

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Sunday, December 2, 2018**  
**Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. Worship Service**

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

Prelude

(Lighting of the Candles)

Greeting

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Sharon Longworth

Choral Introit

"People, Look East"

*arr. by Florence Simons*

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Lord Jesus, we look to Your coming again with great anticipation.

**All: Happy are we to receive You, blessed Son of God.**

Leader: It is our great hope that You find us worthy of Your company.

**All: May we always have You by our side.**

Leader: As we begin this season of Advent, we celebrate Your first coming.

**All: We rejoice in the comfort of Your love and the debt that You have paid on our behalf.**

Leader: May You find us favorable in Your sight.

**All: We hope and pray in Your most holy name. Amen.**

\*Carol

#245

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Lighting the First Advent Candle

(Fumerolas)

\*Unison Invocation

Father Almighty, You sent Your Son to us as a baby to grow and be among us. Let His teachings and love be example to us all so that we might find favor in Your sight. Send the Holy Spirit to each of us, we pray, so that our hearts may be filled with love and compassion for one another. Help us all to be Christ-like and enable us to follow Him to Your kingdom. We pray these things in His 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

#292

"O come to my heart, Lord Jesus

*arr. by Florence Simons*

Anthem

"Alleluia for Advent"

*Patrick Liebergen*

Flute: Shawn Marko

Children's Message

Judy Fabian

Carol

#407

"God Has Spoken by His Prophets"

Offering Meditation

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

#815

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*Offering Prayer

Scripture

**Jeremiah 33:14-16** (pg. 738 O.T.)

Brenda Hibbard

Scripture

**Luke 21:25-36** (pg. 85-86 N.T.)

Sermon

"One Way"

Rev. Gerald Gammon

\*Carol

#244

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

\*Benediction

\*Parting Blessing

#245

"Rejoice! *Plain song/adp. By Thomas Helmore*

Postlude

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

*Director of Music: Karen Fumerola*

*Guest Organist: Barbara Edwards*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/2/18

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 Joanne Bode, and in memory of her parents, Herman & Pauline Bode and family.

Next Week - Liturgist: Donny Longworth Lay Reader: Marilyn Leiby

**Floating Five Fund:** Today's "loose offering (coins or cash)" will go to the Floating Five food vouchers. If you choose to write a check, please put in an envelope and mark the envelope "Floating Five". Thank you for your support!

**Elders/Deacons Meeting:** Monday, December 3rd @6:15 p.m.

**Consistory Meeting:** Monday, December 3rd @7:00 p.m.

**Poinsettias:** A sign up sheet is on the table in the lobby. Poinsettias are \$9.75 again this year and the deadline to order is Sunday, December 9th.

**Family Christmas Party:** Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish and your own table service. Beverages will be provided. Trumbull Senior Productions will be our guests this year. All are welcome to join us for a night of delicious food, fun, and entertainment.

**Staff Christmas Gifts:** Sharon Longworth will be collecting donations through December 9th.

**Congregational meeting:** After church on Sunday, December 16th, to go over the proposed 2019 Budget and vote on the new Deacons & Elders.

**First Ladies:** On Wednesday, December 19th at 11:30 a.m., they will meet for their Christmas party at Melanie Burger's house, 8183 Fairhill NE, Warren. Everyone is asked to bring a finger food and a "white elephant" gift.

**Parish News Deadline:** Please have your articles, photos, poems, etc. in by Wednesday, December 19th. Thank you!

**Angel Tree:** The Boomers are once again sponsoring the Angel Tree this Christmas Season. In the coming days, tags will appear on the Christmas tree in the lobby. We ask those who choose to participate to take a tag and purchase the gift suggested on that tag. Your wrapped gift should be returned to the church by Sunday, December 16th, with that tag attached. We are helping two families, one of which has a special needs child, so some of the gift suggestions are specific. This is due to the child's disabilities. We appreciate your past support of this worthwhile project, and we hope you will find it in your heart to participate this year.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Fourteen boxes were completed and delivered to the collection site. Thank you for your support and dedication to making children happy.

**Sylvia Moyes:** Sylvia passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 20th. Our prayers are with her daughter, Judith Shipengrover, and her son, Dennis Moyes, and their families.

	11/4/18	11/11/18	11/18/18	11/25/18
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>	
Benevolent	\$ 13		\$ 5	
Floating Five	\$ 44	\$ 10	\$ 310	
Flowers				
Building Imp	\$ 8			
Current Expense	\$869	\$1106	\$6860	
WFM			\$ 50	
Poinsettias			\$ 39.50	
Someplace Safe	\$ 30			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$964</b>	<b>\$1116</b>	<b>\$7264.50</b>	

**PRAYER LIST**

Wanda Burns  
Beverly DeSavigny  
Aiden Elder  
Don Howren  
Becky Kunkel

Marlin Martin  
Norma Patchin  
Linda Paxson  
Florence Simons  
Joan Wimer

Moyes family

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Sunday, December 2

Monday, December 3

Wednesday, December 5

Thursday, December 6

Sunday, December 9

Thursday, December 13

Sunday, December 16

Wednesday, December 19

First Sunday of Advent

Elder's & Deacon's mtg. @6:15 p.m.

Consistory @7:00 p.m.

Men's Fellowship breakfast @9:00 a.m.

Choir Practice @6:30 p.m.

Annual Christmas Party @5:30 p.m./

Poinsettia deadline

Choir Practice @6:30 p.m./

Parish News

Communion

First Ladies Christmas Party @11:30 a.m.

**THE SYMBOLISM OF OUR CHRISMON TREE**

Our beautifully lit tree is decorated with Chrismons—symbols from Christian history which refer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Though the idea originated in the Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Danville, Virginia in 1957, the symbols are interdenominational and the heritage of all.

We affirm our belief that through the ages the church has found varied ways of telling the Good News and making God's love more meaningful and apparent to humanity. For several years we tried to add new designs to our tree. Some are developed from symbols of the church in its earliest years, others were first used by the inspired writers of the Bible, and still others are new interpretations which add depth to our understanding of our Lord and our relationship to Him. Any symbol on the tree must, first of all, point to our Lord and God.

All Chrismons are made in combinations of white and gold. White, the liturgical color for Christmas, refers to our Lord's purity and perfection; gold, to His majesty and glory. We point to Christ as the light of the world by using tiny white lights on the tree.

The Chrismon tree is complete only when those who see it understand its meaning. Please feel free to look at the Chrismons more closely. May each of you be blessed with the love and joy and true meaning of Christmas.

