

THE VOICE

December 6, 2020

2nd Sunday in Advent

WELCOME TO PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

Now all of this took place so
that what the Lord had
spoken through the prophet
would be fulfilled: Look!

Matthew 1:22



OPEN TO EVERYONE SINCE 1998

Pastor Barry Petrucci — Pastor Jess Davenport

(269) 327-6643

pchum.org

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2nd Sunday in Advent

Believing Even When...

Prelude	In Dulce Jubilo	
Pastoral Welcome		
Crossing The Threshold	I Believe...	Univ. of LaVerne Virtual Choir LaVerne, CA
Lighting of the Advent Wreath		Hoekstra Family
Advent Song		
The Gospel	Matthew 1:22-23	Olivia Bagley
Songs	Come Thou Long Expected Jesus	New Life Team
	Come True Light	
Pastoral Prayer		
Children's Time		Andrea Trantham
Hymn	O Come, O Come Emmanuel	
Scripture	Isaiah 7:10-14	
Message	Love: Daring the Right Relationship	Barry Petrucci
Communion	Come Thou Long Expected Jesus	Chapel Hill Ringers
Hymn	Blessed Be the God of Israel	
Prayers in the Stillness		Tonya Boot
Advent Song		
Blessing		
Song	My Lord He Is A Comin' Soon	

Advent Devotionals

Go to pchum.org/advent to download your copy of Portage Chapel Hill's Advent Devotional. Filled with stories, reflections, poetry, and art, we hope the Advent Devotional is a source of meaning and joy to you as we wait for the birth of the Christ Child.

There is also a Family Devotional especially for the young ones in your life... or maybe just the young at heart.

Angel Tree Donations

Despite there being no physical "Angel Tree" in the church lobby this year, Chapel Hill will be collecting donations for the students at Haverhill Elementary School in Portage.

School administrators are asking for:

- Playground equipment such as soccer balls, basketballs, kickballs, volleyballs, and footballs
- Cleaning supplies like wipes and disinfectant spray
- Other supplies including Ziploc bags in all sizes, dry-erase markers, non-perishable peanut-free snacks, and gloves or mittens in all sizes

Please plan to drop off your new, unwrapped items at the church on **Sunday, December 13 between 11 am - 1 pm**. All children who come with a donated item will receive a gift from Miss Andrea! Contact Andrea Trantham at andreatrantham@pchum.org if you have any questions.

Communion Elements

Portage Chapel Hill will hold the sacrament of Communion on Sunday, December 6. As we cannot be together for worship in the Sanctuary, Chapel Hill is providing the Communion elements, known as Fellowship Cups, for folks to pick up and take home with them. And while you're at the church getting your Fellowship Cups, be sure to pick up the December Sunday School packet for your kids!

Pick-up times are:

- Saturday, December 5 from 11 am–2 pm
- Sunday, December 6 from 8 am–9 am

Candlelight Videos Needed!

Because we won't be together to light candles while we sing Silent Night on Christmas Eve, we are planning to put together a video of people lighting their candles at home. Please record a video of yourself lighting a candle – *you do not* have to show your face, and you *do not* need to speak! Simply record the video on your phone (please hold your phone in *landscape format*) and then send an email to Tonya Boot at tonyaboot@pchum.org to let her know you've done it. She will then send you the link to upload your video.

So again, record a video of yourself lighting a candle, no faces and no voices, keep recording the lit candle for about 15-30 seconds, and send an email to Tonya when you're done. Thanks!

Copies of The Voice Newsletter

If you know of someone who would appreciate being mailed a paper copy of The Voice each week please email Office Manager Lisa Drzick at office@pchum.org or call the office at (269) 327-6643.

Give By Mail:

Portage Chapel Hill
7028 Oakland Dr.
Portage MI 49024

Give Online:

pchum.org/give

Give On Realm:

onrealm.org/pchum

Text-To-Give:

Text "PCHUM" to
73256

Advent: How Much More Waiting?!

In 2010, on his album *So Beautiful or So What*, Paul Simon included a track he penned and sang called *Getting Ready for Christmas Day*.

From early in November to the last week of December
I got money matters weighing me down
Oh the music may be merry, but it's only temporary
I know Santa Claus is coming to town
In the days I work my day job, in the nights I work my night
But it all comes down to working man's pay
Getting ready, I'm getting ready, ready for Christmas Day

Getting ready, oh we're getting ready
For the power and the glory
And the story of
Christmas Day

If I could tell my Mom and Dad that the things we never had
Never mattered we were always okay
Getting ready, oh ready, ready for Christmas Day
Ready, getting ready
For the power and the glory and the story of the
Christmas Day

This has been a singular year, this 2020. A year where it has felt like we have been doing little except waiting. We were just beginning to get through another Michigan winter, when this virus we had only just heard about in another part of the world showed up here and everything changed. And we waited. For information about what this virus was and how dangerous it just might be. And we waited for PPE and ventilators and toilet paper and hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes. And we waited. Leadership stood tall and told us truths we did not particularly want to hear, or short-sold the realities because the American people could just not handle being alarmed. And we waited. To get our act together and do the simple tasks of hand-washing and social distancing and the dreaded masking. And we waited for things to get better and they did...for a time. And we got tired of waiting. Now a vaccine, no, at least THREE vaccines are on the horizon. And we are waiting for something like a miracle to finally stop this thing so we can get back...

We do not like to wait. So for me to tell you that we are in the midst of the four-week season of waiting for Christmas day, in a culture of two-day delivery, well, that seems ridiculous. But the Church, the global Body of Christ, has recognized the need for us to shift our gears from waiting for whatever it is we think we are waiting for that looks like "normal," to four weeks of focusing on the birth of Christ-possibility into the world. The four weeks of "Believing Even When..." invite us to enter into the Reign of God intentions for Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. As Paul Simon sings it, all that we thought were so important, "those things we never had," are found to be not quite so important. Birth refocuses us on something, someone that calls us to reprioritize our waiting and our continued living as a faithful people.

I invite you into this season of Advent, waiting with me, in virtual worship live-streaming on Sundays at 10 am, in prayerful learning using the Advent devotionals on the Chapel Hill website, in staying healthy as a mark of your commitment to be well as we follow to the manger...and beyond.



Pastor Barry

All Are Welcome to Celebrate the Season of Advent at Portage Chapel Hill Church

Sermon Series "Believing Even When..."

Sunday, December 6:

Love: Daring the Right Relationship

Blue Christmas Worship

Monday, December 21 at 6 pm

Sunday, December 13:

God: The Ode to Joy

Christmas Eve Worship

Thursday, December 24 at 4 pm

Sunday, December 20:

Lighting The Way to Peace

All worship services will be available at pchum.org/broadcast