

Thought Before Worship

Christmas is not just a time for festivity and merry making. It is more than that. It is a time for the contemplation of eternal things. The Christmas spirit is a spirit of giving and forgiving.

Gold Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "O Jesu Sweet, O Jesu Mild"

TRADITION OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Third Sunday of Advent

A Candle of Joy

*HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem".....no. 178

*CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, in this Holy Season our hearts are tuned to hear more fully and more intimately your words as they are spoken in and through our Scriptures. Our ears are tuned to hear your call for a repentance that leads to life. In hearing your call, O God, move us again to know our sin and confess that sin before you, understanding that through the gift of the Christ Child we will be forgiven, redeemed, refreshed and made new by your grace. Fill us with your Spirit that as we experience your forgiveness, we may be able to forgive ourselves and others. AMEN.

+SILENT PRAYER

(please use this time to confess your own personal sin)

+KYRIE

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The Messiah has come. There is healing in His wings.

There is abundant grace for all – for in the Christ we are forgiven!

People: In the Christ Child we have new life! AMEN.

*GLORIA PATRI.....no. 142

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS a Sharing of Gifts

Piano Solo

Allyson Butz

Tradition of the Advent Calendar

Young People's Message

"Silent Night"

Story of the Poinsettia

Vocal Solo

Emily Miller

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 61:1-4

pg. 603

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Advent Canticle"

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:6-14

pg. 862

MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

*HYMN "Away in a Manger".....no. 185

1st vs. by children, 2nd children & choir, 3rd congregation joins

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Allyson Butz

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

PROCESSION OF TRADITIONAL SYMBOLS

"Feliz Navidad"

Children

*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

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

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 and Dixie Schweitzer

Greeters.....Ray and Bobbie Kunkel

Head Usher.....Vicki Garner-Sweigart

The altar flowers are given in memory of our son-in-law John Smith by Claude and Bertha Adair.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jeff Moyer

Pat Hall

Vaye Freeman

Walter Fink

Betty Good

Colleen Dennis

Megan & Will Bentley

THE POWER PACK PROGRAM needs a few volunteers to help pack and distribute packages of food. It will only take about 1 ½ hours of your time. If you would like more info, please stop by the Power Pack Room on a Wednesday Morning at about 10:00 am.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - Today is the last day to order your poinsettia. Please speak with a member of the Altar guild in the Narthex. The cost is \$7.00 for a 5 bloom plant. The poinsettias will be in the church sanctuary on Sunday, December 21st and for the Christmas Eve Service on December 24th. The poinsettias should be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service.

Following Worship Children's Ministry invites you to take a few moments to approach the Altar to see what others have brought to symbolize their Christmas traditions. It will be a time to be in fellowship and to learn a little more about each other.

COMING EVENTS

Monday, December 15th – Futuring Committee – 7:00 pm

Tuesday, December 16th – Bible Study – 1:00 pm

Wednesday, December 17th – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm

There will be no Bible Study on December 23rd or 30th

ADVENT CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service- This is a well loved tradition of the church. Highlights of this service include special Christmas music offered by many members of the church, warmth of fellowship and the lighting of candles to celebrate and commemorate the birth of Christ our Savior. Invite family, friends and neighbors.

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 14, 2014
Third Sunday of Advent