## The Lord's Day First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2023 Sandy Creek United Wesleyan Church

Reverend Brian Snyder: 315-387-3199 6224 N. Main St., P.O. Box 298 Sandy Creek, NY 13145 www.sandycreekunitedwesleyan.com

# Today's Prayer

God of Hope, we seek you. During this holy season of Advent, help us to see you in all whom we encounter. We seek you in the crude manger, a child born to save the world. May your hope be a comfort to all who long for justice. May your hope fill our hearts and grace our lips so that we might reflect your hope for all the world.

In Jesus Name, Amen

### The Morning Message

Reverend Brian Snyder—A Message of Hope

### PRAYER REQUESTS FOR

Betty Lou and Ron Pickett • Brian Groff John Shatraw • Dustin Blodgett • Beverly Snyder • Emma Nancy Casler • Julie Pierce • Dorice Stewart • Stanley Perzan Burt Goodnough • Tina (Paula's daughter) • Daniel Shirley Carl & Danielle • Mrs. Mavery • Mary Hesford • Ron Latella Helen Potter • Laura Paddock • Jared Eldridge • Dan Race Bonnie VanDyke • Mark Freeden.• George Steven • Randy Norm Kepner • Lynn & Stan • Shaun Hull • Patricia Myers Doris Bates • Donna Thurston • Stanley Kepner • Karen Ross

MISSIONARIES: Mozambique: Rev. Jim Pickett

#### ALL MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL

#### NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, December 10, 2023

<u>Greeters</u>: Marilyn Poole / Kelly Blair <u>Security</u>: Tim Redden / Steve Berkman / Lyle Robbins Monday, December 4, 6:00 PM: Ladies Bible Study

Tuesday, December 5, 9:00 AM: Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 PM: Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 PM: Activ8Her Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, December 6, 7:00 PM: Prayer Study- Talking with God thru Prayer.

**Saturday, December 9, 4:00 PM**: Christmas Party at Mindy & Todd Caufield, 5999 S. Main St. in Sandy Creek. Bring Your favorite cookies for Christmas Cookie Contest. Bring a \$10 or less gift for gift exchange. If bringing kids, tell them how many & ages, they will take care of them.

**Friendship Shop Gift Giving:** Unwrapped gifts need to be back to Church by Sunday, Dec. 10 (next Sunday). <u>Wrapping gifts at Methodist</u> <u>Church on Monday, Dec. 18 at 9:00am</u>.

**Saturday, December 16, 12:00-6:00 PM:** Christmas Party at Richland Historical Society Co. Rt. 48 (Richland School). High Adventure will play music from 1:00-3:00. Come enjoy good food and Christmas music free of charge. Tim Blodgett hopes to see you there . . .

Sunday, Dec. 17, 3:00 PM: Christmas Caroling weather permitting

**Help Needed:** to Wrap Shoe Boxes for the Christmas Care Boxes for Seniors, return by Sunday, Dec. 17. Food for Christmas Care Boxes need to be brought in by Sunday, Dec. 17, sign-up sheet at Welcome Desk. <u>Packing boxes on Monday, Dec. 18 at 6:00pm.</u>

### Hope

Advent is a season of waiting, expecting and hoping. The flame of the candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World taking away the darkness of sin. As we light a candle each week, the flames will grow like our expectation of Jesus' coming.

The <u>Candle of Hope</u> symbolizes the promises delivered by the prophets as direct messages from God. The candle is also a symbol of the hope we have in Christ. We light this candle today in anticipation of Christ's coming return and in remembrance of how his birth was promised and foretold since creation's beginning.

Hope, in the Bible, exists as a secure assurance, a trust placed in a trustworthy God. God has not failed us in the past, and therefore; if he claims he will do something in the future, we can have a hope that he will fulfill that claim.

Hope is important, it helps us during significant trials or times of distress. It offers us security that God will arrive and though we cannot see him now, we will see him face to face one day.



PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD. Make Straight in the desert a highway for our God.

ISAIAH 40:3

