

2nd Sunday of Advent – December 5th, 2021 – 9:15 AM

Gathering Music & Announcements

Handbells

*Bring a Torch
Good Christian Men Rejoice*

Advent Call to Worship (Responsive)

Light and life in our Lord, Jesus Christ

He is the light of the world, and the light of our lives.

Light and love in our Lord, Jesus Christ,

He is the light of the world, and the love, which surrounds us.

Light and love in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

He is the light of the world, and the love that shines in the darkness.

Darkness shall not overcome the light of his love. Thanks be to God! Amen!

Opening Hymn*

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

UMH 223

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Ashley Sanders

God of Love, we love because you first loved us. We are loved by you, and we love in return because of you. We know what love is, and we know it more deeply, because of you. We're able to forgive one another because of you. Thank you for the gift of your love. Thank you for modeling it in the person of Jesus Christ. Thank you for revealing it to us, and thank you for allowing us to experience it in your world. May the power of your Holy Spirit bless us this day and the coming weeks of preparation, so that we may be ready to receive Christ's love in our hearts and homes anew, serving him in all that we say and do. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle (Responsive)

Jeremy, Ashley, & Layton Sanders

Today is the second Sunday of Advent, the time when we prepare for the coming of Jesus. (*Light the first candle.*) We light the Candle of Love for all God's people struggling to know love and feel loved in our troubled world.

God, as we wait for your promise, give us love and light.

The light of your love, Loving God, scatters the darkness of our hearts. The light of our love can scatter the darkness around us. Thank you for sharing your great light with us. This candle that burns is a symbol of your love in our lives.

God of love, come to us again this Advent. Amen.

Hymn Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v.1-4)

UMH 211

Prayer of Confession & Silent Prayer

Deb Englar

Words of Assurance (Psalm 106: 1)

L: Praise the LORD! Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.

P: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Moment for Ministry	Zimbabwe Medical Clinic	Dave Talbot
Gospel Reading	Matthew 2: 1-12	Deb Englar
Special Music	<i>Adeste Fideles</i>	Handbells
Sermon	“The Heart that Grew Three Sizes”	Rev. Byron E. Brought
Special Music (Video)	<i>You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch</i>	Faith Under Fire

Communion & The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn*	<i>It Came upon the Midnight Clear</i>	UMH218
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Benediction



Continuing Prayers

Art Benson, Paul Bowden, Pat Grahe, Betty Grimm, Stephanie Juchs Heidbreder, Nancy Jenkins, Wes Jenkins, Lynn King, Tim Knabe, Carol Lingelbach, Ted Lingelbach, Wayne Mason, Bruce Middlekauff, Dick Moen, Sally Moen, Alice Paradise, Jack Potter, Pat Potter, Ron Stearn, Shirley Yantz

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the family of Shirley Renshaw upon her passing.

**Generosity is a Gift of the Spirit!
It doesn't depend on what you have. It depends on who you are,
And what God is doing through you!**

Thank you for all of those who are returning your pledge cards. It helps us plan our Ministries & Missions, M&Ms, for the new year. Thank you for your ongoing prayers, presence, gifts, service, and faithful witness. If you need a 2022 pledge card, we have plenty of extra copies in the narthex. Our ushers should be able to assist you.



Join Us for Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

11 AM Sanctuary Service
4PM Family Sanctuary Service
7PM Sanctuary Service
8PM Mt. Carmel Service
9 PM Sanctuary Service
11 PM Sanctuary Service with Holy Communion

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning; O shepherds, shrink not with affright, you hear the angel's warning. This child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be, the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

This night of wonder, night of joy, was born the Christ our brother; he comes, not mighty to destroy, to bid us love each other. How could he quit his kingly state for such a world of greed and hate? What deep humiliation secured the world's salvation.

Come, dearest child, into our hearts, and leave your crib behind you! Let this be where the new life starts for all who seek and find you. To you the honor, thanks, and praise, for all your gifts this time of grace; come, conquer and deliver this world, and us, forever.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. **Refrain**

O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe. **Refrain**

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, and ensign of thy people be; before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call. **Refrain**

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gracious King. The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing."

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds and blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's rushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now! For glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing. O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.