



Bethel United Church of Christ
December 8, 2019

The People of God Gather for Worship

2nd 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 Come, O Come Emmanuel

15th century French
Arr. by the Piano Boys

WELCOME, CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INVITATION OF THE STEEPLE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Last Sunday we lit the first candle, the candle of hope. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

Star on High

Words, Alison Robison
Tune, Dona Nobis Pacem

Star on high, bleak below, shepherds uncertain as wise men across the desert seek a Savior born.

No room thus laid in a manger as angels and splendor stunned the heavens above.

Plainly, this infant was sent to save us. Love adorned. Christmas morn. Alleluia!

Loving God, **in this time of preparation and planning, we thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

* HYMN NO. 136 *Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming* (vs. 1, 2, and 4) PLEADING SAVIOR

ANTHEM

Creation Will Be at Peace

J.P. Williams & A.L. Page

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1–10

(Pg. 558, Pew Bible)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the faling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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, always with us, always coming: **We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have**

ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

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

Romans 15:4–13

(Pg. 924, Pew Bible)

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

* 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!**

INVITATION TO SHARE †

Offertory

People, Look East

Trad. French/Arr. by S.L. Aber

* Response

Give Thanks

Henry Smith

**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

PRAYER OF PETITION AND THANKSGIVING

It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives.

God of peace, hear our prayer.

The rushing and scurrying to get things done,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The worry about the little details,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The financial burdens we put on ourselves,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year,
your peace is always there for us.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we feel overwhelmed,

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we are filled with worry,

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we become irritable,

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us, help us to remember that we are forgiven in Christ.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

Instill within us your peace, O God. Instill within us your peace and help us to make choices that bring us closer to you. Help us to be more peaceful so that we may spread Christ's peace and love to others.

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.

* HYMN NO. 155

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

GLORIA

* BENEDECTION

Take your encouragement from Christ, that your joy may be complete.

We will share in the Spirit; we will find consolation in love.

Practice a ministry of humility and compassion, for God is at work in you, empowering you

We will welcome Christ into our hearts. We will live worthy of the Gospel. We will go forth in hope and in peace.

* POSTLUDE

Advent Noel

Chauvet/Arr. by Michael Ryan

* 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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Bethel United Church of Christ
10425 Bethel Church Rd., Manchester, MI 48158
Phone: (734) 429-8530
Email: office@bethelonthehill.org
Website: www.bethelonthehill.org

Rev. David Bucholtz, Pastor
Phone: (734) 323-4129
Email: bucholtz@umich.edu

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Minister: Rev. David Bucholtz
Music Director: Mary Sue Moore
Greeters: Ray and Ava Goff
Ushers: Dave Herter, Jim Burmeister, Rudy Layher, Fred Munson, and Nate Munson
Advent Candles: Peyton and Mallory Klein; Alison Robison, soloist; Michelle Roberts, Violin
Anthem: Senior Choir directed by Julie Roberts
Acolyte: Ashton Drake
Lay Reader: Jody Munson
Child Care: Stacy Sheets and Collin Campbell
Altar Flowers: Given by Lyle Wahl in memory of dad and mom, Rudy and Wilma Wahl
Piano Flowers: Given by Tom and Patty Carlton in celebration of their 68th wedding anniversary.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

09/25/2010 GySgt. Evan Wahl, U.S. Marines Lyle Wahl
01/13/2013 Zachary Steelman, 101st 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

BETHEL PRAYER REQUESTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>
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
December 8	Sue Ellen (Vogel) Andrews	Betty Schneider
	Marie Bauer	Pastor Bucholtz
	Dianne Bowman.....	Duane Kuebler
	Keith Eisenmann.....	Amanda Eisenmann
	Travis Farr	Katie Farr
	Charlie Gale.....	Michelle Jedele
	Jen Gilmore	Nancy Loudin
	Family of Shirley Gilmore	Nancy Loudin
	Eric Gregerson.....	Jody Munson
	Michael Hamm.....	Jody Munson
	David Hoeft	Pastor Bucholtz
	Irene Jacob.....	Pastor Bucholtz
	Family of Ken "Spike" Koch.....	Mary Sue Moore
	Roman Schlabach	
Karen Strock	Lori Lobbestael	
Virginia Vogel	Betty Schneider	

EVENTS TODAY

- 9:30 a.m.** Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School - full dress rehearsal until **12:15 p.m.**
11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class
3:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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
10:30-11:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 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
- Wed., Dec. 25 Merry Christmas!
- Thurs., Dec. 26 Reineck Fellowship Hall is reserved
- Fri., Dec. 27 **8:00 p.m.** Ugly Sweater Party/Youth Lock-in
- Sat., Dec. 28 **8:00 a.m.** Pick up time for Youth Lock-in



IN THE COMMUNITY

- 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)
7:30 p.m. Voices In Harmony and Huron Valley Harmonizers chorus holiday show at First Presbyterian Church, 200 N. Washington, Ypsilanti
- 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