

Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas.

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**Red Hymnal**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE *"In Dulci Jubilo"*

**\*CANDLE LITURGY**

One: The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and we reflect on the coming of Christ. 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, a weary soul. Therefore, we light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing, and for the well-being of all creation.

All: **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 always walk in the light of Christ. AMEN.**

\*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" .....no. 86

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

**+PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful Savior, we have the best of intentions, wanting to create memorable celebrations of your incarnation. We confess that we get off track. We fail to be your light to a hurting world. We run from one holiday event to the next. We sing Christmas carols at every opportunity yet fail to share the Good News of your love to those for whom the holidays bring depression, grief, loneliness and despair. Forgive us. Restore to us a joy in the sacred, in the simple, and in being in your presence as your redeemed children. **AMEN.**

**+SILENT PRAYER** *(please use this time to confess your own personal sin)*

**+KYRIE**

**+ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: By the grace and mercy of God we are forgiven!

People: **Thanks for the Christ Child of Bethlehem! AMEN!**

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

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S MESSAGE**

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 64:1-9 pg. 606

CHOIR ANTHEM *"Invocation for Advent"*

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 13:24-32 pg. 826

**MESSAGE**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**\*THE CREED.....page 23 of red hymnal**

**\*HYMN "Let Us Break Bread Together" .....no. 210**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *"Gesu Bambino"*

\*OFFERING RESPONSE/THE DOXOLOGY.....no. 356

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

**\*COMMUNION LITURGY.....red hymnal pg. 27-29**

***Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of The Lord, Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest!***

**\*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

\*HYMN "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent" .....no. 83

Let There Be Peace on Earth Gold Hymnal no. 681

CHIMES, QUIET MEDITATION (Congregation seated)

POSTLUDE *"Masters in the Hall"*

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

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Church Phone.....717-484-4400

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

Pastor ([pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org)).....William Hoch

Organist ([organist@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:organist@peaceunitedchurch.org)).....Phyllis Sands

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Treasurer ([treasurer@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@peaceunitedchurch.org)).....Michael Madara

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

Greeters.....Jody and Barb Becker

Head Usher.....Chris Fitterling

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The Altar flowers are given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Pannebecker by Art and Karen Pannebecker.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

*Let us also pray for those whose needs remain silent.*

Doris Fultz            Kathy Schlegel            Jerry Barnicle  
Ann Englert            Bobbie Porter Kunkel  
Karen Pannebecker    Margaret Robinson    Clara Roland  
Family of Wes Sweigart    Family of Jane Schweitzer  
Family of Vicki Kegerise    Family of Tony Parslow

Christmas poinsettias can be ordered before and after the 10:30 worship service today and next Sunday, December 10th. The poinsettias will be placed in the church on Saturday December 16th, and will be there for Sunday December 17th and Christmas Eve. The poinsettias are red, 1 branch, 5 bloom and cost \$7.00. They can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

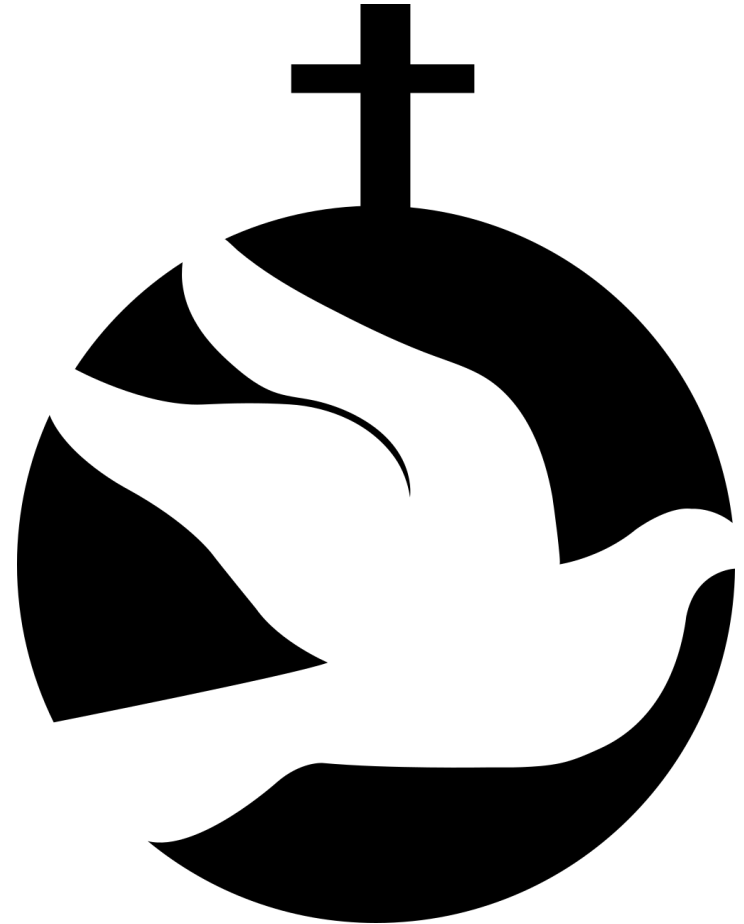
## COMING EVENTS

Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> - Benevolence Committee – 6:00 pm  
   Bell Choir – 7:00 pm  
Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – Bible Study – 1:00 pm  
   Health and Welfare Committee – 6:30 pm  
Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm  
Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Spiritual Council – 6:30 pm  
   Church Council – 7:00 pm  
Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – Children’s Ministry – 7:00 pm

## ADVENT HAPPENINGS

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – First Sunday of Advent communion will be served at both services.  
Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – Hanging of the Greens following worship  
Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> – Evening Christmas Musical Program and Dinner – 5:00 pm  
Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Advent – 10:30 am Service only  
   Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7:30 pm

# Peace United Church of Christ



December 3, 2017  
First Sunday of Advent