

We Are Sent Forth

Hymn #211 (vs 2, 4, 6)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Benediction

Await with the farmer the fall of the rain, the warmth of the sun, the life of the soil.

Await with God, and even the desert shall blossom.

And as the wilderness becomes oasis, stretching its fields around the world, a highway shall appear, and you shall walk the holy way.



<http://home.dacor.net/ChristUMC/>

*Christ United Methodist Church
301 West Main Street
Portage, Ohio 43451-0218*

**Let the little children
come to me;**



**do not stop them;
for it is to such as these
that the
kingdom of God belongs.**

Mark 10:14

Worship: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Christ Church Vision Statement:

CHRISTIAN SERVANTS UNITED IN MISSION TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

Christ United Methodist Church

December 14th, 2014

3rd Sunday of Advent

We Gather for Worship

Sharing of Events & Ministries

Passing of the Peace (Greet one another with gestures of welcome)

Prelude as the Light of God enters Among Us

Call to Worship

Nancy Shrider

In Advent we celebrate the power of God to work changes in us, among us, and around us.

We praise you, O God, of happy surprises, for confounding our low expectations.

Once we saw the wilderness only as a refuge for ravenous beasts,

But you have turned it into a haven of blessing for the weak and oppressed.

Once we saw the desert only as a heap of burning sand,

But you have transformed it into fountains of gushing waters.

All: Let us join the pilgrimage to Zion, O God, that there, together with the redeemed of All ages and places, we may drink of the living water and never thirst again.

Invocation

Nancy Shrider

Eternal God, before whose power we bow in awe, we thank you for the majesty and grandeur of your creation. But even more, and above all, we thank you for the revelation of your glory and grace in Jesus Christ. In him you kindled the hope for a new life in a new world. Let that hope be reborn in us today.

Hymn #202,

“People, Look East”

We Proclaim God’s Word

Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 2 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

People **We give thanks to you, O God, for the promise of full joy that this season brings to light.**

Reader 2 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

People **For all the troubles life can bring, you bring amazing possibilities that fill our hearts with joy.**

Reader 2 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

People **Renew in us this day the promises of light after darkness, day after night, hope after despair, joy in this and every morning, for our trust is in you.**

Time with the Children

Christmas Lights

Hearing the Sacred Text

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Nancy Shrider

Litany

We ask in our hearts, Is this the One?

Or shall we look for another?

Our limbs are freed that they may walk;

Give us the heart to walk the Way.

Our eyes are opened that they may see

Give us the heart to see the truth.

Our souls are touched that they may live;

Give us the heart to live the life.

All: We ask in our hearts, Is this the One? Or shall we look for another? Open our Mouths that we may bear the glad tidings everywhere: the Word dwells among us! World, rejoice!

Hearing the Sacred Text

Mark 8:1-10

Nancy Shrider

Interpretation of the Sacred Text

Rev. McDaniel

We Respond to God’s Word

Offering our Prayer

Sharing Prayers

Personal and Pastoral Prayer

Offering our Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness

Doxology # 95,

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication of the Offering

(Continue on back page)

Announcements and Reminders

- The Portage Lions Club continues to collect old reading and/or prescription **EYEGASSES** you no longer use. The eyeglasses are cleaned and given to those in need. Please place them in the box located in the Narthex, at CUMC Thank you.
- The Outreach Committee at CUMC would appreciate receiving the following **LABELS:** 1) BOX TOPS for Education 2) Campbell Soup labels 3) and any current **COUPONS** that you are not able to use.
- The Y&R class is doing the Christmas Card exchange through December.
- **COME TO THE STABLE**, today is the last day, at the BG Alliance Church, 1161 Napoleon Road, in Bowling Green, Ohio. Sun (12pm-3pm). Free Admission to the Stable. They are requesting donations for the BG Christian Food Pantry.
- **SPECIAL HOLIDAY MUSIC** will be provided by two of our much talented church members, Karen Himelhan and Kathy Bame, during church service on the following dates: December 7th, December 14^t, and December 21st. THANK YOU!!
- CUMC is also collecting **BLANKETS FOR PUPPIES** for the Wood Co Humane Society. Please place your items under the donation table in the Narthex. Thank you.
- A **SPECIAL THANKS** to those who donated food items for our **CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS** and to those who donated their gently used coats for the Salvation Army **COAT DRIVE**. They were both such a huge success.
- Please mark your calendars, our **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DAY** has been scheduled for Saturday, January 31, 2014, from 9 AM – 4:30 PM. Details will be posted at a later date.
- The trustees wanted to share with the congregation that there will be some **CHANGES to the BUILDING** happening in the next few months and we are able to do these things in part because of a generous donation from the estate of Leonard and Maggie Davis in the amount of \$170,000. We certainly have been blessed by their generosity.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** of singing and scripture will be held on Wednesday, December 24, 2014, at 9PM. Bring friends & family for a time of joy, peace and worship.

Stewardship of Time and Talents, December 7, 2014

General	\$1,593.00	Parsonage.....	\$100.00
Hospitalization.....	\$110.00	Coffee/Outreach	\$11.00
Christmas Poinsettias	\$18.00	Benevolences	\$125.00
Walk to Columbus	\$50.00	Building	\$10.00
Pauline Thiebaut.....	\$190.00	Bingo	\$63.01
Thanksgiving	\$30.00	Outreach	\$50.00
Attendance: Worship –	42	Sunday school –	

Schedule of Events

Today, December 14, 2014	9:00 a.m.....	Worship
.....	10:00 a.m.....	Sunday School
Monday, December 15, 2014.....	9:00 a.m.....	Sermon Shaping
Tuesday, December 16, 2014.....	7:00 p.m.	Scout Meeting
Wednesday, December 17, 2014	9:00 a.m.....	Book Club
.....	7:00 p.m.	Outreach Meeting
Thursday, December 18, 2014	7:00 p.m.	Fall Study Class

Participants in this morning’s Worship Service

Pastor.....	Rev Bruce McDaniel	
Organist	Linda Allen	
Pianist	Kathy Bame	
Liturgist	Nancy Shrider	
Greeters: East.....	Pat Fortney	
North.....	Terry and Sally Amos	
Ushers	Jay and Anne Deutschman	

Prayer/Concerns Requests

Jim Avery	Beverly Brandeberry	Mary Briggs
Family of Nancy Bostdorff	Joe Colen	Family of Dennis Deters
Josh Earl	Dale Fry	Char Kelly
Family of Tom & Char Horky	Karen Landries	David Lowe
Nancy Lowe	Kay Michaels	Marcia Moore
Joe Perez	Gene Pierce	Laura Rothhaar
Family of Bob Sabo	Dale Stacey	Family of Nicholas Salaz
Nancy Stehulak	Gary Tyson	Ferguson, MO
Family of Michael Wenig		