



OHIO UNITED

Presbyterian Church

***Loving God,
Loving Neighbor;
Helping Our Neighbors to Love God***

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Bob Goossen

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES** Craig & Lynee, Layla, Chase
Cooper & Cohen Biller

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Where there is division, we long for unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Where there is hostility, we long for resolution.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Where there is separation, we long for reunion.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

***RESPONSE**

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" (vss 1&2)

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***PRAYER OF ADORATION** (unison)

Liturgist Layla Biller

All holiness is yours, Righteous God,
and blessed is the One for whom we wait,
Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace.

When we have lost our way,
you straighten out the path of faith.

When we are feeling lonely
you comfort us.

When we feel hopeless,
you gather us up in your arms
to carry us home. Alleluia, Amen.

***HYMN** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vss 1, 5 & 6)

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that whatever our fine might have been that it has been paid, God of Comfort, yet we still insist on earning our way into your heart. We confess that while your word will stand forever, it is our words of pain and anger that cause long term harm to others.

Your Messenger has come, Approaching God, spreading good news of forgiveness and hope. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, you speak to us: not of punishment, but of peace; not of judgment, but of justice; not of a sentence, but salvation. and we offer our hearts in thanksgiving and hope.

Silence is kept...

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News God speaks to you:

I love you...I forgive you...I restore you to new life.

**ALL: We will not ignore the fact that God comes:
not to condemn, but to comfort us; not to scold,
but to speak tenderly to us of hope, of peace.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***RESPONSE** "Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child"

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DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL "Straight Outta Bethlehem"

DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

CAROL "Angels from the Realms of Glory

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***BENEDICTION**

SENDING SONG (vs 1)

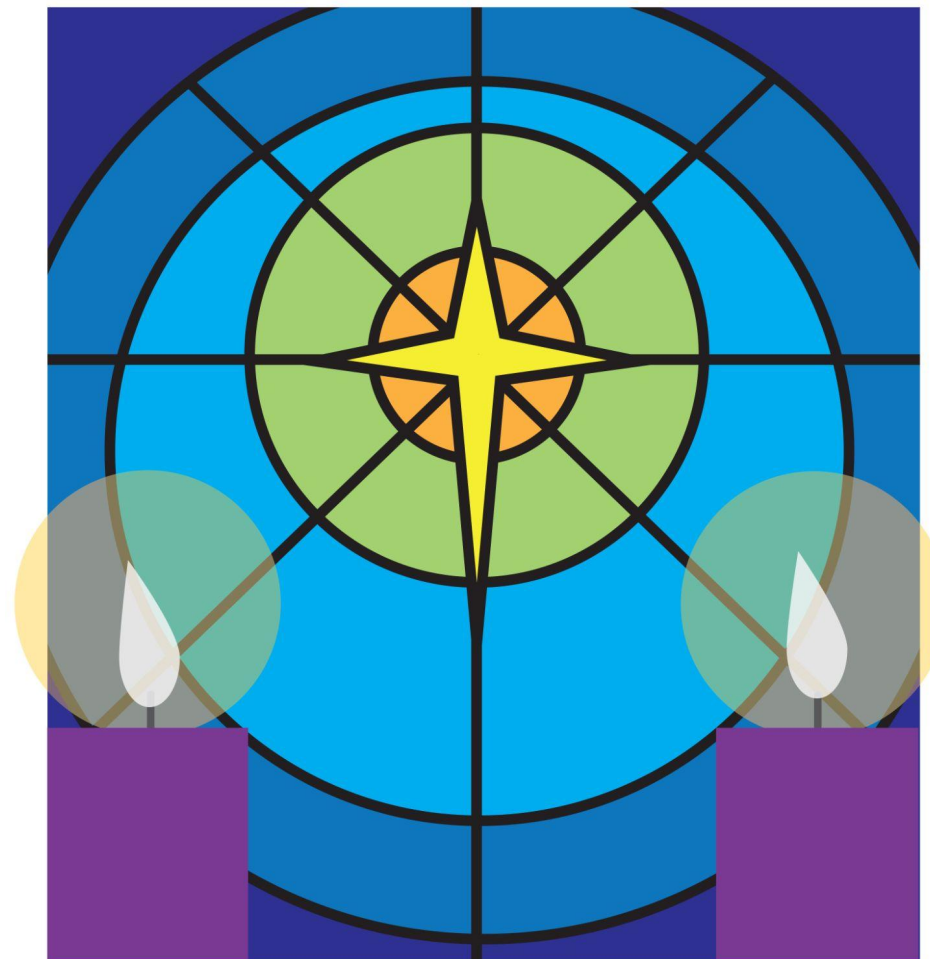
110

Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in Bethlehem skies.
See all Heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of Joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you,
A Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on High.

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***POSTLUDE**

Following worship, the Deacons invite everyone to a time of refreshments and conversation in the Fellowship Hall.



SECOND SUNDAY
OF
Advent

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday School

- No Children's Sunday School from December 10 To December 31. Classes will resume on January 7, 2024!
- Adult class at 9am/ Discussing the book *Grace, More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine*

Sunday, December 10– Youth Group Christmas Party 6-7:30pm

Monday, December 11–Property Meeting @6:30pm

Tuesday, December 12–Deacons meeting @6:30

Wednesday, December 13–Story Time @10am

Thursday, December 14–Choir @7pm/Cantata @8pm

Saturday, December 16– Cantata Dress Rehearsal

Sunday, December 17–Cantata @10am

Sunday, December 17–Youth Group Christmas Caroling @3pm

Thursday, December 21–Choir practice @7pm

Sunday, December 24–10am service and 6pm service

Spread some Christmas cheer using our **Christmas Card Mailbox** in the Narthex. Please “mail” your cards according to the recipient's last name. Also, please try to limit your cards to people who regularly attend church services.

The Wish Tree is up. Bring gifts unwrapped with tag by the date on the tag. The gifts are being collected by the Salvation Army and the Hopewell Jr. High National Honor Society for distribution locally.

The Cantata, “**We Call It Christmas Because of Jesus**” will be presented on Sunday, December 17. As music speaks to all ages there will not be a children's Sunday School hour.

Sunday, December 24 will feature two worship opportunities. At 10:00AM we will light the fourth Advent Candle and worship with eyes peering toward Jesus' arrival, just around the corner. Everyone is encouraged to wear a favorite Christmas sweater or, perhaps, your Christmas pj's. At our 6:00PM service we will light the Christ Candle as we worship with Carols & Candlelight. Both worship services will be ‘child friendly.’ Come to one or both as your hearts and life schedules lead.

On December 31, the **Seventh Day of Christmas**, we will enjoy scripture, stories and Christmas carols in a light and joy filled worship time.

Keep Them in Your Prayers: Donna Olexick, Rich Kerlin, Paul (Karen Keller's friend), Lynn Smith, Peter Kerlin, Marcia Davis, Jack Gennaro, Don Habedank (Shirley Fluharty's brother), Bernie Fedorka (Mark Douglass's friend), David Alexander (Shirley Fluharty's son-in-law), Tom Owczarzak, Paul Kulha

In the Military: Don Sanders, William Barth, Kelly Barth, Paul Hendrick

Those who are not able to worship regularly: Sarah Jane Shaffer, Dolores Skinner, Lois Davie, Willa Kocher, Maude Williams, Pat & Tony Wozniak, Roberta Smith, Ella Mae Speiker, Edna Petrella, Lois Dancer, Dorothy Elko, Irene Gartley, Martha Piroli, Libby Urick, Trudy Boggs, Janice Adamski, Betty Solinski

Garden of Knowledge Library

As we expand our library, we have created an Amazon wish list that you may purchase books for our library. The books range in age from newborn to young adult. Here is a link to our wish list:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/11KT1O81DN6AG/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2

After a complete inventory of our Garden of Knowledge Library. We are missing some books, many were checked out prior to the pandemic. Please check your children's books at home and see if you have any from our library. You can return them to Christina Palmer. Thank you!

