

## BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald, Pastor  
Cecil Ward, Liturgist  
Ellen Cooke, Worship Music Leader

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Morning Worship                      9:00 a.m.                      December 21, 2025  
*(Please sign attendance book.)*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\*Lighting the Advent Candle/Call to Worship

God of promise,  
You give us the unparalleled sign of Your love  
through the gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
We believe, as Joseph did, in  
the message of promise given in a dream by an angel.  
We light these candles  
for all who journey with You  
as You save us, restore us and lead us  
in Christ's ways of grace and peace for all the world.

\*Hymn #22, "**Angels, from the Realms of Glory**"

\*Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, to whom all hearts are open  
and from whom no secrets are hidden, we confess  
that we are uneasy at being seen and known by You.  
We prefer the easy path, the middle way,  
the noncommittal response.  
We like to be in charge,  
and to distance ourselves from life's difficulties.  
But You, O God, are the giver of dreams that deliver us  
from a world of fear  
into a world of deeper meaning and love.  
Give us a passion for the possible  
known in the life of Jesus Christ.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the Good News. The coming of Jesus means  
God is with us. God's presence leads us into forgiveness  
and makes the whole world fresh and new. 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 2:18-25**, pg. 2

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon                      "**Joseph and the Passion for the Possible**"

\*Hymn #31, "**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**"

\* 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 #41, "**O Come, All Ye Faithful**"

\*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.*



**IT'S A GIFT THEY WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER:  
CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE AT BEULAH.**

A celebration of songs and scripture, of faith and friendship. It warms the heart and stirs the soul. Beulah members are encouraged to invite family and friends, and anyone else you can think of who needs a message of God's love. Please consider inviting your social media friends! Just say something simple like:

Candlelight Christmas Eve at Beulah is something I look forward to every year. The songs of Christmas, the story, Silent Night sung by candlelight, and the message of love always touches my heart.

I thought of you, and wanted to invite you to join us.

December 24 at 6:30pm  
9221 148th Ave, Orion, IL.

It's a gift I wanted to share with you.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS!***

**Sermon Notes**

Mary gets a lot of air time. Far more than Joseph. And in the world of art, the Madonna and Child is a very common motif, while Joseph rarely shows up, and when he does, it is in the background as part of the holy family.

Today, we will spend some time thinking about Joseph. His role, and how he fits theologically in this divine drama.

Joseph is a courageous character.  
His story matters on our Advent journey.

**Congregational Annual Reports**

Please send your reports ASAP to Nancy  
[nroberts822@gmail.com](mailto:nroberts822@gmail.com) Thank you!

**Beulah Calendar**

Sunday	Dec 21	9:00am	Worship
		after Worship	Peanut Brittle delivery
Wednesday	Dec 24	6:30pm	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service / Communion
Sunday	Dec 28	9:00am	Worship

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**This week's Home Study Lectionary Readings**  
Isa 63:7-9      Ps 148      Heb 2:10-18      Matt 2:13-23  
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**Prayer List**

Heather DeHaven  
Cathy Morgan

Robert DeVries  
Dylan Preston

Martha Green

**Missionary relatives and friends of our church family**

Ted & Kim Treadway in Guatemala.

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**Please Remember These Members in Your Prayers**

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

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Donated By:

Deb McBride  
Deb McBride  
Deb McBride  
Jon & Wanda Cross  
Jean Hughes  
Tim & Lynn Fritz  
Dennis Morgan  
Dennis Morgan  
Bill & Donna Metzler  
Bill & Donna Metzler  
Jim & Carla Zwicker  
Gavin & Tara Sides  
Roger Mixer  
Andrew & Tamara McDonald

In Memory Of:

Duane & Betty Morgan  
Bill McBride  
Infant Larry  
Loved Ones  
Colleen, Kenneth & Grant Hughes  
Loved Ones  
Betty & Duane Morgan  
Loved Ones  
Loved Ones  
Loved Ones  
Maynard & Dorothy Zwicker  
Dan Mueller  
Sherrill Mixer  
Loved Ones

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## 2025 Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected at the  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Dec 24 at 6:30 pm).

### ***Did You Know?***

- The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s.
- The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.
- The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families.
- Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.

### ***Christmas Joy Offering Instructions***

- *The Joy Offering shall be collected at the Christmas Eve service (Special envelopes shall be provided in the December 24<sup>th</sup> bulletins).*
  - **Cash Contributions** - *If your contribution is cash, it is important to use the Joy Offering envelopes. The **Joy Offering envelope** will ensure your contribution will go to the **Joy Offering** rather than the General Church Fund. By including your name, it will be added to your annual church contribution for special offerings (It is not counted toward your pledge).*
  - **Check Contributions** - *If your contribution is by check, it is important to designate **Joy Offering** in the memo field. The **Joy Offering** in the memo field will ensure your contribution will go to the **Joy Offering** rather than the General Church Fund.*
  - **Contributions taken on any December Sunday** - *If you are unable to attend the December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, you may make your contribution on any Sunday in December. If your contribution is by check, then put the designation of **Joy Offering** in the memo field or when using cash put in an envelope with the **Joy Offering** designation and your name. By including your name, it will be added to your annual church special offerings contribution (It is not counted toward your pledge).*

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