



(on screen)



*“For unto you is born this day in the city of David,
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” Luke 2:11*

Greetings

Welcome to the community of Church of Peace United Church of Christ. We believe that all people are children of God and rejoice that you have chosen to worship God with us today. If you are visiting our community, we wish to extend our faith in Christian fellowship and hope that you will take a moment to visit with us after the service. If you have any questions prior to the service, please ask anyone in the community. We have all been visitors at some time in our life, and we are eager to assist you in any way. May the Holy Spirit fill us and guide us as we worship God together.

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM

Gathering Music- Ringing of the Bells -Welcome

We Prepare to Worship God

Prayer & Prelude

We Gather Around God's Word

A Reading from Luke 2

Call to Worship (After Psalm 96 and Luke 2)

One: Sing to our God a new song; Sing to our God all the earth.

Many: Glory to God in the highest heaven, Peace on earth to all!

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God, let the earth rejoice, let trees of the forest sing for joy!

Many: Glory to God in the highest heaven, Peace on earth to all!

We Light the Candle of Christ on This Glorious Eve

One: We relight four candles representing the four weeks of Advent as we awaited the blessed hope of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Two: These candles symbolize gifts of Jesus Christ to us: hope, peace, joy, and love.

One: Tonight, we light the Christ Candle: the candle of life made real in the Son of God come to earth at Christmas.

Many: In Christ, the grace of God has appeared bringing the Good News of salvation for all. Praise be to God!

*Opening Hymn

"The First Noel"

(on screen)

Our Prayer of Invocation*:

God of the Baby of Bethlehem, we come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving. We hear the glad tidings of the angel voices, we come to experience this good news of great joy for all the people. Just as the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem, we have traveled here – excited, expectant, and hopeful. Let the words of Sacred Scripture seep into our hearts, to be treasured and pondered anew. O God, we are here; we are ready, let the light of your love break forth! Amen.

The Celebration of Communion

*Communion Hymn

"What Child is This"

(on screen)

*Communion Prayer

"Together, We Are Blessed By Being Here."

Invitation—Institution—Sharing

Please come to the front or rear of the sanctuary to receive the bread of life and the cup of the new covenant.

Invitation to Generosity and Thanksgiving (responsive)

One: We are called to be the Light of the World.

Many: We are called to share the Love of Jesus with all those we meet.

One: We are to proclaim to those who have walked in darkness and in shadows: "Do not be afraid! God is with you, no matter what."

Many: So let us now bring our offerings which will, with God's help, spread the light of Jesus from this community. Amen.

Offertory

*Hymn Response "Angels We Have Heard on High" (on screen)

Light of the World—Sunday School Program 2024¹

M.C. - Welcome & Introduction

Narration - Scripture Reading Genesis 1, John 1: 1-4, 5, 9-14, 18

Video Prelude – "Light of the World" by Lauren Daigle

Narration - Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38

SING "Here I Am, Lord" Verse 1 (on screen)

Narration

SING "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Verse 1 (on screen)

ALL SHEPHERDS AND SHEEP MOVE TO THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY

Narration

SING "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Verse 1 (on screen)

ALL ANGELS MOVE TO THE FRONT

Narration

SING "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Verse 1 (on screen)

ALL ANIMALS MOVE TO THE FRONT

Narration

Sunday School students sing "Away in a Manger" Verses 1 & 2

CONGREGATION SINGS Verse 3 (on screen)

Narration

SING "Go Tell it on the Mountain" Verse 1 (on screen)

ALL TOWNSPEOPLE MOVE TO THE FRONT

We Pass Christ's Light in Our Community

M.C. Narration

*SING

"Silent Night" Verses 1-3

(on screen)

M.C. Narration

*The Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

*SING

"Joy to the World" Verses 1-3

(on screen)

We Carry Christ's Light into the World

*Commissioning & Benediction

Closing Video - "Light of the World" by Lauren Daigle

Postlude

(*If you are able, please stand)

1Sunday School program adapted from: A Rehearsal-free Christmas Pageant by
rfour.org https://rfour.org/christmas_pageant.html

Rev. Stephen Stepp

Patricia Siekierke

Jean Stepp

Heather Reader-Schubert

Victor Abitz

Rob Giese

All People



Minister

Organist

Liturgist

Sunday School Superintendent

Custodian

AV Tech

Disciples

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Church of Peace Christmas Eve Program Players

M.C. - Heather Reader-Schubert

Angel - Freya Fink

Narrator #1 - Jean Stepp

Shepherd - Oliver Poirier

Narrator #2 - Nancy Zupke

Shepherd - Javier Moreno

Mary - Katelyn Schubert

Cow - Elizabeth Schubert

Joseph - Alex Petersen

Sheep - Torstein Fink

Gabriel - Aaron Petersen

Sheep - Scout Poirier

*~Special Thank You: Rob Giese, Marlene & Kelly Schubert, the Parents,
Pastor Steve, Grandma Mary Fleishmann, Robert Schmidkonz, Pat Siekierke,
and all those who joined us~*

Following the 4:00 pm Worship Service

There will be a brief Fellowship gathering with decorated cookies, hot
chocolate, and coffee.

Please join us while the Sunday School youth return their costumes!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS and SPECIAL GIFTS 2024

THE CONGREGATION IS GRATEFUL FOR THE FOLLOWING GIFTS:

CHRISTMAS BULLETIN IN MEMORY OF:

Dad, Mom, Bill, Jean, Melvin

POINSETTIA IN MEMORY OF:

James, Jay & John Sandberg
Our Loved Ones
Our Parents & Siblings
Dorothy & Louis Whittaker
John & Birdelle Stepp
Carl & Phyllis Chappelow

GIVEN BY:

Family

GIVEN BY:

Sandy Sandberg & Family
Brenda & Ron Roehl
Al & Nancy Pahnke
Tom & Jan Whittaker
Pastor Steve & Jean Stepp
Pastor Steve & Jean Stepp

Norman Abitz
Wattamar & Melita Reimer
Robert & Rosemary Burns
Our Parents
Gary Babler
LeRoy & Marianne Bahr
Janice Kinyon
Peggie Houk
Marilyn Oestreich
Mom & Dad Resop, Bev Resop &
Bob Jr. Resop
Tim Puddy
Terry Fields
Tom Coon
Karen Schmidtke & Tom Coon
Carol Moon
Virgill & Elaine Miller

POINSETTIA IN HONOR OF:

Our Grandchildren

BUILDING TO SERVE/INVESTING IN THE FUTURE:

IN MEMORY OF:

Erv & Irene Kaiser and Bill Hinn
Rev. Jim Klein
Don & Jean Welch & Tom Jones
Roland and Dianne Steinke
Our Parents & Siblings
Virgil & Elaine Miller

FOOD PANTRY IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Moon
My Parents

Lois Abitz
Sharon Terrill, Wendy Petak,
Mark Burns
Tom & Theresa Schultz
Karen Babler
Karen Babler
Karen Babler
Peter Peterson Family
Her Family
Bonnie, Betty, Bud,
Randy Resop & Brian
His Wife & Kids
Nancy Fields
His Family
The Reiter Family
Jim Moon
Their Family

GIVEN BY:

Ron & Brenda Roehl

GIVEN BY:

Jeanette Hinn
Norma Ludwig
Cheri Welch
Mary Lange and Family
Bill & Glory Guenther
Their Family

GIVEN BY:

Jim Moon
Mary Lange

COMMUNION FUND IN MEMORY OF:

Thomas Lechnir &
Clarence & Viola Suhr

GIVEN BY:

Nyleen Lechnir

COMMUNION FUND IN HONOR OF:

Juliene & Jenna Lechnir

GIVEN BY:

Nyleen Lechnir

GENERAL FUND IN MEMORY OF:

Parents & Brothers
Emils & Eleonore Stamurs, Armond &
Monica Adelmeyer, Bob & Joyce Staerzl,
Donna Hanke, John Roth, Renee Batzler &
Dale Schwartz

GIVEN BY:

Ron & Caroline Zimpher
Ron & Inge Adelmeyer

GENERAL FUND IN HONOR OF:

The Joy of Christmas

GIVEN BY:

Joanne Pike

5 UCC FUND'S IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF:

Past Church of Peace Pastor's

GIVEN BY:

Pastor Steve & Jean

To all who purchased poinsettias: you are welcome to take yours home after the worship service on **today, Christmas Eve!** Thank you!