



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL

217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559

www.ucc-medina.org

Assisted Listening Devices Available – Please Ask Your Usher

Please take a moment to sign the attendance pads, (located at the end of each pew) so that you know who is worshipping near you and you may greet them by name.

PRESERVICE MUSIC "Breath of Heaven" – Amy Grant, arr. by Craig Courtney Ann Nagy, Soloist
Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Carleigh Johns

***CAROL**

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest;

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Deb Waldron

Leader: Have no fear. Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all people.

People: God has visited us; the day has dawned upon us

Leader: For unto us a child is born,

People: Who is Christ the Lord.

***CAROL**

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
As you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, give thanks and sing.**

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light:

Refrain

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of Nations,
guided by Christ's natal star:

Refrain

Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly, our prayers attending,
Christ beside you shall appear.

Refrain

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**May we be innkeepers ready to find a place for our Lord,
May we be wise enough to follow a star.
May we be shepherds open to the possibilities of miracles.
O Lord, may we find a kneeling place in that stable!
O Come, O come, Emmanuel. Enter here; enter now.
Find in us an angel's alleluia. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

"A Midwinter Noel"

Chancel Choir

Based on a Traditional French Carol – music by Gustav T. Holst, arr. by Jay Rouse

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7 (KJV)

Deb Waldron

***CAROL**

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

**Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14

Jim Kiser

STORY

“Heaven & Nature Sing”

Rev. Luke Lindon

*CAROL

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now give heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ was born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
asleep within the manger now.
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now you know of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
God has opened heaven's door,
and you are blessed forevermore.
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save!

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:15-20

Deb Waldron

CAROL

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.

No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

Pastoral Guidance in Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be 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 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.

*CAROL RESPONSE

Away in a Manger"

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Offering Invitation

Offertory Music "What Child Is This?" – setting, Hugo Gehrke Cathy Fafrak, Organist

***Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy.
Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your
love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.

LESSONS OF LIGHT

Pam Morgan

John 1:6-10

John 1:14-16

John 8:12

PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

(Only the unlit candle should be tipped.)

CAROL

"Silent Night"

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.

Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth. Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

(Congregation may extinguish candles.)

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: The joy of the angels,

People: the eagerness of the shepherds,

Leader: the perseverance of the Magi,

People: the love of Joseph and Mary,

Leader: and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas.

People: And the blessings of God almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Leader: be upon you and remain with you always. Merry Christmas!

People: Merry Christmas! Amen!

***CAROL**

"Joy to the World"

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Ushers: Darlene Bagley-Fazekas, Rob & Val Cervenak & Dick Christy



POINSETTIAS



NAME OF DONOR

IN MEMORY OF

Bruce & Connie Anderson

Our Wonderful Families and Friends

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Loved Ones

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Joe Andrews

Bruce & Sally Bauer

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Geraldine M. Beebe

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Our Parents

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Jane Schmidt and My Parents

Dorothie & Linde Edinger

David Edinger

Betty Einhart

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The Farnham Family

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John & Judy Gorsek

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John & Judy Gorsek

John & Dorothea Sattler

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Our Parents

Diana Hunter

Jack Hofstetter

Diana Hunter

Howard Hunter

Carol Holtz

Joy Hunter

Arnold & Cheri Ingraham

My Mother, Jeannette Stokes

Kellie & Crell Johns

Berneta Ingraham

Jim Kiser

Jerry Johns "Pop"

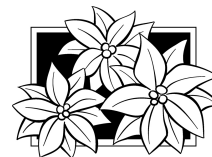
Barb Kiser

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IN HONOR OF

*Our Wonderful Families and Friends
 Our Family
 MaryAnn Andrews
 My Mother, Cathy Bonsell
 Lt. Patrick Donnelly, PA-C
 Our Family
 Our Virginia and Ohio Families
 Our Family and Friends
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 All who volunteer here at UCC
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