

Prayers

Offering our prayers  
Personal and Corporate Prayer

Offering

Offering of our presence, gifts, service and witness  
Offertory and Doxology  
Prayer over the Offering

Now to you, Gracious God, we offer our gifts so that the hungry might be fed, the weak might be strengthened, the lost might find a home, the voiceless might find an advocate, and we might all celebrate the good news that has come to us in the birth of Jesus.

Blessing

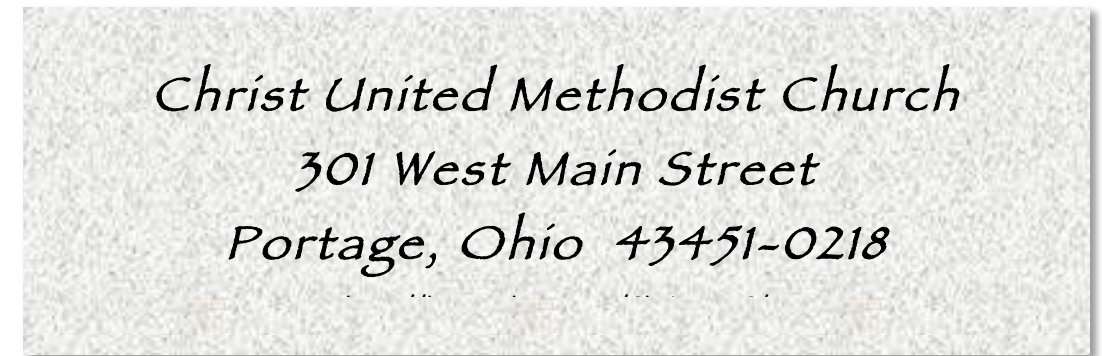
Do not be afraid! God is with you.  
**We will go to fill those who hunger for food as well as for hope.**  
Do not be afraid! Jesus is with you.  
**We will go to lift up the most vulnerable around us.**  
Do not be afraid! The Spirit is with you.  
**We will go to do great things for those who have so little.**

Hymn #246 Joy to The World

The Liturgy in part this morning was created by Thom M. Shuman(2014)

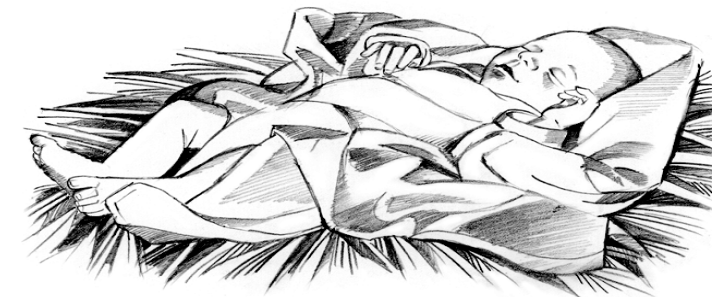


<http://home.dacor.net/ChristUMC/>



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

She will bear a son,  
and you are to name  
him Jesus, for he  
will save his people  
from their sins.



Matthew 1:21

**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 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

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

Advent is the time to prepare;

**Advent is the time to watch and wait;**

Advent is the time to open our hearts to God,

**Advent is the time for patience and perseverance**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Sandy Gill

**Reader 2** Let us pray, your love, O God, is great, and the risks you have taken were supreme.

**People** **Teach us the way of love, and help us to walk in it.**

**Reader 2** From the depths of your creating love, you made us male and female.

**People** **Teach us the way of love, and help us to walk in it.**

**Reader 2** In the goodness of your covenant, you created us a community of your love.

**People** **Teach us the way of love, and help us to walk in it.**

**Reader 2** In the fullness of time you sent us Jesus, a man of love that risked all for the sake of the world.

**People** **Teach us the way of love, and help us to walk in it.**

**Reader 2** In your resurrection power, you have revealed your love to all humanity.

**People** **Teach us the way of love, and help us to walk in it.**

**Reader 2** Help us, O God, to reveal your love as we discover anew the tremendous power of the Christmas story and meet again the Christ-child, born anew among us.

Time with the Children

Special Music We Three Kings (arr. By Bill Holcombe) K Himelhan – flute, K Bame- piano

Hearing the Sacred Text

Mark 10:13-16

Sandy Gill

Interpretation of the Sacred Text The good news turns everything Upside Down & Inside Out

*The Service of Lessons and Carols had its origin at Truro Cathedral (England) on Christmas Eve, 1880, when the Bishop of Truro, F.W. Benson, developed a service of scripture readings and supporting carols. Some 38 years later in 1918, this format was adapted for Christmas at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England. The BBC broadcast from King's College helped to popularize the Service of Lessons and Carols, which Cathedrals and small churches throughout the world quickly duplicated. The heart of the service continues to this day – that is, the retelling of the Christians' story of faith from the fall of Adam to the coming of the Word Incarnate.*

1st Lesson Genesis 3:1-19 (pg. 3)

Hymn #213 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (vs 1, 2, 3)

2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7 (pg. 607)

Hymn # 211 O, Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1, 2)

3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson Isaiah 11:1-9 (pg. 610)

Hymn#211 O, Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 4, 7)

4<sup>th</sup> Lesson Micah 5:2-4 (pg. 818)

Hymn#230 O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1, 2, 4)

5<sup>th</sup> Lesson Luke 2:1-7 (pg. 58)

Hymn#229 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

6<sup>th</sup> Lesson Luke 2:8-10 (pg. 58)

Hymn#238 Angels We Have Heard on High

7<sup>th</sup> Lesson John 1:1-14 (pg. 89)

Hymn#234 O, Come All Ye Faithful (vs. 1, 3, 4)

**(Continued on next page)**

**Announcements and Reminders**

- **TODAY**, after church service, there will be a short **PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING** for the following members: Kathy Bame, Richard Gill (chair), Doris Herringshaw, Alyce Roller, Nancy Shrider, and Richard Yeasting.
- **TODAY, join BREAD FOR THE WORLD** in urging our nation’s decision makers to reform U.S. food aid. Please send a personal letter or e-mail message to your members of Congress. Pamphlet information is in today’s bulletin.
- The Portage Lions Club continues to collect old reading and/or prescription **EYEGLASSES** 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.
- **SPECIAL HOLIDAY MUSIC** is being provided by two of our much talented church members, Karen Himelhan and Kathy Bame, during worship today THANK YOU!!
- **ON CHRISTMAS EVE there will be a SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** will be held at 9PM. Bring friends & family for a time of joy, peace and worship.
- **BANNER COMMITTEE** will meet January 4<sup>th</sup> after church to create our new masterpieces. Lunch will be provided.
- 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.
- **THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24, 25, 31 and January 1, 2015.**

**Stewardship of Time and Talents, December 14, 2014**

General .....	\$2,034.35	Parsonage .....	\$100.00
Hospitalization .....	\$60.00	Coffee/Outreach .....	\$13.00
Christmas Offering .....	\$220.00	Benevolences.....	\$5.00
Walk to Columbus.....	\$100.00	Building .....	\$20.00
Loose Plate.....	\$160.00	Food Pantry .....	\$100.00
Blankets .....	\$105.00	Outreach .....	\$60.00
Attendance: Worship –		Sunday school –	

**Schedule of Events**

Today, December 21, 2014 .....	9:00 a.m. ....	Worship
.....	10:00 a.m. ....	Sunday School
Monday, December 22, 2014 .....	9:00 a.m. ....	Sermon Shaping
.....	7:00 p.m. ....	Lion’s Club
Wednesday, December 24, 2014.....	12- 5 p.m.....	Deffenbaugh Christmas
.....	9:00 p.m. ....	Christmas Eve Service
Saturday, December 27, 2014 .....	10:00 a.m. ....	Food Pantry

**Participants in this morning’s Worship Service**

Pastor.....	Rev Bruce McDaniel	
Organist .....	Linda Allen	
Pianist .....	Kathy Bame	
Liturgist .....	Sandy Gill	
Greeters: East.....	Bruce and Deb Smith	
North .....	Tom and Alyce Roller	
Ushers .....	Connie and Don Mears	

**Prayer/Concerns Requests**

Jim Avery	Mary Briggs	Family of Nancy Bostdorff
Joe Colen	Family of Dennis Deters	Josh Earl
Dale Fry	Char Kelly	
Family of Tom & Char Horky	Brent Hoestetler	Karen Landries
Roy and Vicki Lanham	David Lowe	Nancy Lowe
Kay Michaels	Marcia Moore	Joe Perez
Laura Rothhaar	Family of Bob Sabo	Ralph Stacey
Family of Nicholas Salaz	Nancy Stehulak	Ferguson, MO
Family of Michael Wenig		