



**ST. PETER'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



*O Come you Source of*  
**LOVE**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**December 19, 2021**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\*(Stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Greeting      Announcements      Birthdays      Anniversaries*

PRELUDE: “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”, Michael Burkhardt

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ADVENT LIGHTING – “LOVE” *(Kaye Koler & Granddaughter Brynn)*

**O Come, Advent:** *Sing verses 1-4 (Tune of: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #123)*

O come and be the hope in all our lives  
Though chaos and confusion still survive  
We know the path of hate all too well  
We need our God with us, Emmanuel!  
Rejoice, rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to us  
And all things shall be well

O come and bring your peace upon the earth  
That even now still longs for its rebirth  
We seek to live and move in your ways  
Guide us to peace and justice all our days  
Rejoice, rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to us  
And all things shall be well

O come to us like joy of heaven’s dawn,  
From Mary’s womb a faithful paragon  
Brought forth into this world by love’s power  
Your Spirit through her labors in that hour  
Rejoice, rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to us  
And all things shall be well

O come you source of Love unto us all  
Enlighten us and help us hear your call  
To bear your Love out into the wild  
And celebrate God's wondrous holy Child!  
Rejoice, rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to us  
And all things shall be well

**Candle Lighting Ritual** (*Luke 1:46-55 – Kaye Kohler*)

When we feel invisible, ineffective,  
Too small to make a difference  
The Holy invites us to be God-Bearers  
And we shall find Love  
(*Light candle of Love*)  
Where in the world do we find Love these days?

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Joan Whitman*)

**Leader:** Before the majesty of God, we gather to worship; in quiet expectation, we come to hear God's promises.

**People:** **This is where we belong; here we are warmly greeted. Surely God will feed our deepest hunger.**

**Leader:** Before God's strength and power, we bow down; in hesitant anticipation, we listen for God's judgment.

**People:** **This is our home, where our lives are redirected. Surely God will show us new ways to live.**

**Leader:** Before the mercy of God, we lift our hearts; in humble imagination, we welcome a new visitation.

**People:** **This day God is present with us; we feel it. Surely God is preparing for us a time of joy.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE: #141 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

## **\*THE MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)*

Let your face shine on us, mighty God. Break through the obstacles that keep us from seeing your way. Melt down the barriers that keep us from knowing the embrace of your love. Remove from us the low self-esteem that keeps us from valuing the overwhelming gift of life that you entrust to us. Speak to us here in life-changing accents. Amen.

## **\*GLORIA PATRI #623**

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.

## **HEBREW LESSON: PSALM 80: 1-7** *(Joan Whitman)*

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

## **A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH MUSIC**

**ANTHEM:** "In the Bleak Midwinter", Harold Darke

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*Pastoral Prayer    The Lord's Prayer*

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #137 *"What Child is This"*

**A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 1:39-45 *(Joan Whitman)*

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "MARY'S SONG"

**A TIME OF GIVING**

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY: "The Annunciation and Magnificat",  
Marty Haugen

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\*Doxology #625 unison prayer of dedication

praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God above ye Heavenly host; \*\*  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(\*\*alternate: Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen)*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

### A TIME OF GOING OUT

#### THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*(We offer one another the peace of Christ for the week ahead.)*

\*HYMN SENDING FORTH #133 *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

#### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE: “I Come Here from High Heaven”, J. S. Bach

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**Everyone is Welcome! Feel at home,  
for Christ Jesus is our host. If you are  
visiting for the first time, we are delighted  
to have you here!**

The Psalmist sings: *“Worship the Lord  
with gladness; come into God's presence  
with singing... thanksgiving... and praise.”*  
We pray peace and joy to you, dear friend.

#### WORSHIP TEAM

Senior Pastor  
Zoom Director  
Worship Producer  
Handbell Choir Director  
Organist/Choir Director  
Scripture Reader  
Ushers

Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor  
Mary K. Kirsch  
Brian Schieferstein  
Shelley Harmych  
Daniel Jacky  
Don Krueck  
Jim Kubuske, Judy McCurdy,  
Fred Helyes, Earl Wiegand



## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

The flowers on the altar are given by Jessie & Jim Kubuske to celebrate the birthdays of Jayna Kubuske, Liz Kubuske, Owen Kubuske (13), Jean Kubuske (18), Jessie Kubuske (20), and Leroy Kubuske (27). *Thank you for beautifying the sanctuary.*

## **ALTAR GUILD STILL NEEDS HELP**

The Altar Guild urgently needs help for their team. The duties will include Preparation of Sanctuary for church service, Baptisms and Weddings, and Restocking Supplies. Members pair up with the Veteran Altar Guild. Your service would probably be 3 alternating months. If you think this is something you would like to be part of, please contact **Lynn Hollstein at 440-988-8066**. *Thank you in advance for helping our team!*

## **Altar Flowers Signup**

The signup sheet for Altar Flowers will be available in the book on the table at the back of the church (the green binder), ready for signup in 2022. If you need help, there is an information sheet, "Altar Guild Flower Process", that explains the procedure.

Questions? Please call Lynn Hollstein at **440-988-8066**. Please note: Altar Guild has silk flower arrangements available to use in place of fresh flowers. A donation would be appreciated. Thank you!

## Christmas Fund Offering

There are red envelopes by the bulletins if you'd like to donate to The Christmas Fund which provides Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks for retirees and those facing unforeseen financial hardship. *Thank you!*

## Update from Sunday School

Volunteers needed at 9 a.m., Tuesday, December 21 to pack boxes with Christmas dinners to be delivered to Marion L. Steele High School. Also, please remember to donate ADULT hats and gloves for the high school kids that we will include in the boxes.

**Thank you!** Jessie Kubuske, Director of Christian Education

## Christmas Caroling | Dec. 19 | 3-4:30 PM

Warm up your voices and join us in singing Christmas Carols for our Compassionate Care members. We will meet on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM in the church parking lot and will car pool.



## FOOD PANTRY

In December, we will be collecting items that can be used to give others less fortunate, a Christmas dinner. Below are some ideas:

Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken)

Canned Soup (Pop top lids)

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Mac & Cheese

Jiffy Cornmeal Mix

Cranberry Sauce

Stuffing Mix | Gravy

Sweet Potatoes-Yams (Canned)



A big thank you to Pam Miskov for taking the time to ensure all items are transported to Good Shepherd Food Bank. Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. Thank you again for helping others!

## Stewardship Cards and Participation Cards

The yellow Participation cards and the orange Stewardship Pledge cards are now placed by the bulletins and also in the pews. Please take a moment to fill out and drop into the offering plate. *Participation cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you.

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Meet the Pastor at Arabica's  
254 Park Ave., Amherst  
**Every Wednesday from 9-11:00 a.m.**

*Everyone is welcome!*

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## Friends of St. Peters,

You will notice some changes in the sanctuary this week—the blue tape and pew ropes are gone and hymnals and Bibles are back! As a precaution, masks are still encouraged, especially when you are in close proximity to another person. Hand sanitizer can be found in the pews. We want to continue to protect the vulnerable as we *care for us and care for others.*

As we begin to return to a more “normal” service, beginning in November we will no longer be emailing pdfs of the Sunday hymns with the bulletin. If you would like to continue to sing

along on Zoom you can request a church hymnal to be delivered to you, or you can pick one up in the church office! However, you chose to obtain a copy, please take this opportunity to connect with and get to know Pastor Chris!

Looking forward to seeing you in person or Live on Zoom!

Mary-K Kirsch  
Council President

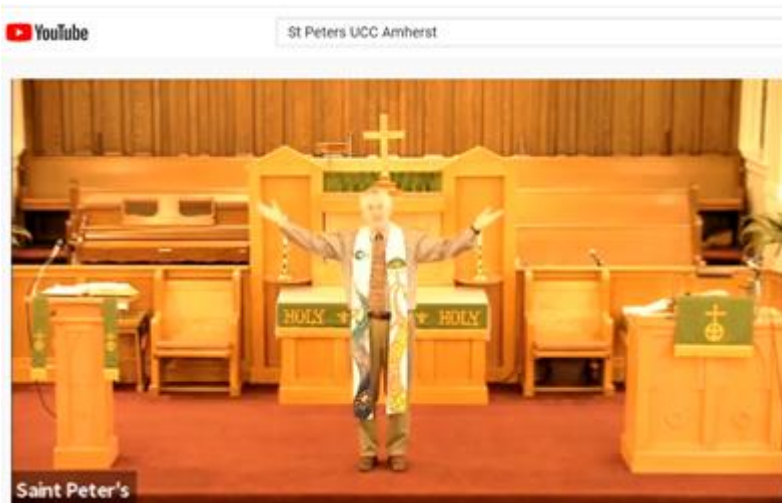


**Wednesday Worship Service:  
Breeze Chapel  
“BLUE CHRISTMAS”**


On **Wednesday, Dec. 22 at 7:00 p.m.**, the Breeze Service will be a Blue Christmas theme. Each one of us comes bearing the loss of loved ones, or may be struggling to mend our own broken places. This will be a time to light a candle in the memory of loved ones. We hope you can join us for this special evening of hope and comfort. God bless you with comfort during the holiday season.

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts  
us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble  
with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."*

-2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4



## St. Peter's is on YouTube!

Please be sure to visit our YouTube channel ~ **St Peters UCC Amherst** ~ and be sure to click the SUBSCRIBE button. Then share our channel with your friends! The more subscribers we have, the greater our visibility on YouTube and the more we share the good news! 

## Sunday Morning Zoom Worship

For our Zoom worship you will join one another through a free video and audio conference application. Download the Zoom app to your smartphone, computer, or tablet and use the meeting login below:

**Join from Zoom app:**

**Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205**

**Join Zoom Meeting from computer:**

<https://zoom.us/j/5244113917?pwd=aEJEcGhWUHh2dTV4eGJBSDZlUWgwdz09>

**OR Call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099**

**Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205**



## This Week's Events

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- Mon., Dec. 20    Spiritual Life 1-4:00 PM  
                         Council Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom
- Tue., Dec. 21    Bible Study 7:00 PM Zoom
- Wed., Dec. 22    Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris 9-11:00 AM  
                         Arabica Coffee in Amherst  
                         **Breeze Chapel "Blue Christmas" 7:00 PM**
- Thurs., Dec. 23    Choir 6:30 PM & Handbell Choir 7:30 PM
- Fri., Dec. 24    Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM (Office Closed)
- Sat., Dec. 25    CHRISTMAS! "For unto you is born this  
                         day in the city of David a Savior, who is  
                         the Messiah, the Lord."**
- Sun., Dec. 26    Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Family Sunday

## How To Reach Us

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**Office Hours:** Mon.–Fri. 8:30-12:30 PM *and* 1-2:30 PM  
Afternoons available by appointment with Pastor Chris

**Address:** 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

**Website:** [www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org)

**Phone:** 440-988-4965

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Mary-K Kirsch, Church Council President  
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would like more detailed information, contact the church office.



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