

Welcome to Worship Today!

Sunday, December 19, 2021



Calvin Sinclair
Presbyterian Church



Worship Schedule

Sunday:

10:00 am: Echo Hill & Calvin-Sinclair
Combined Worship-Sanctuary

Wednesday:

7:00 pm: Worship on Wednesday
(held virtually via Zoom)

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Friday: 8:00 am – Noon

Visit Echo Hill on the web to hear
today's service again or to share with a
friend: www.echohillchurch.org

Email: echohill@echohillchurch.org

Phone: (319) 377-4360

Address:

715 38th St. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403



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Facebook! Just go to
[www.facebook.com/Echo
HillPresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/EchoHillPresbyterianChurch).

• Church Life Snapshot •

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

Worship is...

Joyful. Spirit-filled. Thoughtful. Welcoming.

Restrooms: Located next to the church office as you come in from the parking lot on the west end of the building.

Large Print Hymnals (words only): Available on the back table.

Hand Sanitizer & Wipes: Available for those who need them.

Questions? Please feel free to ask an usher for assistance!

Connection Card

In your bulletin is a green connection card. We ask that you complete the card and drop it in the offering plate. If you have a specific person, group, or event for which you'd like us to join with you in prayer, place this prayer request on the back of the connection card. This can be for a concern in your life or your health, or for a concern you have for someone else, or for a joyous event.

Welcome to Worship! Connection Card

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Best Contact Phone: _____
Email: _____
 Check if changes in contact information
If 1st- or 2nd-time guest, how did you hear about the church?
 Church website Church member Event Facebook
 Other: _____
Are you a: 1st-time guest 2nd-time guest Member/regular attendee

Order of Worship – December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Echo Hill & Calvin-Sinclair Presbyterian Churches

Gather for Worship -----

Prelude

“Listen to the Angels”

Welcome

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

Carole Swanson

*Hymn #119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*Pass the Peace

Prepare for Worship -----

Call to Worship (*I Corinthians 13:1-8*)

Leader: Of all the spiritual gifts God gives to the human race, the one that is most foundational of all the others is love. The Apostle Paul writes to the church: “If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

All: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”

Unison Prayer of Confession

All: Your love surrounds us every moment of life, O God. You have chosen to love us, even though we often stray away from your ways and go after our own. Your love has called us to this place today. We worship you because we have experienced your love. You have loved us through others, in our time of need. Help us to not neglect those who are reaching out for help. Show us ways to forsake our selfishness and enter into your work by imitating your love. During this Advent season we experience the greatest story of your love, the birth of your Son. We give you thanks that he entered our world and loved us so completely that he gave his life so we have the opportunity to know you, both in this life and forever in the life to come. We offer our prayers in his name and ask that you hear us as we pray in silence...

(moment of silence for personal confession)

Words of Assurance (*I John 4:7-12*)

Leader: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

***Response #581**

“Glory Be to the Father”

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Proclaiming God’s Word -----

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Luke 2:8-20

Message

“God’s Plan Includes US?” – The Rev. Dr. Dennis E. Morey

The Response #693

“Though I May Speak”

Responding to God’s Word -----

Announcements

Minute for Mission

Christmas Joy Offering – Carol Sindelar

Call to Dedication

Leader: Today, we bring our tithes and offerings for the work God is doing among us.

All: With grateful hearts we dedicate our offerings to God.

Offering

“O Come, Little Children” (handbell duet)

Offertory

***Congregational Response #606**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

All: Praise God, from who 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**

All: Holy God, the offerings we bring are given with cheerful hearts. We express our gratitude for your love by loving others. We want to share the Good News of your love in our support of the work and ministry of the church. Bless our Joy offerings. May they be used to help our church workers who have given their time and talents to serve your church, and bless those whose education will be made a reality through this offering. We give in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer

All: 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.

Leave to Serve God’s People -----

***Closing Hymn #118**

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Announcements for the Week of December 19

Ushers: Bess Naujoks & Joann Ingels

The year is almost over. If you are wanting to make a contribution for the year 2021, it should be in no later than Monday, December 27th. It can be mailed or put in the offering plate this Sunday, or Sunday, December 26th. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email Sandy at 377-4360 or S.Minger@echohillchurch.org.

We're starting up a "Getting to Know You" series to help the two congregations become more familiar with each other. You're invited to write a paragraph about yourself. Feel free to write about where you went to college, what you did for a career, your children, your grandchildren, hobbies, etc. You can email your paragraph to Michael at m.becker@echohillchurch.org or drop it off at the office.

Thanks to Tracy Barton & Judy Worley for providing treats this morning. Please contact the church office if you'd like to provide treats for a future Sunday. Echo Hill is providing treats for December and Calvin-Sinclair will provide for January.

The Echo Hill office will be closed December 24-31 in observance of Christmas and New Year's.

Gleanings from Jim White

"A book is a garden; a book is an orchard; a book is a storehouse; a book is a party. It is company by the way; it is a counselor; it is a multitude of counselors." – *Henry Ward Beecher*

Weekly Calendar

Members from both congregations are welcome to attend any event/meeting.

Sunday:

9:00 AM: Bible Study-Room #1

10:00 AM: Worship-Sanctuary

12:30 PM: Church of Pentecost

Monday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

9:00 AM: Bible Study at Genee Coles' Home

9:00 AM-12:00 PM: Sewing Group-Fellowship Hall

5:30 PM: Caring Team Meeting

5:30 PM: Worship & Music Meeting

6:30 PM: Echo Hill Session Meeting-Room #1

Tuesday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

9:00 AM: Calvin-Sinclair Session Meeting-Room #1

9:30 AM: Coffee & Conversation-Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM: Cedar Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines

Wednesday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

7:00 PM: Worship on Wednesday (Via Zoom)

Thursday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

6:00 PM: Worker Bees

Friday: Church Office Closed

6:00 PM: Christmas Eve Worship-Sanctuary

Saturday: Christmas Day

Christmas Joy Offering is Today



We will collect our contributions to the Christmas Joy offering today. This offering assists retired church leaders in their time of need and educational communities of color in the student's pursuit of education. Tony and Lilia Alcabal migrated from the violence-riddled Guatemala to the United States. They remembered how hard it was to get their education and wanted something better for their children. Through a scholarship program from the Christmas Joy offering, they were able to send their three children to the Menaul School, a PC(USA)-related secondary school in Albuquerque, NM. Menaul emphasizes a strong academic curriculum as well as spiritual awareness. – *The Caring Team*

Food Bank Donations for Olivet



Please consider making a monetary donation to support our food banks, instead of bringing items to the church. The food banks can purchase food at a lower cost and more efficiently than we can purchase. The food bank we're supporting in December is Olivet Neighborhood Mission. If you'd like to contribute, simply leave your donation in the office, or mail it to church, with a notation on the memo line for "food bank." Make your checks out to "Echo Hill Church" and we'll send one check at the end of the month to the food bank. Thank you for your support of these organizations.

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