

ADVENT EVENTS

Sat, Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30

Special Music begins at 7:00

Sun, Dec 25 – Christmas Morning Worship 10:30

PRAYER REQUESTS

Beatrice Stauffer

Stewart Mohn

Betty Kilakis

Jim Murrin

Fern McBride

Sue Burky

Ruth Ann Zimmerman

COMING EVENTS

Tues, Dec 20 – Baking Bunch – 7:00 am

Weds, Dec 21 – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00

Sun, Jan 8 – Communion and the ordination and installation of new council members

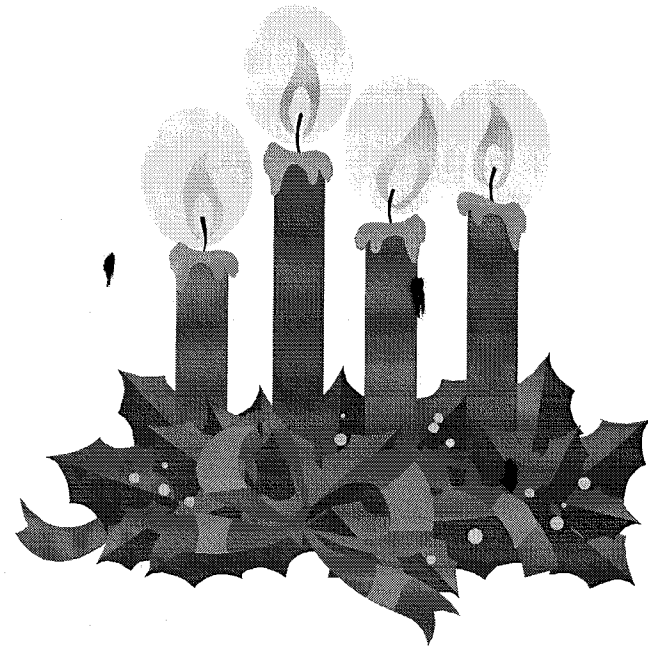
SPECIAL REQUEST: When using church facilities, kitchen, fellowship hall or any additional rooms, please clean up (sweep, mop or whatever is needed) and put away any utensils so that the church is ready to be used by the next person or group.

PEACE

United Church of Christ

Denver, Pennsylvania

*To all who are weary and need rest; to all who are lonely and need fellowship; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who pray and to all who do not but ought; to all who sin and need a Savior; and to whomsoever will come – this church opens wide the door and says in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,
WELCOME!*



December 18, 2011
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**This is Christmas –
not the tinsel, not the giving and receiving, not even the carols, but
the humble heart that receives anew the wondrous gift, the Christ.**

Gold Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *“Tapestry of Lullabies”*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

VOICE - The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Joy. It reminds us of the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her - a child who would save and deliver his people.

VOICE - God wants us all to have joy. The angel who announced to the shepherds that Jesus had been born told them: "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all people - for unto you is born this day, in the City of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

VOICE - We light this candle to remember that Christ brings the promise of a new life - a life in which the blind receive sight, the lame walk, and the prisoners are set free. We light it to remember that He is the bringer of true and everlasting joy.

*HYMN *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*.....no. 192

*CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and merciful God, as we await the coming of Jesus, we confess that we do so with divided loyalties and limited attention. We want to welcome a baby but not surrender control of our lives to a Lord who expects our allegiance. We like the idea of having something and someone to believe in but do not want those beliefs to demand a change in our behaviors. We are inspired by brilliant stars, angelic song and the magi's gifts, but are not interested in the risky business of sharing the good news. Our lives are cluttered with parties, packages and pageantry, and in the midst of it all, we have misplaced the truth of the Incarnation--that you have come to be with us, to know us and be known by us, to dwell not just with us but within us. For the sake of all creation and the world, forgive us, we pray, and restore to us the joy of being yours.

AMEN.

+SILENT PRAYER

(please use this time to confess your personal sins)

+KYRIE

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader- Friends, receive the good news that in Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven!

People- Our High Priest understands our weakness, hears our prayer and responds with mercy. AMEN.

*GLORIA PATRI.....no. 142

BELL CHOIR *“Angel Tidings”*

CHILDREN’S CHOIR *“Bethlehem Lullaby”*

YOUNG PEOPLE’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT 2 Samuel 7:1-11 pg. 245

CHOIR ANTHEM *“I’m Expecting Him”*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:26-38 pg. 831

MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

*THE CREED.....inside hymnal front cover

*HYMN *“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”*.....no. 197

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *“Still, Still, Still”* C. Anthony

*OFFERING RESPONSE/THE DOXOLOGY.....no. 382

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION & LORD’S PRAYER

*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

*HYMN *“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”*.....no. 175

CHIMES, QUIET MEDITATION (Congregation seated)

POSTLUDE (those who are able please *- stand, +-kneel)

Church website.....www.peaceunitedchurch.org

Pastor (pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org).... William E. Hoch (335.0387)

Organist.....Mrs. Virginia Tobias

Assistant Organist.....Mrs. Lois Haldeman

Secretary (secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org).....Ms. Olivia Moyer

Treasurer.....Mr. Michael Madara

Altar Guild Workers.....Edie Graff & Dixie Schweitzer

Acolyte.....Nicole Burkey

Greeters.....Ed & Sue Mcilmoyle

Head Usher.....TBA

Attendance for Dec 11.....129

Offering for Dec 11.....\$4,393.00

Month to Date Offering.....\$8,709.00

Amount needed each month to meet budget.....\$15,284.00

The Altar Flowers are given in honor of our military men and women by Steve and Becky Priga