

ISAIAH

II

IV



BETHEL
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

DECEMBER 1, 2019

The People of God Gather for Worship and Sacrament

1st 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

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

Trad. English
Arr. by C. Moglebust

WELCOME, CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INVITATION OF THE STEEPLE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The purpose of Advent is to confess Christ as the true light coming into the world. In anticipation of that coming, we light candles on the four Sundays leading to Christmas. It is significant that the church has always used that language – the *coming* of Christ – because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ *is* coming. Christ is always coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so we light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, healing, and the well-being of all creation.

Star on High

Words, Alison Robison
Tune, Dona Nobis Pacem

Loving God, as we enter this Advent season, we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the creative power of hope. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

* HYMN NO. 129

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

TRURO

ANTHEM

When Will the Little King Come?

Ruth Elaine Schram

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2:1–5

(Pg. 550, Pew Bible)

The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the

nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us concerning his ways And that we may walk in his paths." For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples; and they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they learn war. Come, house of Jacob, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We Fall Down

Chris Tomlin

We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Je - sus, the
 great - ness of — mer - cy and love at the feet of Je - sus. And we cry,
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," and we cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly," and we cry,
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lamb." —

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, as we begin to prepare our hearts to receive the One whom you are sending; forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing you in our midst, forgive us for all the times we have doubted your presence; forgive us for all the times we have failed to help others find their way. Forgive us, Lord, in the name of Jesus, the One who was, who is, and who forevermore shall be.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

RESPONSE NO. 119

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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!**

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 24:36–44

(Pg. 806, Pew Bible)

“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. “For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. “For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. “Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. “Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. “Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. “But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. “For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you all!

And also with you.

* HYMN OF RESPONSE

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Rick Founds

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,

From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,

From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky.

Lord, I lift your name on high!

SERMON

SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE

INVITATION TO SHARE †

Offertory

Meditation on “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

L. Bourgeois

Arr. by Lasky

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

**The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel.**

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.

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

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

* BENEDICTION

Take time, in the busyness of this season, for quiet reflection—for the light of God's love is discernible everywhere.

We will let ourselves be surprised by wonder, and set aside time to offer quiet thanks.

The good news of Advent is this: Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.

We will welcome Christ into our hearts. We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry. We will go forth from this place in hope.

* 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

Church Copyright License CCLI #26595

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Minister: Rev. David Bucholtz
Music Director: Mary Sue Moore
Prelude: Handbell Choir, Directed by Julie Roberts
Greeters: Toby, Renee, Victoria, Lillian, Evelyn, and Owen St. Charles
Ushers: Scott Diuble, Lilly Diuble, Ron Diuble, Brian Finkbeiner, and Mary Finkbeiner
Advent Candles: Emma Shankland and Serenity Spinks; Alison Robison, soloist
Anthem: Youth Choir Plus, Directed by Julie Roberts
Acolyte: Valorie Hieber
Lay Reader: Jackie Martin
Child Care: Lillian St. Charles and Sydney Jedele
Altar Flowers: Given by Norma Brees in memory of Don



BETHEL PRAYER REQUESTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>
November 10	Sue Ellen (Vogel) Andrews	Betty Schneider
	Marie Bauer	Pastor Bucholtz
	Dianne Bowman	Duane Kuebler
	Doug Brook.....	
	Marsha Brook.....	
	Tom Burch.....	Victoria St. Charles
	Travis Farr.....	Katie Farr
	Dixie Kingsbury	
	Liam Landini.....	Cathy Moore
	Ryan McFarland	Renee St. Charles
	Virginia Vogel.....	Betty Schneider
	Linda Wolff.....	St. Charles Family
November 17	John Bower	Michelle Jedele
	Bonnie Halliday & Family	Michelle Jedele
	Jennifer Heimerdinger.....	Paul Heimerdinger
	Family of Ivy Reed.....	Alison Robison
	Melissa Samonek	Nancy Loudin
	Lilly Samonek	Nancy Loudin
	Luther Schiable.....	Lyle Wahl
November 24	Paul Bigelow	Bonnie Mitchell
	Madison Carpenter	Karen Braun Miller
	Mary Jo Olmstead.....	Mary Beth Baker
December 1	Sue Brooks	Michelle Jedele
	Michael Dorosh.....	Cathy Moore
	Family of JoAnn Mitchell	Bonnie Mitchell
	Joyce Paulsen.....	Karen Miller
	Julie Stanley.....	Julie Roberts
	Nicole Tuttle.....	Michelle Jedele

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

09/25/2010	GySgt. Evan Wahl, U.S. Marines	Lyle Wahl
01/13/2013	Zachary Steelman, 101 st Airborne, U.S. Army.....	
04/03/2016	Kyle Braun, U.S. Marines.....	Harvey & Marcella Luckhardt
10/08/2017	Henry Arbogast, U.S. Navy Seals	Darlene Kuebler
09/02/2018	Willie Day, U.S. Navy Seals	Jody Munson
02/24/2019	Bruce Walrad, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Betty Jean Harper
08/18/2019	MSG Shaw, Nikki, Afghanistan, US Army	Nancy Loudin

EVENTS TODAY

- 9:30 a.m.** Worship with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mon., Dec. 2 **6:30 p.m.** Handbell Choir rehearsal
 7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal
- Tues., Dec. 3 **6:30 p.m.** Advent by Candlelight
- Thurs., Dec. 5 **7:30 p.m.** Christian Ed Hiring Committee meeting
- Sun., Dec. 8 **9:30 a.m.** Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Board of Christian Education meeting
11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class
3:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
- Mon., Dec. 9 **6:30 p.m.** Handbell Choir rehearsal
 7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal
- Tues., Dec. 10 **6:00 p.m.** Hearts & Hands meeting
- Wed., Dec. 11 **12:00 p.m.** All-Church Potluck hosted by the Women of Bethel
 6:45 p.m. Church Board meeting
- Fri., Dec. 13 **9:00 a.m.** Deadline for poinsettia sales
- Sat., Dec. 14 **5:30 p.m.** Alpha House family shelter
- Sun., Dec. 15 **9:30 a.m.** Children's Christmas program and worship.
 Cookie reception to follow.
- Mon., Dec. 16 **7:00 p.m.** Christmas Cantata rehearsal
- Sun., Dec. 22 **8:15 a.m.** Christmas Cantata rehearsal
 9:30 a.m. Christmas Cantata
- Mon., Dec. 23 **6:30 p.m.** Choirs Potluck
 7:30 p.m. Handbell & Senior Choir rehearsals
- Tues., Dec. 24 **5:00 p.m.** Vespers at First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor
 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service
 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service



IN THE COMMUNITY

- Thurs., Dec. 5 **5:00-6:30 p.m.** Swiss Steak Dinner & Bake Sale at St. Andrew's UCC, Dexter
- Sun., Dec. 8 **3:00 & 7:00 p.m.** Hometown Holiday Concert at First United Methodist Church, Chelsea. Free admission
- Tues., Dec. 10 **12:00-1:00 p.m.** Bleeding Control course at the St. Joe's Trauma Center (Private Dining room A)
- Wed., Dec. 11 **10:45 a.m.** Senior Appreciation Luncheon at Manchester Riverside Intermediate School

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