

### Thought Before Worship-

*“At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern.”*

— Mother Teresa, *Love: A Fruit Always in Season*

### Gold Hymnal

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Czechoslovakian Carol” Bell Choir

#### \*THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

##### The People’s Candle

Leader: The people of our faith now span the globe. We come from all different cultures and walks of life, and God has created us in all our wondrous diversity. In these days of Advent, we also remember our brothers and sisters around the world and in our own country that struggle with poverty, disease and violence in their lives.

**People:** *We light this candle for all our brothers and sisters, that we may not forget them in our celebrations but be reminded of the call of the prophets, the hope of our children and the faith of our ancestors as we are called to live into God’s ways of justice, hope, and love.*

(Candle is lit)

**Unison Prayer:** *Creator of the world, help us to recognize our role in the stories of others. Help us to reach out to those in need and to love our neighbors in the way you taught us. In this time of Advent, help us to prepare for Your coming into our lives. Amen.*

\*HYMN “O Come, All Ye Faithful” .....no. 193

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

#### +PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*We sing, “ O Come, All Ye Faithful,” God, but we confess our unfaithfulness to you this day. We are so busy that we overlook others. We speak without thinking and hurt someone. We lose ourselves in details and forget why we celebrate. Forgive us. Amid the colors that surround us- red, green, gold- may all that is good be revealed more clearly. Through the Child of Bethlehem we pray. AMEN*

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

#### +KYRIE

#### +ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Gifts and greetings and chores abound, but so does the love and mercy of our God!

**People:** *Good tidings to be shared this day! Amen.*

\*GLORIA PATRI.....no. 142

YOUNG PEOPLE’S MESSAGE

CHOIR ANTHEM “Breath of Heaven”

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1: 39-55 pg. 831

MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

\*CREED “Beginning: John 1”.....no. 165

\*HYMN “Child in the Manger”.....no. 198

OFFERING/OFFERTORY “Ding Dong, Merrily on High” Bell Choir

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

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

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

#### \*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

CHIMES, QUIET MEDITATION (Congregation seated)

POSTLUDE “For Unto Us/Joy to the World”

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

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

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Pastor ([pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org)...Rev Betsy E. Martin Bruaw

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

Secretary ([secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org)).....Beverly Madara

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

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

Greeters.....Jeanne Brewer

Head Usher.....Chris Fitterling

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The Altar flowers are placed to remind us in our abundance, to remember those in need.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Rev. Dennis Trout

Scott Leshner

Mildred Krick

Leslie Berkheimer Wagner

Family of Jean Trostle

The prayer list in the bulletin will be renewed on the first Sunday of the month. If you would like someone to continue on the list into the next month, please share that with the church office via phone or email. People placed on the list on later (3rd/4th) Sundays will be included in the next month's list. Please be sure to ask permission before placing someone on the list. Thank you, Pastor Betsy

#### COMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 23 - Dinner and a Night of Music - 5:00 pm

Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 27 - Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 pm

Friday, December 28 - Escape Room - 5:00, 6:15 and 7:30 pm

Saturday, December 29 - Escape Room - 5:00, 6:15 and 7:30 pm

Tuesday, January 2 - Health and Welfare - 10:00 am

Thursday, January 3 - Profile Committee - 7:00 pm

Monday, January 7 - Stitch & Chat - 9:00 am

Bell Choir - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, January 8 - Council Meetings - 6:30 and 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 10 - Children's Ministry - 10:00 am

Saturday, January 12 - Abigail Butz Memorial Spaghetti Dinner  
- 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Monday, January 14 - Marketing - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, January 15 - Bible/Book Study - 1:00 and 7:00 pm

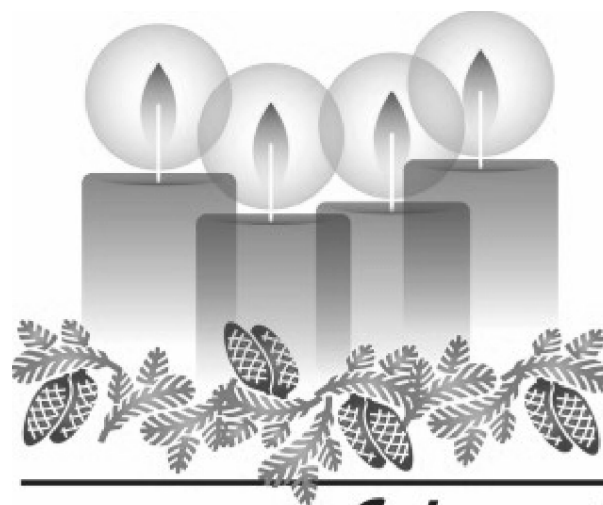
Saturday, January 19 - Youth Mystery Dinner - 5:00 pm



# Peace United Church of Christ

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!**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

**December 23, 2018**