

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, December 12, 2021
Sunday School 9:30 a.m./Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

(*Please stand, if you are able, at each asterisk.)

Welcome to our Sunday service. Please use the time during the Prelude to prepare yourself for worship in quiet reflection and prayer and allow others to do the same.

Prelude "Away in the Manger" *James Murray/*
(Lighting of the Candles) (Organ/Piano) *arr. Gilbert Martin*

Greeting

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Gerald Gammon

Let us begin our worship today:

Choral Introit "Come On, Ring Those Bells"

*Call to Worship: Judy Fabian

Leader: Almighty God, You have sent us Jesus, the greatest gift of love.

All: Let us accept this gift with great joy and open hearts.

Leader: Father in Heaven, we celebrate You with Your Son, as we share in the joy of Your love.

All: Send Your Spirit to help us be worthy of the gifts and joy You bring.

Leader: Though we celebrate His birth, we find joy in our rebirth through Him.

All: Happy are we to be counted as Yours!

Leader: We thank You, God, for the many blessings and joys in our lives.

All: And we do so in Jesus' name, amen.

*Carol #277 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle The Lemasters & Riley

*Unison Invocation :

All: O Lord, we are fortunate to be Your children. We praise You and glorify You for all that You are and all that You do. Thank You for the many joys You

bring us and for loving us so. We love You, O Lord, and we appreciate that You love us, even when we are unlovable. You fill our hearts with joy even in our darkest hour. We are forever Yours, O God, and we shall always find joy in that. We worship You in Jesus's name, amen.

*Gloria Patri #812 "Glory Be to the Father"

Joys and Concerns

Time of Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debt and debtors)

Prayer Response "O come to my heart" *Timothy Matthews*

Anthem "Who Would Send a Baby?" *Mary K. Beall*

Offering Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "I Wondered as I Wander" *American Folk Song*

Soloist: Judy Fabian

*Doxology #815 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Carol #267 "I Heard the Bells Ring on Christmas Day"

Scripture

Zephaniah 3:14-20 (pg. 877 O.T.)

Judy Fabian

Scripture

Philippians 4:4-7 (pg. 198 N.T.)

Sermon

"Joy to the World!"

Rev. Gerald Gammon

Carol

#269 "How Great the Joy"

*Benediction

Postlude

"Reach Out for the Gift"
(Organ/Piano)

Steven Tippett

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Pastor: Rev. Gerald Gammon (330) 306-8965

Director of Music: Karen Fumerola

Guest Organist: Barbara Edwards

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/12/21

If you want to put someone on the prayer chain or prayer list, you must call the church office or fill out a prayer card in church.

The flowers have been placed on the altar to the honor and glory of God by Marian Gammon, and in honor of Pastor Gerry's birthday.

Next week: Liturgist/Lay Reader: Sheryl Cozad

Thought for the week: "Have I spread the joy of Jesus?"

Advent Wreath: We are in need of four families to sign up for lighting of the advent candles and readings. The sign up sheet is in the lobby.

Family Christmas Party: The party will be held this Sunday, December 12, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish along with your table service. Beverages will be provided. Our entertainment will be magician & comedian, Eric Thompson. Everyone is welcome to join us for good food, fun, and friends! **Sharon Longworth will also be collecting for staff Christmas gifts through Sunday morning, December 12.

Communion Preparation: Preparing communion is an honor and a privilege that we should all participate in at one time or another. Please look over the Communion Schedule for 2021-2022 and choose a Sunday service when you can prepare the elements. There are five spots still open.

Congregational Meeting: There will be a meeting after church on Sunday, December 19, 2021 to go over the proposed 2022 budget and elect officers for consistory. This is a very important meeting, so please make sure and attend.

Christmas Eve: Worship will be held on Friday, December 24, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. We will have regular worship on Sunday, December 26, 2021 @ 10:45 a.m.. No Sunday School.

Thank You: I just want to say thank you to Karen for the altar flowers. It was so thoughtful of you. It was just wonderful to be there Sunday and to see so many great people and remember many special memories. I miss you all so much, but you are always in my thoughts and prayers. *Love, Janis Williamson*

| | 12/5/2021 | 12/12/2021 | 12/19/2021 | 12/26/2021 |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Attendance | 34 | | | |
| Benevolent | | | | |
| Building Fund | | | | |
| Current Expenses | \$ 842.00 | | | |
| Floating Five | \$ 98.50 | | | |
| Flowers | | | | |
| Poinsettias | \$ 8.50 | | | |
| Bake Sale | | | | |
| WF Mission | \$ 120.00 | | | |
| TOTAL | \$1,069.00 | | | |

Thank You: I would like to thank Karen & Junior Fumerola for the nice visit and the beautiful altar flowers. They certainly brightened up my day! God bless you.
Betty Howren

PRAYER LIST

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| William Anderson | Bonnie Isaac |
| Donna Beavers | Betty Jamison |
| Charlies Carl | Peggy Marshall |
| Betsy Chapley | Ethel Maximum |
| Bev DeSavigny | David Nichols |
| Ruth Gilbert | Mary Sabol |
| Jimmy Green | Bob Spencer |
| Marilyn Grounds | Barb Sponaule |
| Chelsea Harper | Vicky Town |
| Marna Williams | |

Barbutes family
Lehman/Gammon family

IMPORTANT DATES

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|--------------------|--|
| Sunday, Dec. 12 | Christmas Party @5:30 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Dec. 15 | Choir Rehearsal @3:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, Dec. 16 | Parish News deadline |
| Saturday, Dec. 18 | Bake Sale pick up |
| Sunday, Dec. 19 | Communion/Congregational meeting after worship |