

SOMETHING ABOUT US

Our Mission Committee report of 2005 included this statement, which continues to resonate as we consider who we are as a congregation:

"We share a sense that God has called Mount Auburn to preach and teach a liberating, progressive theology as we design our worship and educational programs. We are part of a tradition that is "always reforming," and expect God to speak not just to us but also to other people, to different traditions and to each new generation. We value process theology, an open-ended theology, focused on God who is a living, creative, dynamic being, not captured by scriptures or our historical creeds. As one joins this congregation, we prefer not to ask, "Do you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior?" Rather, we prefer to ask, "Will you serve God as revealed in the life and ministry of Jesus?" We find the compelling reference to God for us was the life and ministry of Jesus who differs from us in faithfulness, but not in human experience."

Everyone is welcome to worship at Mt. Auburn

A special welcome is extended to students from the University, the College Conservatory of Music, and the hospitals. You are most cordially invited to regard Mt. Auburn as your church home during your period of study here.

We welcome and encourage children of all ages to worship with us. We also offer children's educational opportunities during the class year. **Children attend worship with their families.** All young children are welcome! Parents are encouraged to talk with the Pastors for more details.

Encounters Educational Programs

Our Encounters educational programs offer learning opportunities for adults on Sunday mornings before worship in seasonal series and one-time sessions. Check the weekly announcements for the current schedule.

About our Inclusive Language

Following Christ's example of radical hospitality, we seek to use language in worship that allows us to grasp that all persons are created in the image of God. The language we choose is a reflection of our understanding that all names for God are metaphors, of the richness of scripture, and of the fullness of God. In order to expand our ways of understanding God; while we usually sing in the traditional language of the church, we seek to use a multitude of God's many names in liturgy. Jesus Christ, as not only God in human form, but an historical person, is referred to with appropriate gender, but often spoken of in other, expansive terms.

MOUNT AUBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 28, 2021

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

“Wachet Auf (Sleepers Wake)”

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Rev. Rebekah Nolt

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Each week as we approach the Advent of our Savior Jesus Christ on Christmas, we acknowledge what God’s people have always known:

Even when God is active in this world, hope is a work in progress.

Each candle on our wreath represents a person or a place or a moment in time that still awaits God’s goodness.

Yet we are witnesses to God’s work in this world.

Just as a small spark can give new life to a dead wick,

we believe the fire of God’s presence can ignite God’s purpose in this place.

God, through your love,

a familiar light

can banish the fear of the other;

Through your love,

the warmth of good cheer

can extinguish cold-hearted injustice.

Through your love,

the song of faith

can rekindle hope for the hopeless.

We light this candle

as a small act of our great anticipation.

INTROIT

“Keep Your Lamps”

African American Spiritual

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don’t grow weary. Children, don’t grow weary.

Children, don’t grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Patricia Boone

*(Adapted from resources from *Emfleshed Ministries* and “Prayer of the Day” by *Barn Geese Worship*, licensed under [CC BY-NC 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/))*

Lord, we are watching for you. Signs of interconnection are everywhere.

Let us pay attention! God weaves all life together.

From the hourly worker checking her watch before shift change;

to the child waiting for the little wooden bird to sound its coo-coo from the clock;

We are watching for you. Give us a sign that it's time!

It's time, God, for you to show up.

Time for you to free us.

Time for our redemption.

As we watch and wait, we gather together. Come let us worship God.

HYMN #106

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Bereden Vag Foor Herran

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Stacey Midge

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our waiting and our watching,

It is so hard to wait, and harder still to stay alert.

There is so much to be done. There are so many worries.

So many distractions pull at our attention:

those we choose, and those we cannot avoid.

Draw us back to you. Help us remain attentive to your movement in the world.

Through the rhythms of nature and the rhythms of our collective life together -

Through the worship, prayer, service, and support

of the gathered community of faith -

Awaken us to live our lives mindful of your constant presence

And your call upon us, your people. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

RESPONSE

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't grow weary. Children, don't grow weary.

Children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Patricia Boone

TIME WITH THE YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

ANTHEM

"The Midnight Cry/Jacob's Ladder"

Shaped note/traditional

Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:25-36

SERMON

Rev. Rebekah Nolt

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Rev. Stacey Midge

(adapted from "A Blessing When the World is Ending" by Jan Richardson)

Look, the world is always ending somewhere.

Somewhere the sun has come crashing down.

Somewhere it has gone completely dark.

Somewhere it has ended with the gun, the knife, the fist.

Somewhere it has ended with the slammed door, the shattered hope.

**Somewhere it has ended with the utter quiet that follows the news from the phone,
the television, the hospital room.**

Somewhere it has ended with a tenderness that will break your heart:

Yet, we believe in life and in death we belong to God.

We believe that God had come to us;

that God is coming to us;

And God will come to us again.

We live our lives alert for God's presence and movement in the world,

Looking always for the glimmer of new life among us.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Stacey Midge

MOMENT FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't grow weary. Children, don't grow weary.

Children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Stacey Midge

HYMN #105

"People Look East"

Besancon

BENEDICTION

Rev. Rebekah Nolt

POSTLUDE

"Wachet Auf"

J.S. Bach

LOCAL – GLOBAL MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS **Supported by Mount Auburn**

- Alcoholics Anonymous • Amos Project • Bethany House Cincinnati • Cincinnati Scholar House • Communities United For Action (CUFA)
Classics Club Book Discussion Group • Crossport
GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network) • Heartland Trans Wellness
Immigrant and Refugee Law Center • Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center
- League of Women Voters •
 - Mass Action for Black Liberation
- More Light Presbyterians • MORTAR • Mt. Auburn Brass Fellowship
- October Festival Choir
 - One Great Hour of Sharing • Open Stacks Book Club
- PAAD (Presbyterian Action Against the Death Penalty) • Presbyterian World Mission
- PFLAG (Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
- Safe & Supported • Saint George Food Pantry • Sierra Club
- SOS Art • Soteni • Sweet Cheeks
- That All May Freely Serve • Treehouse Cincinnati •
- Woman's City Club



STAY CONNECTED TO MT. AUBURN

- Visit our website: www.mtauburnpresby.org,
- Check us out on Facebook @ Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 - Church office: office@mtauburnpresby.org, 513.281.5945
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MOUNT AUBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Presbytery of Cincinnati Synod of the Covenant Presbyterian Church, USA

OUR STAFF

Pastor Stacey Midge
Pastoral Resident.....Rebekah Nolt
Director of Music Ministry.....Christian Miller
Organists.....Beth Troendly, Earl Apel
Administration Manager.....Nori Muro
Resident Caretaker.....Dan Davidson
Pastor Emeritus.....Harold Porter

OUR SESSION

<p>• Faye Burdick, Clerk</p> <p><u>Class of 2021</u> Eric Burgmann Amy Grady Jeana Lawson Pete Tuff</p>	<p>• David Chalk, Treasurer</p> <p><u>Class of 2022</u> Marlene Muse Sequoia Powers-Griffin Susan Thomas Sara Renner</p>	<p>• David Simon, Administrator</p> <p><u>Class of 2023</u> Dave Simon Judy Cunningham Sara Bick Julia Malkin</p>
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OUR DEACONS

Mark Schuller and Elizabeth Marsh-Singh, Co-Moderators

<p><u>Class of 2021</u> Rob Biddinger Deb Carle Heather Graden</p>	<p><u>Class of 2022</u> Earl Apel Linda Vaccariello</p>	<p><u>Class of 2023</u> Elizabeth Marsh-Singh Mark Schuller Bonnie Bohn Rick Sowash Patty Muhlemann</p>
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OUR COMMITTEES & SESSION LIAISONS

Congregational Engagement.....Elizabeth Marsh-Singh, Sandee Ernst
Earth Care Leadership.....Pat Timm
Education and Spiritual NurtureSara Renner
Finance and Stewardship.....Sara Bick, Susan Ingmire
Justice Seeking.....Linda Ford, Sequoia Powers-Griffin
Nominations.....Pete Tuff, Amy Grady
Operations.....Eric Burgmann
Outreach.....Lynn Hailey Marlene Muse
Personnel.....Jeana Lawson and David Simon
Worship.....Van Ackerman, Julie Malkin

We Are a More Light Congregation

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