



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

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**December 20, 2020**

**4th 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: “Adagio Tranquillo”, Mendelssohn

*Mendelssohn Orgel Kompositionen* ©1925 C. F. Peters Corporation. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 20182679 Music: Mendelssohn

\*OPENING HYMN: #123 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*The Hymnal For Worship and Celebration* ©1986 Word Music. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 2411660 / 20182679 Text: Latin, trans. John M. Neale and Henry S. Coffin Music: Plainsong, adapted Thomas Helmore.

\* RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF INVOCATION: ROMANS 16:25-27

**Leader:** Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

**All:** but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—

**Leader:** to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever!

**All:** Amen.

**Repeat after Leader:**

We light this candle - Joy - to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world - Christ Jesus - now and always.

## A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH MUSIC

“Breath of Heaven”

Performed by Caroline Wolfe

*Breath of Heaven* ©1997 SGO Music Publishing LTD - Used by/with permission CCLI No. 20182679. Words and Music: Amy Grant and Chris Eaton

“Joseph’s Song”

Performed by Luke Melnyk

*Joseph’s Song* ©1982 Mole End Music - Used by/with permission CCLI No. 20182679. Words and Music: Michael Card

## 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:        LUKE 1:26-38

### **The Birth of Jesus Foretold**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

MESSAGE: ...IN THE ROOM

REFLECTION HYMN: #131 *"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"*

*The Hymnal For Worship and Celebration* ©1986 Word Music. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 2411660 / 20182679 Text: Latin, trans. John M. Neale and Henry S. Coffin Music: Plainsong, adapted Thomas Helmore.

## A TIME OF GIVING

### OFFERING INVITATION

Offertory: "In Dulci Jubilo" Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

*80 Chorale Preludes, German Masters of the 17th and 18th Centuries* ©1937 C.F. Peters

Corporation. Use by/with permission. CCLI No. 20182679 Music: Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

\*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 #132 *"Joy to the World!"*

*The New Century Hymnal* © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. Used by/with permission One License # A-724594 / CCLI No. 20182679 Text: Isaac Watts Music: Lowell Mason Both in public domain.

### BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland" 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

## 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  
Jean Swift





## **Sunday School 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!

## **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.

## 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!

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To donate, please go to: [www.christmasfund.org](http://www.christmasfund.org) and click on the "Donate" button at the bottom of the page.

## Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is currently in the need of the following items:

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/UCdljVHzTXlluJ-sB4JikOg>

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







Hello all-

This week we complete the second round of interviews with our candidates.

Please keep us in your prayers as we determine which, if any, of these candidates we will ask to be the next Pastor of St. Peter's.

Sincerely-

Your Search Committee



## **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

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**

*Joy* to  
the  
*World*

# THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Mon, Dec. 21	MovementWorks 1:30-2:15 PM MovementWorks 6:00-8:00 PM Church Council 7:00 PM
Tue, Dec. 22	MovementWorks 4:30-7:25 PM Bible Study 7 PM (Zoom)
Wed, Dec. 23	Zoom Prayer Room 1 PM MovementWorks 4:30-8:15 PM
Thurs. Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Service 8:00 PM
Sat, Dec. 26	MovementWorks 8:45 AM- 11:55 AM
Sun, Dec. 27	Sunday Worship Service 10 AM

## How to Reach Us

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