

**The Church of the Pilgrimage
United Church of Christ
Sunday, December 10, 2017
10:00am
Second Sunday in Advent**



**Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo, PASTOR
Kim Engle, WORSHIP LEADER
Kelley DePasqua, MUSIC DIRECTOR
Michael Eaton, ORGANIST
Jenny Healy, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN ED**

Order of Worship

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Prelude Creator of the Stars at Night
 -Alec Rowley 1892-1958

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 85)*

Let us hear what God will speak, for God will speak peace to God's people, to all who turn to God in their hearts.

**Surely God's salvation is at hand
for those who fear God.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and
righteousness will look down from the sky.**

*Hymn No. 116 People Look East

***Lighting of the Second Advent Candle** (unison)

Carol Fortini and Bill Nemeč

Holy One, Peace is what we long for: We pray for peace in our lives, peace in our homes, peace in our world. Receive our worship this day, ^{and} as we light our second candle we pray that we may all live and worship you in peace. *The second purple candle is lit. The Candle of Hope found on next page is sung and then we say the Lord's Prayer.*

***The Lord's Prayer** (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as

The Candle of Hope

Advent I

The can - dle of hope we light in this hour

Pro - claims that the Lord is com - ing in power.

We wait for a fu - ture, now hid - den from view,

When Christ in his glo - ry will make all things new.

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MUSIC: Attr. Johann Michael Haydn (18th century); arr. William Gardiner, 1815

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we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

*Gloria Patri No. 36 (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Blessing of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Children's Message Jenny Healy

Children will be dismissed to Sunday School

Anthem E'en So, Lord Jesus Quickly Come
by Paul Manz / Revelation 22

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Chirst is coming, is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
they need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their all.

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Choral Response

Scripture Isaiah 40:1-11 OT627 or 581

Sermon *Where Peace Resides* Rev. Helen Nablo

***Hymn** No. 510 O Christian, Love

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
by Gustav Holst
Allyson and David Lynch, Soloists

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture -
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord most high!"

***Advent Doxology**

All praise, eternal Christ, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free;
Once more upon thy people shine,
and fill the world with love divine. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

All are invited to this table, for it is Jesus who welcomes us. Communion will be served by our deacons. Please partake of the bread as it comes to you; hold the cup that we might partake together, a symbol of our unity in Christ. Bread in the paper sleeve is gluten-free.

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion (responsively)

All praise to you, O God. You bring us to this table as brothers and sisters. Lead us now, through each of our moments, to that glorious day when all your children will gather as family. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

Who is our Peace made flesh! Amen.

***Hymn** No. 113 Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old

Benediction and Choral Response

Postlude Noël Étranger
 -Louis-Claude D'Aquin 1694-1772

During the Postlude you may remain seated, or rise to greet the pastor and proceed to coffee hour.

The Deacon in Charge is Mark Coombs
The flowers are in memory of loved ones. Given by Sandi Mann Santos and family.
Thanks to the Board of Trustees for arranging for coffee hour for the month of December.

NOTES

Welcome to worship at The Church of the Pilgrimage. We hope you enjoy the worship service, and we invite you to join us in Allerton Hall downstairs for coffee hour after the service.

Please silence your cell phones so we can be fully present to the spirit and to one another.

This morning we have nursery/cribroom care with Kristin Moses, our childcare worker. Kristin is with us every Sunday.

We invite everyone seated beside the center aisle to fill out the **fellowship pad** and pass it down your row for others to sign it too.

Copies of the morning sermon and hearing devices available on the table in the upper vestibule.

The Good Samaritan Fund, which assists with such expenses as rent, utility, food and health bills, is received on the second Sunday of the month. If you wish to contribute, there are specially marked envelopes located in the pews for that purpose.

Please join us at coffee hour today and take a look at the items for sale at the alternative gift offerings – gifts that please the recipients and help others too!

Memorial Poinsettias: Christmas is fast approaching. By your loving purchase of poinsettias, we can enhance the beauty of our church for the Christmas services. Sign up in the lower vestibule following the service today and next Sunday. An insert listing the donors and those memorialized or honored will be included in the December 24th Sunday bulletin. The suggested donation for a poinsettia is \$15, although a donation of any amount is welcome. The flowers may be designated for shut-ins, or picked up after the Christmas Eve services or the following Sunday. Volunteers will be invited to take flowers to shut-ins following the December 24th Sunday Service.

SO MUCH FUN IN ONE DAY! Today, we have pageant rehearsal during Sunday School in the JRC and after Sunday School in the

sanctuary (after choir rehearsals). After that, stay for pizza and caroling! We'll eat in Allerton Hall then head over to Brookdale at 1:30 to spread some Christmas cheer! Let Jenny know if you plan to stay so we can order enough pizza!

Caroling: "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!" At least that's what Papa Elf always said. How about you? Join us TODAY at Brookdale at 1:30 to spread some joy. No singing experience required and all the words to the carols will be provided.

Pageant: There's room for everyone at our inn so if you missed sign ups last week, come see me and we will find a place for you! - jenny

SAVE the DATE: We are planning a lock-in for youth over Christmas vacation, Dec. 28-29. This involves a day of service in Boston and supper and a sleep over back here in the JRC. Keep an eye out for more details. See Jenny with questions.

YOUTH GROUP: Youth group is invited to join the Sunday School for pizza and caroling this Sunday. Are you coming? let jenny know so we can be sure to have enough pizza for everyone!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR-

Mon, Dec 11: Monday Meals, 11am, Allerton Hall. Board of Christian Ed Meeting, 7:15pm, Marks Room.

Tuesday, Dec 12: Council Meeting, 7 pm Marks Room.

Wednesday Dec 13: Bible study 10:30 am. at Pastor Helen's home, 2 Manters Point. Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Sanctuary.

Thursday, Dec 14: Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm, Marks Room.

Sun, Dec 17: Third Sunday in Advent. Worship with Pastor Helen preaching, 10am. Pageant Rehearsal after worship.



As an Open and Affirming Congregation we invite all into our faith, to fully share in all church life, including our work, worship, rites, and sacraments, with the assurance that we are all created in God's image, reconciled by Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

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