



## Kent United Church of Christ

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING, ACCESSIBLE TO ALL, W.I.S.E.,  
and CREATION JUSTICE CONGREGATION

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 7, 2025

10am

### GATHERING

*Like the iconic figures gathered around the Christ Child in our nativity scenes, we gather together because we want to know Jesus more as we seek to bring his Reign of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love on earth.*

BELLS

PRELUDE

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Rowland H. Pritchard,  
arr. Jay Rouse

GREETING

Rev. Amy Gopp, senior minister

WE GATHER AT THE SCENE



Why lies He in such mean e - state, Where ox and ass are feed - ing? Good



Christ - ian, fear: for sin - ners here. The si - lent Word is plead - ing.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

The May Family

This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Don Bubenzer, liturgist

***"Bring Him Laud"***

\*OPENING HYMN (Insert)

*Star Child*

STAR-CHILD

\*SIGNS OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you!**

**PROCLAIMING**

*We open ourselves to the full story of Christ's birth, knowing that his story is the ground of our faith and the light for our path.*

***"Haste, Haste"***

THE CHILDREN GATHER

Pastor Emily

WE HEAR THE STORY

*Luke 1:5-25*

Don Bubenzer

Here ends the reading from God's word.  
**Thanks be to God, who is still speaking.**

SERMON

*The Silent Word*

Pastor Amy

***"Anthem's Sweet"***

THE WORD IN MUSIC

*A Prayer for Peace*  
Chancel Choir

Music by Karissa Dennis  
Words by Henry Baker

**RESPONDING**

*Our faithful response is to praise God for this story of Emmanuel, God-With-Us, even and especially in the midst of difficulty, for God is indeed with us even still.*

***"We Keep Watch"***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Great, Ho - ly One, spread - ing time and space,  
 show us who You are in a hu - man face.

Brian Wren and Susan Heafield

**Sacred Silence**

THE 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.**

***"So Bring Him..."***

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Don Bubenzer

\*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

Pastor Amy

HOLY COMMUNION

*Invitation to the Table*

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**In a time of trouble, poverty, and pain,  
 Living was a struggle. Hoping was a strain.  
 Fear and desperation robbed the world of joy.  
 In a weary nation, Mary had a boy.**

*Prayer of Confession*

*Sacred Silence*

*Words of Assurance*

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**Teaching, feeding, healing, Jesus showed the way,  
 Sacred love revealing day by day by day,  
 Practicing resistance, cultivating care,  
 Centered in persistence, every act a prayer.**

*Words of Institution*

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**So, my friends and neighbors, now it's up to us.  
May we welcome strangers, building faith and trust.  
May we live like Jesus in our time and place  
'Til this weary nation knows amazing grace.**

*Sharing the Meal*

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

*As you receive the bread and the cup, please hold them so we may partake together.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## **SENDING FORTH**

*Just as our theme carol asks, "what child is this?" we, too, have come with our questions this day.  
We go into the world with answers of Good News, being the Body of Christ through our words and  
deeds.*

**What child IS this?**

This is the one born in a time  
when too many were silenced.

**What child IS this?**

This is the one whose voice would ring out,  
reminding all that peace does not come through violence.

**What child IS this?**

This, this is the "Prince of Peace"  
who shows us the kin-dom in which all have a voice, and no one is afraid.

\*CLOSING HYMN (Insert)

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Miller and Jackson

\*BENEDICTION

\*SUNG RESPONSE

***This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!***

\*POSTLUDE

*Christians, Awake!*

arr. David Paxton

*The postlude signifies the end of worship. Please refrain from applause and feel free to depart.*

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

*The flowers today are an offering from Karen Carmany wishing everyone a Happy Holiday!*



## Star-Child

420

D A Bm F#m

1 Star - Child, earth - Child, go - be - tween of God,  
 2 Street child, beat child, no place left to go,  
 3 Grown child, old child, mem - 'ry full of years,  
 4 Spared child, spoiled child, hav - ing, want - ing more,  
 5 Hope - for - peace Child, God's stu - pen - dous sign,

Em D G A

love Child, Christ Child, heav - en's light - ning rod:  
 hurt child, used child, no one wants to know:  
 sad child, lost child, sto - ry told in tears:  
 wise child, faith child, know - ing joy in store:  
 down - to - earth Child, Star of stars that shine:

*Refrain*

D A Bm A D

this year, this year let the day ar - rive when

G D G Asus4 A D

Christ - mas comes for ev - ery - one, ev - ery - one a - live!

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1931-  
 Music: Carlton R. Young, 1926-

Words and Music © 1994 Hope Publishing Company

New Zealand/U.S.A.  
 4.5.4.5. and refrain  
 STAR-CHILD

# Let There Be Peace on Earth



Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.



Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With



God as our Fa - ther, fam - 'ly all are we.



Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.



Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment now.



With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow; To



take each mo - ment, and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly!



Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

Text: Sy Miller, 1908-1941, Jill Jackson, © 1955, 1983, Jan-Lee Music  
Tune: Sy Miller, 1908-1941, Jill Jackson, © 1955, 1983, Jan-Lee Music; acc. by Diana Kodner, b.1957  
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# You Light Up My Life!

**A CREATION JUSTICE ADVENT/EPIPHANY PROGRAM  
A WONDERFUL GIFT TO CHURCH MEMBERS**

During the Advent season, the Creation Justice Committee (Green Team) is selling stars (\$10 each) that will be on display on Epiphany Sunday, January 4, 2026.

For \$10 you can honor a church or staff member for their service, kindness, uniqueness, etc. In 50 words, or less, explain who you are honoring and why. Add your name or make it anonymous.

## **All proceeds will go into the Kent UCC Sustainability Fund**

The Sustainability Fund needs to grow as it will be used to make upgrades to our church building to make it more environmentally-friendly. (Think: more efficient lighting, HVAC systems, water heaters, landscaping, future solar installations)

- \* Forms will be available in the Friday updates, Sunday bulletins, in the church office and in the narthex.
- \* Feel free to purchase multiple stars! Not only will you light up your honored person's life, you will be helping in our efforts to become fossil-free!
- \* Look for the "You Light Up My Life" display in the narthex with forms, instructions, examples, and a box to deposit your completed applications and money. Your information will be typed onto a gold star that will be part of the Dazzling Display on Epiphany. Your recipient will be able to take their star home at the end of the program.

# You Light Up My Life Application

(NAME)

**...is a light in my life because:**

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(50 WORDS OR LESS)

**from:**

(YOUR NAME OR MAKE IT ANONYMOUS)

Please attach \$10 in cash or a check made out to "Kent UCC" with "You Light Up My Life" in the memo line. Place in the gold box in the narthex or turn in to the office, directly.