

**THOUGHT FOR THE SEASON**

**O Come, O Come**

**As we spiral into the season of stress  
with all the demands from  
our schools, our families,  
our communities, (and yes, our churches!).  
How do we slow down enough  
to walk in your light  
and sit with the lonely in the shadows;  
To hold the hands of our spouse  
and to fill the emptiness of the homeless;  
To sing carols with our children  
and to whisper hope to the lost?**

**In the waterfall of lights,  
through the tangle of tinsel,  
out of the cacophony of commercials,  
help us to see you making snow angels with the kids;  
To watch you handing out dinner invitations  
to the lonely, the outcast, the neighbor with AIDS;  
To hear your carol of peace to a world  
which encourages us to arm ourselves with fear.**

**Come,  
with the life that is to be (for us)  
as you become life once and all for us.**

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*In the  
beginning  
was the  
Word, and  
the Word  
was with  
God, and  
the Word  
was God.*

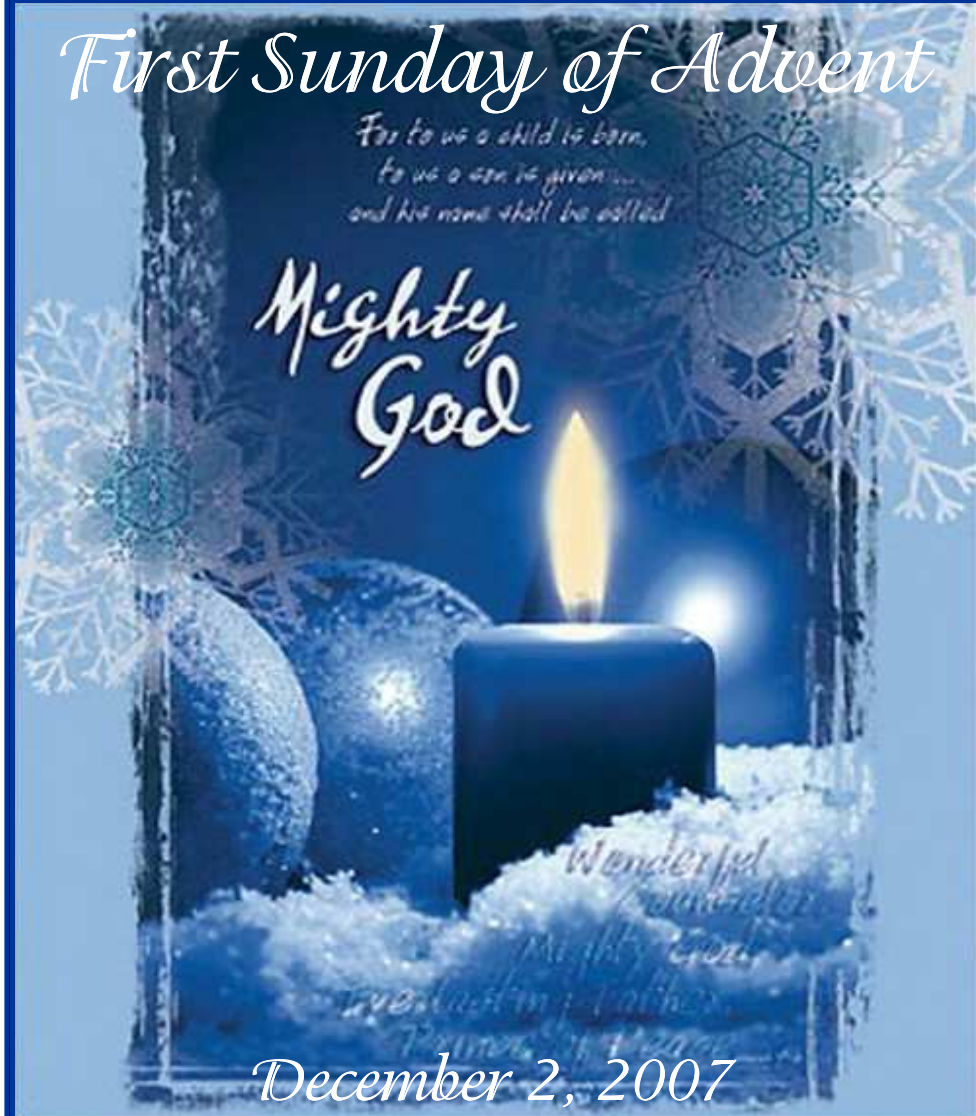
*John 1: 1*

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*First Sunday of Advent*

*For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given...  
and his name shall be called*

*Mighty  
God*



10:00 AM



**A Service of Installation  
of Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer**



PRELUDE Shannon Smith

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This is the day that the Lord has made!  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**THE GATHERING**

GREETING Elder Gene Mc Evoy  
Maumee Valley Presbytery and the Fairgreen Presbyterian Church join together to worship God on the occasion of the installation of Pat Lawrence Shafer as the Pastor of this church. Let us worship God!

OPENING SONGS ~ Praise Band & Geneva Choir  
#2152 ~Change My Heart, Oh God, Come Now Is the Time to Worship

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY Confirmands Jody Skinner and Emma Bosley-Smith  
One: Today we begin the season of Advent by lighting the first of five candles in our Advent wreath. This candle we shall name the prophets' candle as we give thanks to God for the words of hope and promise delivered by the prophets. From ancient and modern prophets we hear of the coming of a Savior. Sometimes prophetic words are hard to believe. We are uncertain of their truth. We must wait and be patient. In honor of prophets and in thanksgiving for your word, we light this candle.  
**All: Dear God of the Prophets, give us this day the prophetic words of hope and promise, that in this new beginning we might look to you for guidance. We give you thanks for the prophets past and present. Amen.**

\*HYMN #9 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Elder Shirley Nofziger  
One: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.  
**All: Almighty God, by water and your Spirit you baptized us to be your own and called the church into being. We confess that we hold**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. David Young

**THE SENDING**

\*HYMN OF SENDING #538 "Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing"

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Pat. Lawrence Shafer

\*HYMN ~ SANCTUARY (sing through twice)  
(Those who are able, join hands, forming lines across the aisle to symbolize a growing commitment to unity.)  
**Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you. CCL#1025014**

POSTLUDE Shannon Smith

**INSTALLING COMMISSION**

Elder Gene Mc Evoy, Moderator. Maumee Valley Presbytery, First Presbyterian Church in Findlay  
Elder Hilary Shuford, General Presbyter of Maumee Valley Presbytery  
Rev. David Young, Retired Pastor, Maumee Valley Presbytery  
Elder Fred King, Fairgreen Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Melinda Gallant, Hospital Chaplain at St. Luke's Hospital  
Elder Shirley Nofziger, West Unity Presbyterian Church

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:**

Rev. Encie Steven, Retired Pastor, Genesee Valley Presbytery  
Elder Vernon Steven, First Presbyterian Church of Holley, New York

**ALSO PARTICIPATING:**

Shannon Smith, Music Director  
Fairgreen's Geneva Choir and Praise Band

*The loose offering from today's service will be used for Maumee Valley Presbytery Flood Relief efforts.*

***Everyone is cordially invited to a Coffee Hour in the Commons immediately following the service.***

his goodness. In the power of the Spirit, you gathered the church together to live for you in newness of life, a holy nation, a priestly family, a people chosen as your own and called to proclaim your marvelous love.

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may be faithful as your people and fruitful in the ministries you have given us. Grant diligence to those who lead, faith to those who teach, truth to all who speak, compassion to all who heal, wisdom to those who counsel, generosity to those who give, and cheerfulness to all who serve. To your servant Pat, and to all who tend your flock as pastors among your people, grant vision and strength, hospitality, humility, and peace. Bless the common ministry of this pastor and people together with joy and power in the gospel. Strengthen us all to live out the grace of our baptism and to serve you with the gifts of your Spirit; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only shepherd and Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

Elder Gene Mc Evoy

*(The Moderator addresses the newly installed pastor.)*

Pat Lawrence Shafer, as a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the church of Jesus Christ, you are now installed as Pastor of this congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

WELCOME

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY INSTALLED PASTOR  
AND TO THE CONGREGATION

Elder Hilary Shuford

HYMN #2222

"The Servant Song"

OFFERING

Elder Fred King

One: Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your blessed kingdom.

**All: Blessed be God forever.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"I Choose You"

Praise Band

\*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**back the love of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our lives by the power of your Spirit and make strong our common witness to the one Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who for gives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**All: Alleluia and Amen!**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #2080

"All I Need Is You"

**THE WORD OF GOD**

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH ~ "Finding the Gift"

Rev. Pat

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Elder Vernon Steven

FIRST READING

**Psalm 122**

pg.966(OT) in the pew bible

ANTHEM

**"Fearfully and Wonderfully Made"**

Praise Band

GOSPEL READING

**John 15: 1-17**

Rev. Encie Stevens

SERMON

**"Christmas: The Gift of the Word"**

Rev. Encie Stevens

**OUR RESPONSE**

\*UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rev. Melinda Gallant

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing was created. The light that was in him became light for all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.**

**To all who receive him, who believe in him, he gives power to become children of God. The Word became flesh, a man named Jesus. He lived**

**among us, full of grace and truth. From his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace. In his name God has sent the Holy Spirit to teach us and to remind us of all that he has said. We believe that because he lives, we shall live also, to the glory of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, Amen.**

\*HYMN #467

"How Great Thou Art "

MODERATOR'S INTRODUCTION TO THE INSTALLATION

Elder Gene Mc Evoy

THE LITANY OF GIFTS

Elder Fred King

There are different gifts.

**But it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

There are different ways of serving God,

**But it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through different people in different ways,

**But it is the same God who achieves purpose through them all.**

Each one is given by the Spirit

**To use it for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ,

**And individually member of him.**

Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make his church useful in the world; and we call women and men to faith, so that, in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God.

Within our common ministry, some members are chosen for particular work as ministers of the Word, ruling elders, of deacons. In ordination, we recognize these special ministries, remembering that our Lord Jesus said:

**Whoever among you wants to be great must become the servant of all, and if that one wants to be first among you, that one must first be slave to all! Just as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life to set others free.**

STATEMENT OF INSTALLATION

Elder Gene Mc Evoy

The ministry of the church is shared by pastor and people, so that all together may fulfill the mission to which we are called in Jesus Christ. The particular responsibility of the ministry of Word and Sacrament is to build up the church and serve the people of God, so the Word may be rightly proclaimed and the sacraments rightly celebrated. The call to this ministry has been extended by the congregation,

accepted by the candidate, and approved by the presbytery. Therefore the Presbytery of Maumee Valley, by means of this commission, now proceeds to install Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer as Pastor of the Fairgreen Presbyterian Church.

One: In her baptism, Pat was clothed with Christ. She was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of Genesee Valley and is now called by God through the voice of the church to serve as Pastor of this congregation.

**All: We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's call to our sister, Pat, to serve among us as our pastor.**

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE

Elder Gene Mc Evoy

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Elder Fred King

Do we, the members of Fairgreen Presbyterian Church, accept Pat Lawrence Shafer as our Pastor, chosen by God to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay her fairly and provide for her welfare as she works among us; to stand by her in trouble and share her joys? Will we listen to the Word she preaches, welcome her pastoral care, and honor her authority as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? **We do.**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

Elder Gene Mc Evoy

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you, gracious Lord, for you alone are God. You have made us, and we are your people, the sheep of your pasture. You have led us to green meadows by cool waters, satisfying our every need with your love. You have shown us paths that are right. Through shadowed valleys of despair, you have been our comfort and our hope. Over long generations, your presence has sustained your people. In your good time, you sent Jesus, your only Beloved, to be our shepherd. He knew and loved your own, calling all who would hear to follow him. In the end, he lay down his life for us, risking the cross for the hope of resurrection. We praise you for