



Kent United Church of Christ
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING, ACCESSIBLE TO ALL CONGREGATION
"A Place at the Table (Peace)"
Second Sunday of Advent
December 5, 2021

Prelude *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* arr. Anthony Giamanco

Greeting The Rev. Amy Gopp, senior minister

We Open the Door

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Peace waits for us at Ad-vent. Peace waits for us to rest. Peace waits for
our ac - cep - tance of the truth that we are blessed. In this time of
pre - par - a - tion for the work of co - cre - a - tion, for the birth-ing of a world of
gen - tle - ness and play, Peace is born in us each day.

The Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Opening Hymn (Insert)

People Look East

BESANÇON

Children's Time

Pastor Kim, minister of faith formation

First Reading

Baruch 5: 1-5 (CEB)

Molly Mains, liturgist

Anthem

For Everyone Born
Chancel Choir Section Leaders
Ariel David Londoño, cello

Brian Mann, arr. Trenney

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair, [Refrain]

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong, [Refrain]

For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live, [Refrain]

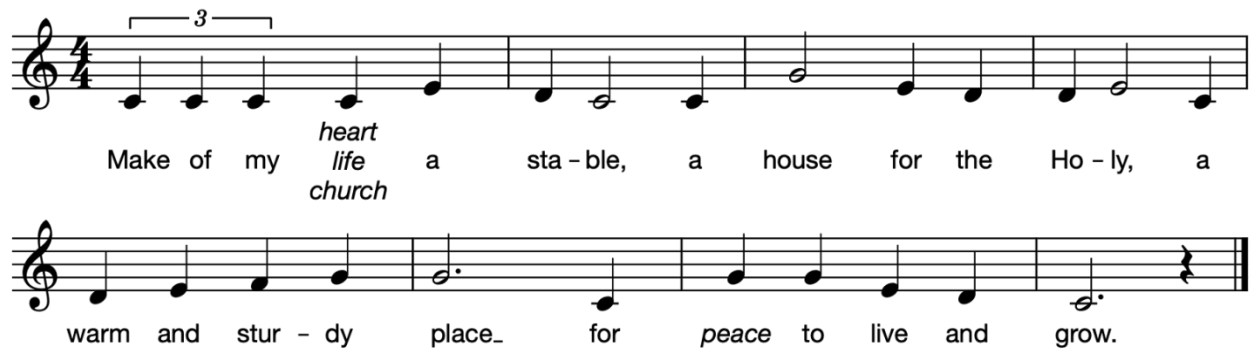
For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free, [Refrain]

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11 (CEB)

Here ends the readings from God's word.

Thanks be to God, who is still speaking.

Prayers of the People

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Lord's Prayer

**Our Creator
who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin-dom 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.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kin-dom,
and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

A Story of Innkeeping: Offering

Megan Snyder, outreach ministry

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication*Holy Communion**

The Holy One be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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And so,
in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Closing Carol

Corey Fowler, director of music

***Closing Hymn #131**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

***Benediction**

Pastor Amy

Postlude

On This Day Earth Shall Ring (Variations on "Personent Hodie") arr. Vicki
Collinsworth



***Our service has ended. Now our service begins.
You are the Body of Christ, and the whole world awaits you.***

*The chancel flowers today are given by George and Julie Dietz in celebration of
their children and grandchildren.*

People, Look East

1. Peo - ple, look east, the time is near of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more
 4. An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Love, the Star, is on the way.
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

MUSIC: Traditional French carol; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928

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Advent and Christmas Worship 2021

Kent United Church of Christ

Second Sunday of Advent – December 5 at 10am

“A Place at the Table (Peace)”

Third Sunday of Advent – December 12 at 10am

“How Much is Enough? (Joy)”

Living Nativity on our front lawn at 4pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 19 at 10am

“A Room with a View (Love)”

Lessons and Carols Service – Sunday, December 19 at 7pm (virtual)

Longest Night of the Year – Tuesday, December 21 at 7pm

“Making Room for our Grief: A Blue Christmas Service”

Christmas Eve – Friday, December 24 at 7pm and 10pm

“The Inn”

Sunday after Christmas – December 26 at 10 am

Young Adults leading worship



They Came When You Needed Them

They came when you needed them. They answered the phone when you called. They baptized and married and buried your loved ones. They gave up weekend after weekend after weekend to care for your spirit, lead you in worship, and point to God in your midst.

Some of them did it for less money than they could easily live on. Some of them did it for less than they would have been willing to do any other job for, because of what they believe about who God is, and what they believe about who you are.

For all the sacrifices that clergy and lay church workers have made in our congregations, over 100 years ago the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ created the **Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund**, to help support them in retirement and during times of emergent need.

The Christmas Fund provides supplementation of small pension payments for retired clergy who often served small congregations throughout their careers. It provides supplementation of health premium costs, to help ensure their wellness throughout their lives. And the Christmas Fund provides emergency grants Christmas "Thank You" gift checks for retirees and those facing unforeseen financial hardship.

A gift to the Christmas Fund is your opportunity to join with others in the United Church of Christ to bring good news and great joy to those who have given so much to our church.

In 2020, gifts to the Christmas Fund enabled:

- Monthly pension supplementation for 276 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,180,187)
- Health benefits supplementation for 89 retired clergy and lay employees (\$274,008)
- Emergency grants for 96 individuals and families (\$214,649)
- Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to 504 retired clergy and lay employees (\$252,000)

The Christmas Fund

For the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund