

Bethel
United Church of Christ

December 2, 2018



The People of God Gather for Worship and Sacrament

First Sunday of Advent

Kindly turn off or silence all electronic devices
Please observe a time of silence during the prelude for reflection and preparation for worship

PRELUDE

The Advent Chorale

Mendelssohn/Arr. by J. Porter

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INVITATION OF THE STEEPLE BELL

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Spirit of God rests fully on the coming Lord.

The promised Lord will rule with true justice and righteousness.

All fear will change to comfort. All enemies will be transformed into friends.

As we trust in God, we find our peace.

In the grace of God, we find our hope.

Let us – with hope – kindle the light of the Lord.

Come to the Light (vs. 1)

Scottish Folk Melody



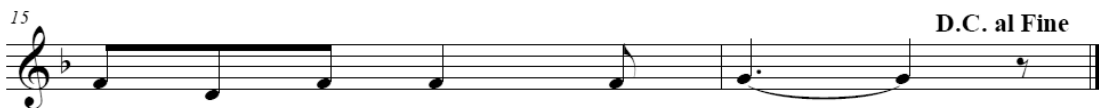
Come to the Light, the can - dle of hope, ev - ery-one gath - er near. ___
Come to the Light, the can - dle of peace, put a - way doubt and fear. ___



Come to the Light and warm in its glow, Je - sus will soon be here. This is the time,
Come to the Light, each bur - den re-lease, Je - sus will soon be here.



this is the place, wor-ship with joy - ful praise. Lift up your voice, sing and re-joice,



o - pen your heart to grace. _____

ANTHEM

Who Would Send a Baby?

Mary Kay Beall

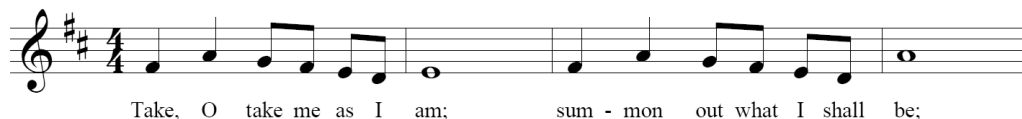
TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST LESSON

Habakkuk 1:1-6, 9-11

Pew Bible, pg. 762

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous - therefore judgment comes forth perverted. For I am rousing the Chaldeans, that fierce and impetuous nation, who march through the breadth of the earth to seize dwellings not their own. They all come for violence, with faces pressing forward; they gather captives like sand. At kings they scoff, and of rulers they make sport. They laugh at every fortress, and heap up earth to take it. Then they sweep by like the wind; they transgress and become guilty; their own might is their god!

CALL TO CONFESSION *Take, O Take Me As I Am* (sung twice) Text and Music by John Bell

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, as we consider your Advent we sadly confess having done so little with so much. Forgive us Lord, for not bending the knee, for not reading your Word, for not searching our hearts, for not facing our sins. Grant that when Christmas morning breaks this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live in praise of Christ's glory.

SILENT CONFESSION

RESPONSE NO. 119

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1)

VENI 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!

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Habakkuk 2:2-4; 3:17-19a

Pew Bible, pg. 762

Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith. Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength.

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you all!

And also with you!

* HYMN OF RESPONSE

He Came Down

Trad. Cameroon
John Bell



He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope; he



came down that we may have hope; Hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

SERMON

SIGN OF THE TIMES

INVITATION TO SHARE †

Offertory

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

based on Picardy
Setting by G. Young
Henry Smith

* Response

Give Thanks

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!**

* Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This morning we will receive the Lord's Supper in our pews. After being served, please hold the bread and then the cup so that we may consume the elements as individual members of Christ's church united as one body. Please note – the communion cup contains wine except for the inner ring of grape juice; the bread is gluten free.

Words of Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Communion Prayer 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* HYMN NO. 155

Angels We Have Heard on High (vs. 1 and 3)

GLORIA

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

How Brightly Beams the Morning Star

P. Nicolai/Arr. R. Wilson

* Indicates those who are able please stand

✚ Please fill out the pew pad. In order that we may best serve your spiritual needs, please use the prayer request cards in the pew rack and place them in the offering

Bold Indicates congregational response

Large print bulletins are available

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PRAYER REQUESTS

In the spirit of Christian love, remember these people and their families
in your thoughts and prayers – not only today, but throughout the coming week.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>
November 11	Glenda Capps.....	Emily St. Charles
	Diane Jordan	Emily St. Charles
	Norma Keller.....	Jean Holder
	Family of Steven Ray	Kristi Campbell
	Families of the victims in the Thousand Oaks shooting.....	Rev. Bucholtz
November 18	Yonnie Maziarz.....	Emily St. Charles
	Mack and Sharon McMurray	Emily St. Charles
November 25	Debbie Farbrother	Nancy Loudin
	Cody Simpson.....	Denise Davis
	Lisa Wolff.....	Jennifer Heimerdinger and Linda Wolff
December 2	Dean Amrhein	Susie Amrhein
	Carole Baker.....	Bonnie Mitchell
	Ron Herrst.....	Carol Colby
	Mike Miller	Nancy Loudin
	Liam Riley.....	Karen Weidmayer
	Will Riley.....	Karen Weidmayer
	Turner Russell.....	Michelle Roberts
	Joe Turk	Nancy Loudin
Family of Gerry Zapolnik	Linda Perkins	

Those Serving Our Country

Sept. 25, 2010	Gy-Sgt. Evan Wahl, U.S. Marines	Lyle Wahl
Jan. 13, 2013	Zachary Steelman, 101 st Airborne, U.S. Army	
April 3, 2016	Kyle Braun, U.S. Marines.....	Harvey & Marcella Luckhardt
Oct. 8, 2017	Henry Arbogast, U.S. Navy	Darlene Kuebler
Sept. 2, 2018	Willie Day, U.S. Navy Seals.....	Jody Munson

EVENTS TODAY

- 9:30 a.m.** Worship with Holy Communion
10:30-11:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. German Cookie Sales
10:30 a.m. Youth Ministry
11:45 a.m. Holocaust Memorial Center trip



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mon., Dec. 3 **6:30-7:00 p.m.** Children's Choir rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Festival of Lessons & Carols rehearsal
- Tues., Dec. 4 **9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** Bethel Quilters
 6:30 p.m. Advent by Candlelight
- Sun., Dec. 9 **8:15 a.m.** Festival of Lessons & Carols rehearsal
 9:30 a.m. Worship - Festival of Lessons & Carols
 10:30 a.m.- 12:15 p.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. German cookie sales
 11:00 a.m. Board of Christian Education meeting
 3:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
 5:00 p.m. Youth Ministry meeting
- Mon., Dec. 10 **6:30-7:15 p.m.** Children's Choir rehearsal
 6:30-7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal
 7:30 p.m. Praise Choir rehearsal
- Tues., Dec. 11 **9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** Bethel Quilters

IN THE COMMUNITY

- Sun., Dec. 2 **3:00 & 7:00 p.m.** Chelsea Hometown Holiday Concert - The CFUMC Choir, Chelsea High School Choirs, Chelsea High School Symphony Orchestra, and the Chelsea Chamber Players.
- Wed., Dec. 5 **10:45 a.m.** Senior Citizen luncheon and Holiday show at Riverside Intermediate School
- Thurs., Dec. 6 **10:30 a.m.** Ecumenical Bible Study at Emanuel UCC
 5:00-6:30 p.m. Swiss Steak Dinner & Bake Sale at St. Andrew's UCC, Dexter

Bethel Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Minister: Rev. David Bucholtz
Music Director: Mary Sue Moore
Greeters: Betty Cipri, Lisa Novess, Barrett & Reid Novess
Ushers: Scott Diuble, Lilly Diuble, Ron Diuble, Brian Finkbeiner,
and Mary Finkbeiner
Anthem: Youth Choir Plus, Directed by Julie Roberts
Acolyte: Emma Shankland
Lay Reader: Nate Munson
Child Care: Jody Feldkamp and Collin Campbell
Altar Flowers: Given by Norma Brees in memory of Don Brees



FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS and CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 9th
9:30 a.m. The Festival of Lessons and Carols
3:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Wednesday, December 12th at 12:00 p.m.

Please bring a dish to pass



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 16th at 5:00 p.m.

Live from Bethel It's Christmas Night Live!!

Following the program, join us for a cookie reception
in the Reineck Fellowship Hall

