

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, December 18, 2022
Sunday School 9:30 a.m./Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

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

Director of Music: Karen Fumerola

Guest 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 "Away In a Manger" *J. E. Spilman/arr. E. 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 "Come On, Ring Those Bells" *Andrew Culverwell*

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Don Longworth

People: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry your light into the injustices and shadows of this world. Amen.

**People: Shine on us, O God, of justice;
Guide our path through gloom of night;
Bear within us Wisdom's glory;
Come to us, O Christ, the Light.**

*Call to Worship: Sheryl Cozad

Leader: Holy Spirit, teach us to trust in Your guidance.

All: May we recognize Your presence and honor Your wishes.

Leader: Deliver to us the wisdom and courage to follow Your lead.

All: May we recognize Your presence and honor Your wishes.

Leader: Fill our hearts with the desire to please God always.

All: May we recognize Your presence and honor Your wishes, amen.

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

*Unison Invocation:

All: Lord Jesus, You came to the world to save it from sin and corruption. Help us to carry out Your mission in our day while we await Your return. May we remain faithful to You always as we look to Your promised return. We pray in Your name, amen.

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

Special Music "Mary Did You Know?" *Mark Lowry/Buddy Green*

Quartet: Amber & Garry Mitcham, Robert Taylor, Kevin Fumerola

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

Prayer Response "Holy, Holy, Holy" *Argentine Folk Song*

Offering Prayer/Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (Organ/Piano) H. Smart/arr. E. Smith

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

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

Carol #272 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

Anthem "Christmas Is Coming" *Joel Raney*

Scripture **Isaiah 7: 10-16** (pg. 636 O.T.) Sheryl Cozad

Scripture **Romans 1: 1-7** (pg. 152 N.T.)

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

Gospel **Matthew 1: 18-25** (pg. 1 N.T.)

Pastor: "This is the Word of our Lord"

All: "Thanks be to God."

Sermon "Trust Like Joseph" Rev. Gerald Gammon

Carol #281 "What Child Is This?"

Invitation to Communion

Communion

*Benediction

Postlude "Joy to the World" *George Handel*
(Organ/Piano)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/18/2022

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.

Next week: Liturgist/Lay Reader: Donny Longworth

Thought of the Week: Do I trust in the Lord?

Thank You: Thank you to the quartet, Amber, Garry, Robert & Kevin, who shared their time and talents with us today. God bless you!

Covid Precautions: We will continue with the precautions of social distancing with the wearing of masks being optional. Please, if you feel ill, do not come to church.

Altar Flowers: It is always nice to remember loved ones with altar flowers. The altar vases are \$50 for two vases or \$25 each.

Christmas Bake Sale: The curbside pick-up is today from noon to 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Party: Our Family Christmas party will be held today, December 18, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish and table settings. Beverages will be provided. Our entertainment will once again be comedian/magician, Eric Thompson. Come and join us for a great night of food, fun, and entertainment. **Sharon also will be collecting for staff Christmas gifts. The deadline is this Sunday morning, December 18.

Mitten Tree: The tree in the lobby is for collecting mittens and socks for the kids at the elementary schools who are in need of help. Please place your mittens and socks on the tree by Sunday, December 25. Thank you for your participation.

Tithes: All offerings for the 2022 fiscal year need to be submitted by Christmas Eve Service as this will be the last deposit for the year. Anything after that will go onto the 2023 fiscal year.

2023 Envelopes: Please remember to pick up your envelopes in the lobby.

	12/4/22	12/11/22	12/18/22	12/25/22
Attendance	36	25		
Benevolent		\$ 55.00		
Building Fund				
Current Expenses	\$530.00	\$1,581.00		
Floating Five	\$147.00	\$ 170.00		
Flowers				
Poinsettias		\$ 27.00		
Memorial		\$ 100.00		
Warren Family Miss.	\$120.00			
TOTAL	\$797.00	\$1,933.00		

PRAYER LIST

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|-----------------|---------------------|
| Gloria Ambrose | Richard Lemasters |
| American People | Glenn Mark |
| Tammy Boyle | Gary Noel |
| Isaac Boyles | Peggy Marshall |
| Becky Callahan | Melissa Rein |
| Betsy Chapley | Jay Robinson |
| Sandy Croyle | Mary Sabol |
| Kaye Doran | Carol Sin |
| Sherri French | Bob Spencer |
| Ruth Gilbert | Barbara Sponaugle |
| Debbie Heilman | Ukraine People |
| MaryAnn Huffman | Tricia Unger (Mark) |
| Ron Huffman | |
| Betty Jamison | |
| Dick Leiby | |
| Mark Leiby | |

IMPORTANT DATES

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| Sunday December 18 | Communion/Bake Sale pick up noon-2:00 p.m. |
| Sunday December 18 | Annual Christmas Party @5:30 p.m. |
| Friday, December 23 & 26 | OFFICE CLOSED |
| Monday, December 25 | No Church Services—Merry Christmas! |
| Sunday, January 1 | No Sunday School |