

Worship was cancelled for 11/30/25 as we had about 10 inches of snow on Sat, 11/29. This same bulletin was for 12/07/25.

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald, Pastor

Carla Zwicker, Liturgist

Ellen Cooke, Worship Music Leader

1st Sunday of Advent

Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. November 30, 2025
(Please sign attendance book.)

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Lighting the Advent Candle/Call to Worship

In the time of the exile, the prophet Jeremiah said to the people:

"The days are surely coming, says the LORD,
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,
and He 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:

"The LORD is our righteousness."

*Hymn #246, **"By the Babylonian Rivers"** *(a hymn of lament)*

*Prayer of Confession

Creator God, You gave us a home and a place among all people.

We confess that we have locked ourselves out.

Exiles from Your presence, we live in darkness and fear.

We have locked ourselves out of relationships,

locked ourselves out of opportunities,

locked ourselves out of Your reign of peace.

We have been too arrogant, too unwilling to learn,

and too unloving toward our neighbors in need.

We are lost, alienated and alone.

**Light anew Your hope among us and lead us home again,
as if for the first time, in Jesus Christ.**

*Assurance of Pardon

Hear the promise from the prophet Isaiah: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in the land of deep darkness, light has dawned." The Good News for all of us exiles: the light of Christ leads us home. Believe and share the Good News!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

*Gloria Patri

Team Jesus

Offering / Offertory Music

*Doxology #592, **"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

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.

*Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading **Matthew 24:36-44**, pg. 27

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**"The Proleptic Nature of Advent:
God's Future Crashing into Our Present"**

*Hymn #9, **"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

* Prayers of the Community 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.

*Hymn #38, **"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"**

*Charge / Benediction

*Congregational Response #23, *The "gloria's" from*

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

"Glo—ria, in ex-cel-cis Deo,

Glo—ria, in ex-cel-cis De-o."

Postlude

**Indicates to stand as you are able – for everyone to rise in spirit.*

Today's Sermon Theme: "ALREADY, BUT NOT YET"

The proleptic nature of Advent refers to the season's ability to make a future reality—specifically the fullness of God's coming Kingdom and Christ's second Advent—present and experienced in part in the here and now.

The term "prolepsis" in this context means "anticipation" or "a taking beforehand". It is an "already, but not yet" concept.

Some people think it is heresy to sing Christmas songs during Advent, because Christmas has not "happened." But that does not take into account the proleptic nature of our preparation. We imagine the future, and sing about it as if it were already here, so that when it comes, we shall be ready. In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus puts it this way: "Stay awake!" In that sense, it is important to sing Christmas hymns in Advent. More importantly, that we look for the God of surprises to come to us in unexpected times and places.

Hanging of the Greens is today after Worship.

This will be followed by a Baked Potato Bar. Baked potatoes will be provided. You are asked to bring a topping to share.

Christmas program will be during Worship next Sunday, Dec 14.

After Worship, please join us for cookies in the Fellowship Hall. Donations of cookies are always welcomed.

Peanut Brittle Fund Raiser

(Great to eat yourself or give as gifts!)

The Mission Committee is selling home-made peanut brittle to raise funds for their 2025-2026 Mission Projects with proceeds to purchase boots for our Heads to Toes project and other mission projects throughout the year.

The price is \$16 for a 1 lb. package, and \$9 for a ½ lb. package. The 2nd/last delivery will be Sunday Dec 21. Please contact Wanda Cross to order your peanut brittle.

Give The Gift They Will Always Remember

Candlelight Christmas Eve at Beulah.

Someone you know would be touched to share this experience. Invite them and share the light of Christ. December 24, 6:30pm.

Beulah Calendar

Sunday	Dec 7	8:00am	Deacon Meeting
		9:00am	Worship / Food Pantry Collection
		after Worship	Hanging of the Greens / Baked Potato Bar
Tuesday	Dec 9	6:00pm	Building & Grounds Committee
		6:30pm	Session
Sunday	Dec 14	9:00am	Worship / Children's Christmas Program

This week's Home Study Lectionary Readings

Isa 11:1-10

Ps 72:1-7, 18-19

Rom 15:4-13

Matt 3:1-12

Prayer List

Heather DeHaven
Cathy Morgan

Robert DeVries
Dylan Preston

Martha Green

Please remember the entire Zwicker family
on the passing of Carla's father, Carl Pfeiferling.

Missionary relatives and friends of our church family

Ted & Kim Treadway in Guatemala.

Please Remember These Members in Your Prayers

♥ Louise Green, Avonlea Cottage
♥ Joyce King
♥ Don Paulsen
♥ Terry Vincent
♥ Jackie Williams

The **Orion Area Food Pantry** thanks all who generously donated money
or food items to support the annual Holiday meal.

Last week, 28 families were grateful to receive a large box
with everything needed to prepare their Thanksgiving meal.

This same collection covers food for the Christmas meal in two weeks.

The winner of the **free organ lessons** with Gail Tutt
is a high school student. She was notified with this exciting news,
and Gail and she will set up dates for the lessons.

Sometimes the best thing you can do for someone is pray for them
and let God do for them what you can't.