

## MIDDLEBURY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN PROMISE

We promise to walk in the way of Jesus' love by: looking for the God seed in all people while practicing healthy processes of inclusiveness, showing grace and honesty.

- Building-up community by showing hospitality, equality and speaking truth in love.
- Willing to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit with our heart, mind, soul, and strength as we grow spiritually and are transformed in God's love, grace and peace.
- Study, practice, and commitment to forbearance as we search for common ground.
- Joyously celebrating life.

### Christian Education at 11:00am

**Children under 9 years of age** meet in classrooms west of the kitchen with Keri Anderson & Sharon Lemon

**Children 10 years and older** meet in Room 401 with Mark & Catherine Roebuck

### Adult Group Gathering

Adult Group Discussion meets in the board room next to the offices.

**You are also welcome to stay in the sanctuary for quiet time of prayer and contemplation.**



**For children 6 years and under, we have a play area** set up along the back wall to your left as you enter the sanctuary. Please sit close to that play area to supervise your children/grandchildren. Clipboards with activities are available for children of all ages.

**You are invited to join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments following the worship service.**



## Middlebury Church of the Brethren



# November 28, 2021 First Sunday of Advent

**MIDDLEBURY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
a welcoming and inclusive congregation  
offering Christ's hospitality to the world

Worship – 9:30am Fellowship – 10:45am Christian Education – 11:00am  
November 28, 2021

Gathering Music  
Carol Sing

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** based on Jeremiah 33:14-16  
One: The words of the prophet Jeremiah: "The days are surely coming", says the Lord, our God, "when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous branch to spring up for David who shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'God is our righteousness.'"

**All: We hear this as the Word of God for us this day.**

One: And so, we know that a time is surely coming when our love for one another and all of God's children will increase.

**All: We live into that time with hope and joy.**

One: The day is surely coming when God will strengthen our hearts with humility and holiness.

**All: We anticipate that day as we reach out to serve all in need.**

One: The days are surely coming when we will walk the paths of faithfulness and steadfast love.

**All: We begin this journey, knowing that all of God's promises will be fulfilled.**

**Unison Invocation: For Your faithfulness, Your presence with us, and the hope we have for today and all of our days with You, we give You thanks, O God. Amen.**

**Interlude**

**Lighting the Advent Candle**

One: We light a candle of hope. And we imagine:

**All: God's righteousness, steadfast love, justice.**

One: We light this candle and see God's goodness in us, among us.

**All: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.**

**Response**

*Hope is a Candle* (vs. 1)

insert

**Joys and Concerns**  
**Prayers for the People**

You are invited to leave your offerings on the table by the sanctuary doors.

**Offering Prayer**

**Preparation for Hearing the Word**

*Joy to the World* (vs. 1)

#318

**Scripture**  
**Message**

Luke 21:25-36

Pew Bible New Testament #85

**\*Hymn**

*My Soul Cries Out*

insert/screen

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

**\*Congregation stands in body or spirit, as you wish.**

If you are new or visiting, you are most welcome in worship and to stay for a time of fellowship afterwards. Please fill out the guest card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.

Interim Pastor – Debbie Eisenbise      Worship Leader – Lorie Copeland  
Pianist – Lorie Copeland      Flutist – Sherry Bickel      Song Leader – Tammy Houser  
Ushers – Steve Poyser, Matt Weaver  
Sound Loft – Mark Roebuck, William Coffey, Matt Weaver  
Advent candle lighters – Britta and Ryan Graber

The call to worship is based on one written by Thom Shuman from  
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

The hymns on the insert are from *Sing the Story*.

**Upcoming in worship**

December 5<sup>th</sup> – Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 3:1-18 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 12<sup>th</sup> – Zeph. 3:14-20; Phil. 4:4-7 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 19<sup>th</sup> – Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:39-55 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**November 28, 2021  
Announcements**

**Pastor Debbie will keep the following schedule with some exceptions. Additional times in the office are noted on the calendar outside her office door.**

Mondays	Her Sabbath/day off
Tuesdays	11am-3pm
Fridays	11am-4pm

Pastor Debbie's email: [pastordebbie@mcob.org](mailto:pastordebbie@mcob.org)

Office hours for Dalis: 9:30am – 2:00pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.  
Bulletins are printed on Thursday and can't be adjusted after that. Please know that emails and voicemails that come into the office Friday – Monday will not be seen until Tuesday.

Please check your mailbox for the **Joys and Concerns** list.



**Poinsettia order** is now available – deadline for orders is Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.



**REMEMBER** the annual Congregational Business meeting on 12/5 following Worship.



Plan to shop at the **Alternative Gift Market** on Sunday before and after the Cong Bus mtg on 12/5, on Friday 12/10 from 11am-6, and on Sunday, and 12/12 during fellowship



**December 12<sup>th</sup> we will be displaying your special nativity sets.** Bring your nativity to the church **by December 8<sup>th</sup>** to be part of the display. Why is your nativity special? What does it mean to you? Has it been handed down or was it a gift? Write it down and bring it to the office so it can be typed on a nice card to display with your nativity.

**And much more over→**



Tell us your favorite Christmas carols to sing during the Advent/Christmas season. There are cards in a basket on the table beside the sanctuary doors.



**LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP 7:00pm**

Image by Jared Michaels MFT



**Do you have scarves** or small table covers that you no longer use or want? Don't give them to the recycler or to Good Will – we need them here at the church! Please see Dalis with your cast-offs!!

**Camp Mack** is offering “Tuesday To-Go” meals. The menus offered each week are listed on the Camp Mack bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Individual meals are \$10.00 and meals to serve six are \$50.00. Catherine Roebuck is willing to go pick up the meals if people are interested in ordering – let her know if you would like to order a meal. Or you can order by texting **Mack2Go to 91999**.

We are using to **individually packaged treats** that will be served during fellowship time. If you are planning to bring in a treat, please consider making sure they are individually packaged. If you have questions please contact Sherry Bickel.  
Thank you, Fellowship Commission!

**Food Pantry** – Non-perishable food and other items are always being collected or you may donate money for milk vouchers. Bring your donations to the church at the back of the sanctuary. Our supply of foods was depleted recently for a homeless person in need and we need to replenish. Also, canned goods should have the pop-top lids when possible.

**All men are invited** to coffee and conversation at the Poyser farm on Wednesdays, at 1:00 pm. Call Steve Poyser with questions or for directions - 574-215-2158

**TO ACCESS OUR LIVESTREAMED SERVICE** go to [mcob.org](http://mcob.org), bottom left of page where you will click on YouTube; toward the top click on “Live.” It doesn't go live until the loft activates it, so if it isn't there immediately, leave the page and try again. You can also access copies of the bulletin and links to past services on our website: [www.mcob.org](http://www.mcob.org). And find us on Facebook at Middlebury Church of the Brethren.