



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



December 13, 2020

3rd Week of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Stand as you are able.)*

A TIME OF GATHERING AND WELCOME

Announcements

Birthdays

Anniversaries

CALL TO WORSHIP: *From Psalm 118*

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
Worship has begun.

PRELUDE: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Gilbert M Martin
The Day Spring, Advent Meditations for Organ ©2007 The Sacred Music Press. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 20182679 Music: Gilbert M Martin

***OPENING HYMN:** #122 "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"
The New Century Hymnal © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. Used by/with permission One License # A-724594 / CCLI No. 20182679. Text: Charles Wesley Music: attrib to Christian F. Witt Both in public domain.

*** RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF INVOCATION:** Luke 1:46b-55

Mary's Song of Praise

Leader: And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord,

All: and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

Leader: for he has looked with favor on the lowliness
of his servant. Surely, from now on all
generations will call me blessed;

All: for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and
holy is his name.

Leader: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to
generation.

All: He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered
the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

Leader: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

All: and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

Leader: He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

All: according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.'

Repeat after Leader:

We light this candle - Love – to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world – Christ Jesus - who named the greatest commandment: 'Love God with one's whole self, and love your neighbor as much as you love self.'

A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH MUSIC

"Mary's Song"

Performed by Caroline Wolfe

The Christmas Story: A Cantata for Chamber Musicians - Not Published. CCLI No. 20182679.

A TIME OF PRAYERFUL SHARING

Silent Prayer Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;

then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,

like the watercourses in the Negeb.
May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

MESSAGE: PASS THROUGH

REFLECTION HYMN: #146 *“For Unto Us a Child Is Born”*

The Hymnal For Worship and Celebration ©1986 Word Music. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 2411660 / 20182679. Text: George Frederick Handel (in public domain) Music: George Frederick Handel arr. ©1986 Word Music by Tom Fettke.

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

Offertory: *“Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier”* Johann Gottfried Walther
80 Chorale Preludes, German Masters of the 17th and 18th Centuries ©1937 C.F. Peters
Corporation. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 20182679 Music: Johann Gottfried Walther

*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)*

The Hymnal For Worship and Celebration, ©1986 Word Music. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 2411660 / 20182679 Text: T. Ken; Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551. Both in public domain.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A TIME OF GOING OUT

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

***PARTING HYMN #111 "O Loving Founder of the Stars"**

The New Century Hymnal © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. Used by/with permission One License # A-724594 / CCLI No. 20182679. Text: Latin anon. 9th C trans. NCH Music: Sarum plainsong, mode IV (in public domain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Meine Seele Erhebet Den Herren" J. S. Bach

Orgelbüchlein © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. Use by/with permission. One License #A-724594. CCLI No. 20182679. Music: J. S. Bach



Welcome Everyone! Feel at home, for Christ Jesus is our host.

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

Interim Senior Pastor
Zoom Director
Worship Producer
Camera Operator
Organist
Scripture Reader

Pastor Arlen G. Vernava
Mary K. Kirsch
Brian Schieferstein
Jennifer Wasilk
Daniel Jacky
Judy McCurdy





Preschool Dine and Donate - December

Don't want to cook so you can finish your Christmas shopping? Why not order a yummy pizza?

During the month of December, Soul on Fire Brick Oven Pizza shop has graciously offered St. Peter's UCC Preschool the entire month to Dine and Donate.

If you or any family member, company catering, small group gathering order from Soul on Fire, please mention the preschool and they will receive 15% of all sales.

This offer includes the sale of gift cards.

Soul on Fire is located at 3819 Oberlin Ave in Lorain. Their phone number is (440) 240-8529.

Noisy Collection

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation donating to our noisy collection, we were able to buy 5 gift cards to donate to Mercy Resource for moms and children to help make a few Christmases brighter! Part was from Noisy Collection, and part was from some anonymous donations to Christian Education. Thank you all!

*****Please Note:** In January, there are 5 Sundays. There was some confusion in November as to when Noisy Collection would be held. It is always the 4th Sunday of the month. So, in January, it WILL NOT be the last Sunday. It will be January 24, 2020. Thank you!

The Christmas Fund

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

Over the past nine months, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the emergency financial needs of many who serve the church have increased dramatically.

In such a time as this, the need for the Christmas Fund is more urgent than ever.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

To donate, please go to: www.christmasfund.org and click on the "Donate" button at the bottom of the page.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be putting together food baskets for Christmas dinner to hand out in December. Items needed are:

Stove Top Stuffing	Instant Mashed Potatoes	Gravy
Corn Bread Mix	Canned Cranberry Sauce	Canned Yams

In addition to the food basked items, there is also a need for:

Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken)	Kleenex	Paper Towels
Canned Soup (Pop top lids)	Spaghetti Sauce	Pasta
Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)	Peanut Butter	Jelly
Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)	Oatmeal Cereal	

Please leave your donations in the drop of boxes at the church.

Oak Hills Nursing and Rehabilitation in Lorain

St. Peter's was contacted by Oak Hills Nursing and Rehabilitation in Lorain.

They have 70 residents who are on a limited income and are looking for donations to help cheer them up this holiday season.

Donations can be monetary, clothing, books, puzzles, games, snacks - anything that may provide some joy to the residents.

If you are interested in giving, please contact Dawn Norris at 440-714-4396. Dawn is the Activities Director at Oak Hills and will make the arrangements to receive your donation.

St. Peter's is on YouTube!

Scripture and Sermon from November are now on our public YouTube channel: **St Peters UCC Amherst**

Here is the link to the YouTube page for St. Peter's :

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdljVHzTXllu\]-sB4IijkQg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdljVHzTXllu]-sB4IijkQg)

Feel free to share this new source of our Sunday message with your friends!



“BREATH OF HEAVEN”

*Live Nativity Presentation
23rd Anniversary*

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
15617 MASON ROAD, VERMILION

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12th & SUNDAY DECEMBER 13th
4:00 PM THROUGH 8:00 PM

Walk-through presentations approximately every 15 minutes



Please join the members of St. Matthew, Bethany and Grace Lutheran Churches as we share our 23rd presentation of “Breath of Heaven.”

It is our honor to share a portrayal of that Holy Night when Jesus was born. The presentation is free to the public.

Please bring non-perishable food items to be donated to local food banks.

Performances by the Firelands High School Select Choir.

*****Please be advised that even though this is an outdoor event, facemasks will be required for the safety of our cast and guests. Social distancing guidelines will be in effect and groups will be limited in size.***



Hello all-

This week we had our first follow-up interview and are hoping to schedule the other two in the next week.

We have not received any new profiles.

Sincerely-

Your Search Committee



Are you or kiddos crafty?

Want to help????

Due to COVID, Compassionate Care has not been able to do visitation to our homebound or those in care centers. Recently, we received the OK to drop off “St Peter’s cares about you” bags, which will be quarantined for a day and then given to the specified person. The bags will be given out once a month.

Are you crafty or are you looking for something to give the kiddos or grandkids to do? We would love to have some handmade cards or short note to add to the bags. Something done by children always puts a smile on the receiver’s face!

We will be doing 10-15 bags per month. If you would like to donate any items, it would be appreciated. Some items are large print puzzle books, ink pens (no pencils please), adult coloring books & crayons, small boxes of raisins, small bags Goldfish crackers, chips, pretzels, popcorn, etc, hard candy, deck of cards, cube box of tissue, trial size toothpaste, hand lotion, deodorant, shampoo, chap stick, candy bars or anything you think they might enjoy. If you prefer not to go out to shop and would like to make a small donation, checks can be made out to St. Peter’s with a notation it is for Care bags and dropped at church office or mailed. If you prefer, cash may be dropped off at the church office in an envelope marked Care bags.

Items may be dropped off in the bin in Walker Lobby marked Care Bags.

St. Peter's Prayer Room

You are invited to join St. Peter's Prayer Room! We look forward to you joining us on Zoom where a name for prayer will be read and we will respond "Lord, hear our prayer". There will also be a time for you to submit yourself or someone you know for prayer. The meeting will be every Wednesday 1:00 -1:30 or before. Please join us!!! If you have any questions, please contact a member of Compassionate Care.

Saint Peter's Prayer Room

1:00 - 1:30 or before

Will continue every Wednesday

Join Zoom Meeting from computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/94084872220?pwd=ckJ2bURSZHllVW4xdEFLNHVrNnI1Zz09>

Join from Zoom app:

Meeting ID: 940 8487 2220

Passcode: Prayer

OR Call in with phone:

1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 940 8487 2220

Passcode: 022121

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:

Topic: Sunday Morning Worship

Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 Passcode: 379205

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Mon, Dec. 14	MovementWorks 1:30-2:15 PM Executive Council 6:30 PM
Tue, Dec. 15	Trustee Meeting 11AM MovementWorks 4:30-7:25 PM Bible Study 7 PM (Zoom)
Wed, Dec. 16	Zoom Prayer Room 1 PM MovementWorks 4:30-8:15 PM
Sat, Dec. 19	MovementWorks 8:45 AM- 11:55 AM
Sun, Dec. 20	Sunday Worship Service 10 AM

How to Reach Us

Address: 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

E-Mail us at: www.stpetersamherst.org

Phone: 440-988-4965

Arlen G. Vernava, Intentional Interim Pastor
pastor@stpetersamherst.org 585-455-2289

Shelley Harmych, Church Council President
president@stpetersamherst.org 440-309-6593

Church Office
admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965

