

## A WORSHIP SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 14, 2025

10:00 a.m.

### WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

(As one body, let us now pause in silence to focus on worship)

CHIMES

PRELUDE

"Sleepers, Wake"

Alec Wyton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Stephen D. Adkison

INTROIT

"Light Three Candles to Watch for Messiah"

Wayne L. Wold

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Emily and Dana Hallman

Last Sunday the Candle of Peace was lit. We light it and the Candle of Hope again as we remember that Christ will come again in our hearts and bring to the world everlasting peace.

*(Light the Advent Candles of Hope and of Peace)*

The third candle of Advent is the Candle of Joy. It reminds us of the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her – a child who would save and deliver his people. God wants us all to have joy. The angel who announced to the shepherds that Jesus had been born told them: "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all people – for to you is born this day, in the City of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

*(Light the Advent Candle of Joy)*

We light this candle to remember that Christ brings the promise of a new life – a life in which the blind receive sight, the lame walk, and the prisoners are set free. We light it to remember that He brings true and everlasting joy.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** O come, O come, Immanuel

**All:** And be light for our darkness

**Leader:** Be comfort in our grief

**All:** A guide for our path

**Leader:** Be a friend for our loneliness

**All:** An oasis for our searching

**Leader:** O come, O come, Immanuel

**All:** Restore our joy, heal our wounds and bring us peace

**\*HYMN**

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

No. 87

**CALL TO RENEWAL**

And so we live our lives imperfectly, for we are flawed. But we are also loved by the God in whose Image we were created. Let us remake ourselves toward that Image as we make our confession before God and each other.

**PRAYER OF RENEWAL (IN UNISON)**

**Holy God, You promise us a joy that is deep and abiding, a joy made complete in Christ. Yet we confess how often we settle for lesser joys that fade. We allow worry to quiet our gratitude, fear to dim our hope, and weariness to steal our song. We fail to abide in Your love, and our joy grows thin. Forgive us, Lord, and renew us. Fill us again with the steady joy of Your presence—joy that shines in darkness, strengthens the weary, and bears good fruit for the world. Make our joy full and complete in You, now and always. In Christ's name, Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION**

**GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS**

God's abundance extends to God's forgiveness. Receive that plenteous gift of grace. Be blessed by God's pardon and be changed by God's favor. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen and amen.*

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us greet each other saying; 'May the peace of Christ be with you.'

**OFFERTORY**

"O Christ, God's Only Son"

Johann G. Walther

**\*DOXOLOGY** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him, all creatures here below.*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### WE LISTEN FOR CHRIST'S WORD

**SCRIPTURE READING**

John 15:5-11

**RESPONSE**

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart, be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Ps. 19:14)  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

"The Joy Tank: Full or Empty?"

Rev. Dr. Stephen D. Adkison

**ANTHEM**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

arr. John Carter

### WE RESPOND TO CHRIST'S WORD

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

### WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN CHRIST'S NAME

**\*HYMN**

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

No. 106

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Stephen D. Adkison

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

"Come, Come Emmanuel"

James. J. Cheponnis

**POSTLUDE**

"Wake, Awake for Night is Flying"

Johann G. Walther

\*Please stand if able

**SERVING TODAY**

**Usher** – Debbie Speeches

**Coffee Hour** – Linda DiOrio & Colleen Smith

**PRAYER LIST**

Please pray for: Those affected by natural disasters and ongoing wars; Peter C. Jackson; Blanca Campbell and Jim Nina; Jill Tuttle Albiani; Jackie Tuttle; Barry and Benetta Taylor; Rev. John Moore; Jim Preston; Kathy Zarchin; Teri Brennan; Carol Taplin; Andrew Ogar; Barbara Preston; Albert Cyr;

For the peace and comfort for the family and friends of Linda Bonaccorso

*We will gladly list names of any individuals in need of prayer. You may share names by turning in a note from the pew or by emailing the church office prior to Thursday a.m.*

**ONLINE GIVING**

Go to the Shelter Island Presbyterian Church website [www.sipchurch.org](http://www.sipchurch.org) and click the “Make a Donation” button at the bottom of the home page. Your donation is secure and confidential.

You can add a note to your gift to mark it for a special purpose.

**SHELTER ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

32 N. Ferry Rd. (P.O. Box 612) Shelter Island, New York 11964

Phone: 631-749-0805 Email: [info.sipchurch@gmail.com](mailto:info.sipchurch@gmail.com) Website: [www.sipchurch.org](http://www.sipchurch.org)

Administrative Assistant; Lisa Kaasik - Email: [info.sipchurch@gmail.com](mailto:info.sipchurch@gmail.com)

A/V Tech – April Adkison

**LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Rev. Dr. Stephen D. Adkison, Pastor

Email: [skypilot\\_mddiv@hotmail.com](mailto:skypilot_mddiv@hotmail.com) / Cell: 631-903-9899

Ellen Gove, Clerk of Session; Linda Betjeman, Minister of Music; Karin Bennett, Sexton

# Shelter Island Presbyterian Church

## December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### Third Sunday of Advent



<b>Session Team - Church Elders</b>
Class of 2025: Laurie Fanelli
Class of 2026: Heather Reylek/ Laura Nelsen/ Pamela Jackson
Class of 2027: Marty Kappauf / Gary Kagawa / Ellen Gove
<b>Deacons Team</b>
Class of 2025: Marianne Baird/ Alison Binder/ Sharon Donno/ Lynn Thomson
Class of 2026: Roswitha Wissemann/ Brenda Bergman
Class of 2027: Dana Hallman / Katherine Roberts / Colleen Smith
<b>Congregational Nominating Team</b>
Class of 2025: Heather Reylek / Lynn Thomson / Cindy Griffin / Lynne Weikart

<b><u>This Week</u></b>		
Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Nutrition Program	7:00-1:00
	Deacons/Session Potluck Meeting	5:00
Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Food Pantry	4:00-6:00
Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Meals on Wheels	7:00-11:00
Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Study	10:00
Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nutrition Program	7:00-1:00
	Food Pantry	10:00-1:00
Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Community Choir Concert	3:00

**Shelter Island Presbyterian Church Mission Statement:**

“We envision the Shelter Island Presbyterian Church as a spiritual heart of our small island community -- a congregation that keeps its doors open to all and offers service and support to friends, neighbors, and visitors from beyond our shores. We will encourage the spiritual growth of our church's people in Jesus Christ through worship, service to others, stewardship, study and fellowship with one another. We will work to increase our spiritual engagement with youth, young families and our growing senior population. Inspired by God's Word, we look forward to our future with faith and confidence in God's purpose for us. AS WE BELIEVE, SO WE DO.”

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