

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, December 23, 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

Judy Fabian

Choral Introit #241 "Arise, Shine" Steven Urspringer/Jay Robinson

*Call to Worship

Leader: Lord God, You have called us to be Your People.

All: Blessed are we to receive Your calling.

Leader: You have come to us in human form in Christ Jesus.

All: Happy are we to walk by Your side.

Leader: We worship You, we give You thanks.

All: Here us as we praise You and Your glory.

Leader: Send Your Spirit upon us and fill our hearts.

**All: Let us be instruments of Your love. We pray in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

*Carol #259 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (1, 2, 5)

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle (Craig & Sheryl Cozad)

*Unison Invocation

Christ Jesus, we soon commemorate Your earthly birth. Let us hold the spirit of Christmas in our hearts always, being charitable and filled with the joy You brought into the world. Help us to fulfill Your mission of bringing all the ends of the world to God and grant us peace in our day. We ask that you bless us and keep watch over us. In Your name we submit ourselves and our prayers. 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 #243 "Emmanuel"

Bob McGee

Anthem

"A Simple Stable"

Don Besig

Children's Message

Joanne Bode

Carol #277 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Offering Meditation

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings/Christmas Fund Offering

Offertory

"There's a Song in the Air"

Karl Harrington

Soloist: Judy Fabian

*Doxology

#815 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Offering Prayer

Scripture

Psalm 80:1-7 (pg. 540-541 O.T.)

Brenda Hibbard

Scripture

Luke 1:39-55 (pg. 59-60 N.T.)

Sermon

"We are Blessed"

Rev. Gerald Gammon

*Carol #270 "Joy to the World" (1, 2, 4)

*Benediction

*Parting Blessing #270 "and heav'n and nature sing"

George Frederick/
arr. Lowell Mason

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/23/18

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 Bill & Linda Paxson, and in memory of James Teitsworth.

Next Week - Liturgist: Lay Reader: Marilyn Leiby

Pledge cards: I would like to encourage those who have not handed in their pledge cards to do so before the end of the year.

Christmas Fund Offering: Today is the Christmas Fund Offering for the Veterans of the Cross which helps provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income retirees, emergency assistance to the families of clergy and lay employees and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks to hundreds of annuitants. Envelopes are provided in the bulletins.

Offering Envelopes: Please pick up your envelopes for the 2019 year in the lobby. Thank you!

Thank You: Dear Church Family, thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, your prayers and phone calls, and the lovely cards that really touched my heart. See you as soon as I am able.
Beverly DeSavigny

Communion Schedule: 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 in the lobby and choose a Sunday when you can take part.

Sunday School: There will be No Sunday School on Sunday, December 30th.

Choir: There will be no Choir Practice on Thursday, December 27th.

Installation of New Officers: Sunday, January 6th

Elder's/Deacon's meeting: Monday, January 7th

Consistory: Monday, January 7th

Men's Fellowship Breakfast: Wednesday, January 9th

From the Pastor:

Marian and I wish you all a very merry Christmas and it is our greatest hope that your hearts be filled with happiness and joy. Take time this Christmas to enjoy the blessings God has given you and spread His love to all you meet. May your Christmas be filled with blessings and happiness.

With love and prayers,

Pastor Gerry and Marian

Dear Church Family & Friends,

This is both a Christmas greeting to you all as well as a thank you for the overwhelming support, concern, and prayers for Linda during her ongoing health concerns. Thank you for the flowers, the hospital visits, and absolute, avalanche of get well cards. (She cherishes each and every one and has compiled quite a stack which she reads through nearly every day).

Linda is currently building up her strength for further medical procedures at the Cleveland Clinic. Currently she is an outpatient looking forward to medical treatments that will return her to the healthy Linda you have all been praying for.

We both miss being with you at this joyous time in our church year and our wishes are for you, our family, to have a great holiday season and hope to be with you soon into the new year.

Our trees are all lit for the season. Although Linda is not up for visits, if you want to see the rainbow, take a drive by.

In Christian Love,

	12/2/18	12/9/18	12/16/18	12/23/18	12/30/18
Attendance	43	35	39		
Benevolent	\$ 65				
Floating Five	\$ 110	\$ 134	\$ 130		
Flowers	\$ 30				
Building Imp	\$ 10		\$ 2		
Current Exp	\$1505	\$1350	\$ 736		
WFM					
Poinsettias		\$ 49.50	\$ 19.75		
SM Mem.	\$ 150	\$ 200	\$ 500		
TOTAL	\$1870	\$1733.50	\$1387.75		

PRAYER LIST

AJ Dalton	Norma Patchin
Beverly DeSavigny	Linda Paxson
Aiden Elder	Florence Simons
Don Howren	Doris Whitmore
Becky Kunkel	Joan Wimer
Marlin Martin	Mary Kate Zweidinger
Peggy Marshall	

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, December 23	Christmas Fund Offering
Monday, December 24	Christmas Eve Worship @6:30 p.m./
	OFFICE CLOSED
Tues/Weds Dec. 25 & 26	OFFICE CLOSED
Sunday, December 30	No Sunday School
Monday, December 31	OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, January 1	OFFICE CLOSED
Sunday, January 6	Opening/Coffee Hour/Floating Five/ Installation of New Officers
Monday, January 7	Elder's/Deacon's mtg. @ 6:15 p.m. Consistory @7:00 p.m.



280 E. Market Street
Warren, Ohio 44481
(330)394-4741

Email: fristuccwarren@gmail.com
Website: fristuccwarren.org

Pastor: Rev. Gerald Gammon (330)306-8965
Director of Music: Karen Fumerola
Guest Organist: Barbara Edwards