

*For creatures like us, on our way to a heart, a brain and courage,
Bethlehem is not the end of our journey, it is only the beginning.
It is not home it is a place we pass through on our way home.*

Gold Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Jesu-Noel"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: More than 500 years before the birth of Christ the people of Israel were conquered by Babylon and sent into exile.

People: When the people of Israel were finally allowed to return to their homes, a few stayed behind to live in the land of their exile.

Leader: These people never gave up hope. They continued to search the night sky looking for a sign of one who would be born King of the Jews. And so we light this third candle of Advent remembering those who watch from afar.

People: May we wait and watch for a new birth of hope and faith in our hearts, in our church and in our community. AMEN.

***HYMN "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly".....no. 194**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of peace, who sent light into the world in the coming of Jesus Christ: We confess that we have not followed the light given to us. We have not searched for signs of your love, or trusted the goodness of your good news. We have failed to praise your Son's birth as we have refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew in us all fine desires so we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story 'of the Prince of Peace,' Jesus Christ the Lord. AMEN.

+KYRIE

+SILENT PRAYER

(please use this time to make your prayer to God)

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We have a Savior who understands our weakness, hears our prayers and offers grace. In Christ we are forgiven!

People: How blessed we are to follow the King of Kings and Lord or Lords. AMEN.

***GLORIA PATRI.....no. 338**

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 35:1-10 pg. 578

CHOIR ANTHEM "Advent Canticle"

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 2:1-23 pg. 783

MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

***HYMN "What Child Is This".....no. 180**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY "Away in a Manger"

***OFFERING RESPONSE/THE DOXOLOGY.....no. 355**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

***HYMN "We Three Kings" (vs. 1-4).....no. 206**

CHIMES, QUIET MEDITATION (Congregation seated)

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

Church website.....	www.peaceunitedchurch.org
Pastor (pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org) ...	William Hoch (335.0387)
Organist.....	Mrs. Virginia Tobias
Assistant Organist.....	Mrs. Lois Haldeman
Secretary (secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org)..	Mrs. Beverly Madara
Treasurer.....	Mr. Michael Madara
Altar Guild Workers.....	Edie Graff & Dixie Schweitzer
Greeters.....	Fred Stauffer & Randy Stauffer
Head Usher.....	Pat Wolf
Attendance for Dec 8.....	90
Offering for Dec 8.....	\$2,416.00
Month to Date Offering.....	\$6,803.00
Amount needed to meet budget.....	\$15,430.08

The Altar Flowers are placed in memory of my parents Ray and Henry McClain Sr. by their daughter Fran Hollen.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Ron Burky
Smith Burky
Galen Bixler

Glenna Brensinger
George Palagee
Rob

Pierce Leshner
Casey Coble

COMING EVENTS

Monday, December 16th – Spiritual Council – 6:30 pm
Church Council – 7:00 pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm

Tues, December 17th – Bible Study – 1:00 pm
Health & Welfare at Colonial Lodge – 6:15 pm

Wednesday, December 18th – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 2nd – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm

To provide a meal for the Burkys, go to www.takethenameal.com.
Name: Burky, password: RMB2013. Or call church at 484-4400.

The Altar Guild will be taking orders for red poinsettias before and after worship on December 15th. The cost is \$7.

ADVENT HAPPENINGS

Sunday, December 15th – Christmas Caroling to some of our SCC members and local nursing homes. Plan to leave the church by 3:00 pm

Sunday, December 22nd – Christmas Sunday.

Tuesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Join us for an evening of beautiful music and worship that will draw us nearer to our God on this night our Savior was born.

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 15, 2013
Third Sunday of Advent