM Life Line Screening in Fellowship Hall
December 7	4-8 PM Open House at the Manse
December 9	10 AM Worship/Communion/Children's Church Pledge Card Deadline Youth Group Progressive Dinner
December 10	7 PM Boy Scouts Meets in FH
December 11	10 AM Bible Study
December 12	9:30 AM Prayer Fellowship 11-12:30 PM Second Helping Lunch 5:30 PM Property Meeting at the Church
December 13	1-2 PM ORRC Christmas Party in the fellowship hall
December 15	9 AM - 7 PM Ring the Salvation Army Bell at Wal-Mart
December 16	10 AM Worship/Children's Church Receive the Joy Offering 5:30 PM Koinonia Christmas Celebration
December 17	7 PM Boy Scouts Meets in FH
December 18	10 AM Bible Study Men's Lunch at Noon - El Cazador
December 19	9:30 APC Serves Lunch @ Daily Bread 9:30 AM Prayer Fellowship <u>No</u> Second Helping Lunch 1 PM DAWN Board Meeting
December 23	10 AM Worship/Choral Cantata 5 PM Christmas Caroling
December 24	7 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Church Office Closed
December 25	Merry Christmas! Church Office Closed
December 26	Church Office Closed
December 27	January Link Deadline
December 30	10 AM Worship/Children's Church
December 31	7 PM Boy Scouts Meets in FH

People to Contact at APC

Session (Active Elders)

Ron Coleman ('19) <i>Christian Education</i>
Kelly deBernard ('19) <i>Ministry Within the Congregation</i>
Kevin deBernard ('20) <i>Christian Education</i>
Susan Gilliam ('20) <i>Ministry Beyond the Congregation</i>
Carolyn Lees ('20) <i>Worship</i>
Stephanie Moehlenkamp ('19) <i>Worship</i>
Jack Ritzer ('20) <i>Ministry Support</i>
Mark Younkin ('19) <i>Property</i>
Rev. Ed Soto <i>Moderator of Session</i>

Staff

Rev. Ed Soto <i>Pastor</i>
Carolyn Doss <i>Church Secretary</i>
John Erb <i>Clerk of Session</i>
Dot Hogan <i>Organist</i>
Dennis Janiak <i>Treasurer</i>
Stephanie Moehlenkamp <i>Choir Director</i>

Other Contacts

Dolores Drumheller <i>Prayer Fellowship Request</i>
Jack Ritzer <i>The Men of the Church</i>

Schedules

Ushers, December

Lay Reader, December 30

Lay Reader, January 6

Nursery, December 30

Nursery, January 6

Chip & Jenny Roark
Gary & Barbie Andrews
Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Barbie Andrews
Need Someone
Need Someone

Altavista Presbyterian Church strives to show compassion to all people within our Congregation and beyond our doors just as Jesus showed compassion to all those in need.

Joys and Concerns for Prayer

Please contact the church office if you have prayer concerns.

Prayers For....

- God's church here at APC and for His guidance.
- Our session & church leaders.
- Our nation and all our elected leaders.
- Hospice patients and their caregivers.
- Dianne Emmett
- Ted Phillips
- Arleatha Payne
- Ryan Hedgepeth
- Cynthia Erb
- Elaine Button
- The Ponzi Family
- The Beahm Family
- Alline Ritzer
- Joyce Coleman
- LeeAnn Head
- Billy Robertson
- June Lee
- Jack Humphreys
- Moses Gilbert (cancer)
- Our service members: Jeremy Larkin, Grant Martin.
- Our homebound members: Tim Coleman, Janet Soddors, Dean Smith, Essie Moore.

Announcements



Welcome to Altavista Presbyterian Church! We greet you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ as we prepare for His birth

The **Lay Reader** today is **Samantha Janiak**.

The Youth Group will be going **Christmas Caroling** this evening at 5 PM and would like to invite the congregation to join them to carol to our fellow church members.

The **Church office** will be closed December 24th-26th for the Christmas Holiday.

Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be this Monday, at 7 PM. As always, your visiting friends and family are invited and encouraged to attend.

December 27, is the deadline for articles for the January **"Link" newsletter**. Items for the Link may be e-mailed to the church office.

Our Church will be serving the **Second Helping Lunch**, Wednesday, January 9th. Volunteers are needed to serve and provide menu items. Please sign-up on the bulletin board.

We are in need of **Sunday Participants** (Lay Readers, Nursery workers, Ushers, and Communion Servers) to serve in the ministry of the church for 2019. Please sign-up on the bulletin board.

The Ministry Beyond Committee has planned a church wide **evening of Hockey** for January 26, at 7 PM at the Lahaye Ice Center. The tickets are \$7 each for reserved seating. Please sign up on the bulletin board by January 12, and make checks payable to Kelly deBernard.

The **2019 Flower Calendar** has been posted in the hallway. Please take a moment to sign up to place flowers in the sanctuary for the Sunday morning of your choosing.

The Session would like to thank everyone who submitted a **pledge for 2019**. Thank you again for all you do to support the ministry of APC.