

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

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

Director of Music: Karen Fumerola

Organist: Barbara Edwards

*(*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 "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" *arr. Ethel Smith*
(Lighting of the Candles) (Organ/Piano)

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 #245 "Rejoice! Emanuel"

Adapted from Plainsong

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Lemasters Family

*Call to Worship:

Judy Fabian

Leader: O God, You promised us prosperity.

All: You delivered us through Jesus, the Christ!

Leader: Almighty, You have seen us through so much!

All: We praise and worship You, O Lord!

Leader: Blessed are we, Your children!

All: Father we love and cherish You always!

Leader: May we always be worthy of Your love and forgiveness.

All: We pray in Jesus' most holy name, amen.

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

*Unison Invocation:

All: We are the children of God, the children of Light. We follow the Christ as sheep follow their Shepherd. Because we believe in the Son of God, Jesus, we will someday see the Kingdom of God and we shall rejoice with our Lord forever. Jesus was our eternal gift, sent from His Father in Heaven, and we shall forever proclaim our love for Him! We pray that the world will come to God in His name, amen.

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

Anthem

"Come, Emmanuel"

Don Besig

Joys and Concerns/Time of Silent Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (debt and debtors)

Prayer Response #292 "O come to my heart" *Timothy Matthews*

Duet

"O Wondrous Night"

Tune: Londonderry Air/arr. Joseph Martin

Soloists: Judy Fabian & Melanie Burger

Offering Prayer/Giving of our Tithes and Offerings/Christmas Fund Offering

Offertory "The Holly and the Ivy" *Traditional carol*

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

*Apostles Creed (May be found in the back cover of the hymnal)

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

Scripture

Psalm 126 (pg. 572-573 O.T.)

Judy Fabian

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (pg.205 N.T.)

"Celtic Alleluia" *Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker*

Gospel

Luke 1:46b-55 (pg. 59-60 N.T.)

Pastor: "This is the Word of our Lord"

All: "Thanks be to God."

Sermon

"God Delivers"

Rev. Gerald Gammon

*Hymn

#287 "Communion Hymn for Christmas"

Invitation to Communion/Prayer over the elements

Communion (element to be consumed in unison)/Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Benediction

Postlude

#266 "That Beautiful Name"

(Organ/Piano)

280 E. Market Street, Warren, Ohio 44481
(330)394-4741 Email: firstuccwarren@gmail.com

Website: www.firstuccwarren.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/17/2023

Please call the church office or fill out a prayer card if you would like to put someone on the prayer chain or prayer list.

Thought for the Week: Where in my life do I find God’s promises delivered?

Next week: Liturgist/Lay Reader: Sheryl Cozad

All offerings to be credited to the 2023 fiscal year must be made no later than Sunday December 31. After December 31, even if the offering is placed in a 2023 envelope, it will be credited to the 2024 fiscal year.

Advent: Thank you to all who have signed up to read and light the candles of our Advent Wreath.

Congregational Meeting: There will be a meeting today after worship, where the budget for 2024 will be presented for discussion and approval, as will candidates for two Elder positions that will serve our church for the next three years. Please plan to attend.

Christmas Eve Service: The Christmas Eve service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Readers are needed for this service. Thank you all who signed up to be readers for this special night!

Sunday School: There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 24 or Sunday, December 31.

Thank You! Thank you for the wonderful gift! I appreciate your continued love and support, Merry Christmas one and all!
Pastor Gerry

Thank You Sharon Longworth! And all who helped make this year’s Family Christmas party such a success!

Thank You: A Big Thank You to everyone who played a part in our Christmas Party on Sunday evening. We had a amazing time with good food, great company and our wonderful entertainment, Lock 4. God Bless you all! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
Sharon Longworth

Thank You: I want to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, phone calls, and your support during this difficult time.
Homer Wiland

	12/3/23	12/10/23	12/17/23	12/24/23	12/31/23
Attendance	26	30			
Benevolent					
Building Fund					
Current Expenses	\$1,121.25	\$1,190.50			
Floating Five	\$ 91.00	\$ 130.00			
Benevolence	\$ 55.00				
Poinsettias	\$ 49.50				
TOTAL	\$1,316.75	\$1,320.50			

November Income	November Expenditures	November Net
\$4,307.50	\$8,115.12	-\$3,807.62

Prayer List	Shut-ins
American People Donna Beavers Becky Callahan Betsy Chapley Dave Davis Rodger Davis Phil Fletcher Ruth Gilbert Dean Mahalick Peggy Marshall	Larry Mattison Norma Patchin Mary Sabol Layes Wood Those affected by the conflicts throughout the world. Lyon/Busko Family Wiland Family Williams Family

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, Dec. 17	Communion/Congregational Mtg./Bake Sale P/U
Sunday, December 24	10:45 morning service and 6:30 pm Christmas Eve
Monday, Dec. 25 & 26	Office Closed
Wednesday, Jan. 3	Men’s Fellowship breakfast 9:00 a.m./Choir 3:00 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 8	Elders/Deacons 6:15 p.m./Consistory 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/17/2023

Please call the church office or fill out a prayer card if you would like to put someone on the prayer chain or prayer list.

Thought for the Week: Where in my life do I find God’s promises delivered?

Next week: Liturgist/Lay Reader: Sheryl Cozad

All offerings to be credited to the 2023 fiscal year must be made no later than Sunday December 31. After December 31, even if the offering is placed in a 2023 envelope, it will be credited to the 2024 fiscal year.

Advent: Thank you to all who have signed up to read and light the candles of our Advent Wreath.

Congregational Meeting: There will be a meeting today after worship, where the budget for 2024 will be presented for discussion and approval, as will candidates for two Elder positions that will serve our church for the next three years. Please plan to attend.

Christmas Eve Service: The Christmas Eve service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Readers are needed for this service. Thank you all who signed up to be readers for this special night!

Sunday School: There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 24 or Sunday, December 31.

Thank You! Thank you for the wonderful gift! I appreciate your continued love and support, Merry Christmas one and all!
Pastor Gerry

Thank You Sharon Longworth! And all who helped make this year’s Family Christmas party such a success!

Thank You: A Big Thank You to everyone who played a part in our Christmas Party on Sunday evening. We had a amazing time with good food, great company and our wonderful entertainment, Lock 4. God Bless you all! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
Sharon Longworth

Thank You: I want to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, phone calls, and your support during this difficult time.
Homer Wiland

	12/3/23	12/10/23	12/17/23	12/24/23	12/31/23
Attendance	26	30			
Benevolent					
Building Fund					
Current Expenses	\$1,121.25	\$1,190.50			
Floating Five	\$ 91.00	\$ 130.00			
Benevolence	\$ 55.00				
Poinsettias	\$ 49.50				
TOTAL	\$1,316.75	\$1,320.50			

November Income

\$4,307.50

November Expenditures

\$8,115.12

November Net

-\$3,807.62

Prayer List

Shut-ins

American People	Larry Mattison	Donna Beavers
Donna Beavers	Norma Patchin	Ruth Gilbert
Becky Callahan	Mary Sabol	Betty Howren
Betsy Chapley	Layes Wood	Dick Leiby
Dave Davis		Marilyn Leiby
Rodger Davis	Those affected by the conflicts throughout the world.	Glenn Mark
Phil Fletcher		Norma Patchin
Ruth Gilbert		Barb Sponaugle
Dean Mahalick		
Peggy Marshall		Lyon/Busko Family
		Wiland Family
		Williams Family

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, Dec. 17	Communion/Congregational Mtg./Bake Sale P/U
Sunday, December 24	10:45 morning service and 6:30 pm Christmas Eve
Monday, Dec. 25 & 26	Office Closed
Wednesday, Jan. 3	Men’s Fellowship breakfast 9:00 a.m./Choir 3:00 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 8	Elders/Deacons 6:15 p.m./Consistory 7:00 p.m.