

Sharing the love of Jesus to transform lives, Cincinnati and the world.

ENTRANCE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are glad you have joined us today!

Sign and pass the friendship/attendance pad located in the pew rack.

*Please stand as you are able. Join together in reading/singing the bold type.

Hymnal - The United Methodist Hymnal

The following assistive devices are available: assistive listening devices integrated with the sanctuary sound system and large print hymnals and orders of worship.

Following worship, please join us in the Welcome Center for refreshments.

Liturgist - Brett Connelly Acolyte - Cara Coy

PRELUDE Triptych on "Helmsley": II. Berceuse Dr. Brenda Portman, organist

Brenda Portman

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of wonder, during this season of Advent open our eyes to see the fullness of Your glory. Help us to be still and know that You are God. Tune our ears to the song of the angels; bend our knees with the shepherds. Lead us once again to Bethlehem so that we, like the Wise Men, may celebrate Your coming. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In this season of expectation,

we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Anointed One.

Into the bustle of our lives and the hard-to-find moments of solitude,

we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Messiah.

Into our homes and situations along with friends and families,

we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Savior of the world.

Into our hearts, and those often hidden parts of our lives, we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

*HYMN Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymnal 203

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

In the beginning was the Word—spoken and breathed, a promise made and kept.

Speak it loud and clear—God's promise is true!

The Word was in the beginning, and through Him all things come into being.

Eternal and near at hand, already and not-yet, God's promise is the foundation of all life.

Do not hold back!

Speak out, giving voice to God's peace that passes all understanding.

-candles are lit-

Sung Response: (by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, used with permission)
The candle of peace shines bright with God's plan;

The wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb.

Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war,

Will give way to gardens that heal and restore.

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

ANTHEM Keeping Christmas

Natalie Sleeth

The Combined Joy Singers and Sunshine Singers Duet: Hannah McOwen and Rachel Nguyen Elizabeth Hickerson and Dana Calhoun, Directors

Let's keep Christmas the whole year through. Think of all the good we'd do: light the spirit of love anew so that all the world might see.

We'd be patient and kind and good; understand and be understood, treat each other the way we should so we'd live in charity.

Christmas is a time to care, full of love that we want to share; Christmas time is a time to give, it's a whole new way to live!

Let's bring Christmas to every heart; love and joy that will ne'er depart, each one wanting to have a part, what a difference there would be! Let's begin with you and me!

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:26-38 Pew Bible NT pp. 56 and 57 This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON Unwrapping Christmas: Let it Be

Rev. Dave Weaver

OFFERTORY A Maiden Most Gentle French tune, arr. Andrew Carter The Cathedral Choir, Neal Hamlin, conducting

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing of Mary the mother of Jesus our King. Ave Maria!

How blessed is the birth of her heavenly Child, who came to redeem us in Mary so mild. Ave Maria!

The Archangel Gabriel foretold by his call the Lord of creation, and Savior of all. Ave Maria!

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare, and marveled in awe at the Babe in her care. Ave Maria!

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray; sing praise to the Savior, sing endless "Ave." Ave Maria!

*THE PRESENTATION AND DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Hymnal 206

*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Triptych on "Helmsley": I. Fanfare

Brenda Portman

Childcare - Available for all 3 worship services

Infants - Room 120

Toddlers - (2 - 3 year olds) - Room 119

9:30AM - Preschool - Room 9:

November's Theme: "HAPPY HELPERS CLUB:

I am thankful for people who help me."

For ages 3-5 who are currently attending a weekday preschool. We sing, dance, play and do activities based on our weekly bible study. Preschoolers will love to participate in this fun Sunday School class!

9:30AM - Kindergarten - 6th Grade - Little Theater:

November's Theme: "JAM SESSION: Build a better beat!"

We start by gathering in one large community to praise God, learn scripture, and sing together. Kids will then break into smaller groups to dive into age appropriate discussion questions and activities. Your kids will not want to miss this fun filled Sunday morning experience!

9:30AM - 7th-12th Grade - 3rd Floor:

Theme: "SENT: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas"

God sent Jesus at Christmas. In turn, Jesus sends us into the world to be his hands and feet, head and heart. Youth will discover how, where, why we are sent as a way to prepare for Christmas and beyond.

*Will NOT meet 12/23, 12/30

11:00AM - Children's Choirs:

Children ages 3 yrs-8th grade begin 11:00am worship with their families in the Sanctuary. Following the Children's Moment the children are then invited and escorted to attend choir. Please pick up your child in their respective room.

Joy Singers (Age 3 – Grade 2) Elizabeth Hickerson - Director, Room 8

Sunshine Singers (Grades 3-8)

Dana Calhoun - Director, Choir Room 202

Youth Group:

Join us Sunday evenings in the Little Theater (2nd Floor) from 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m. for youth grades 7-12 to gather together for dinner, worship, teaching, small groups, and fun. In November and December, we are starting from the very beginning: The Old Testament. We will explore the ancestors of our faith by exposing the real, unpolished, and unexpected personalities that God uses to do extraordinary things. Youth will discover the similarities between themselves and the unlikely people God selected.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Library **FaithWeavers Room 205** Parents with Small Children **Parlor** 11:00 am **New Ventures** Parlor **Soul Builders Room 205**

Invitation to Pray:

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Sympathy: To Barbara McDonald and family in the death of David on November 30, 2018. To the family of Joan Melvin who died on November 25, 2018; Memorial Service on December 14th at 2:00 pm at Lusain Funeral Home.

To Bev Tharp and her family in the death of her father, Kenneth Blair, on November 28, 2018.

Hospitalization: Mary Meisch at Jewish Mercy Hospital.

Discharged: Odie Kordons from Jewish Mercy Hospital. Carol Cohn from Good Samaritan Hospital to Marjorie P. Lee for rehab.

Men & Women in the Military: We are praying for all men and women serving in the military.

Next Sunday, December 16:

"Unwrapping Christmas," our Advent sermon series continues. Join us next Sunday as Rev. Dr. Cathy Johns offers the message "The Long and Winding Road," based on Luke 2: 1-5. Invite a friend during this holy season to join you as your guest in worship.

Hyde Park Community Worship:

Sundays 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am, Sanctuary

Traditional Worship: 8:00 and 9:30 am

Worship @ 11: 11:00 am

View live worship, 9:30 am & 11:00 am online. In addition, recordings of the sermons are updated weekly on our website in both video and audio formats.

Over the Rhine Community Church Worship:

Sundays 10:30 am, Sanctuary

Holy Communion:

Hyde Park Community

1st Sunday of the month

All Services (8:00, 9:30 &11:00 am)

All other Sundays

9:00 am, Grace Chapel

Over-the-Rhine Community

Every Sunday, 10:30 am, Sanctuary



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