

Glorify God, grow disciples, and meet the needs of our neighbors.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Mark Hayes

Katia Dinas

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be his glorious name forever: may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and amen. Psalm 72:18-19

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Kathleen Ferguson & Anne Kirchmeyer; Lighters & Readers

Readers: A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

People: His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

(Lighting of the first and second candle)

Readers: Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and fatten together, and a little child shall lead them.

**People: On that day the root of Jess shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.**

◇ OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

GTG 82

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION

Anne Kirchmeyer, Lay Liturgist

God's vision of justice and peace is not only for us, but also for those around us.

While others need to be cleansed and forgiven, so too, do we. Let us seek to live as if, indeed,
the kingdom is coming near, as we offer our confession to the One who calls us to Advent living.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Goodness Incarnate, we confess we have not lived as your children. We muddy the clear waters of baptism with the debris of walking over those we claim to love. We can find ourselves sitting in loneliness feasting on bitterness. We wait for all our desires to be taken care of by you, while you hope we would fill the lives of others with your grace and hope. Forgive us, O Living God, and empower us to be as willing to draw near to others, so that we might heal their brokenness, touch their loneliness, embrace their grief, and love them as you did when you came to us so long ago, as well as in these moments in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new!

In the power of the Spirit, we will welcome others with open arms, just as we have been embraced in God's love and joy.

◇ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GTG 582

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM

Long Ago (In the Bleak Midwinter)

Gustavo Holst, Arr. Jacob Narverud

Long ago, long ago...In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,

Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone...Long ago, long ago...

Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, long, long ago.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there. Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
Long ago, long ago...But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wiseman,
I would do my part. Yet what can I give him, Give him my heart? Give him my heart.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Matthew 3:1-12

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-13

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie

"A Welcoming Hope"

RESPONDING

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed, *Traditional*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

◆ HYMN OF MEDITATION

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

GTG 129

ES IST EIN' ROS'

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord,**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In those days when chaos reigned, . . . together with one voice, we glorify you:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

In your holiness, God who approaches, . . .

. . . we sing of that mystery which comes as faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Now in these days, . . . we will sing and glorify you forever, God in Community, Holy in One. **Amen.**

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All believers of Jesus Christ, young and old, are invited to receive.
Please wait and we will eat and drink together.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

OFFERING

Offertory

The Love of God

Mark Hayes

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

GTG 606

**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

**O Caring God, may your Spirit of generosity fill us, flow through us, and surround us so
that our giving would flow forth in a baptism of hope, grace, healing, and peace to all
around us, as well as those we may never meet, through Christ. Amen.**

SENDING

◆ HYMN OF DEDICATION

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GTG 136

GO TELL IT

◆ CHARGE & BENEDICTION

We will glorify God, grow disciples, and meet the needs of our neighbors.

◆ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (refrain only)

VENI EMMANUEL

◆ Stand as you are able

GTG-Glory to God Hymnal

Online giving is now available. Just scan the QR Code to the right with your smart phone or go to our website and click the "Give Now" button. www.FaithUnited-pc.com You will have the option to set up your giving profile. This will make it easy to login anytime you are ready to give, even designated giving like Special Offerings, Building Repairs or the Garage Fund.

You can also select to donate the 2% fee so Faith United does not incur it.



PRAYER LIST

Dale Durcholz, Dennis Van Deventer, George & Mozelle Mills,
Greg Kaut (George & Moselle's son-in-law), David Duell

Homebound or Recovering: Charley Rae Furrh (Terri Russell's cousin)

LIVING IN HOPE

Pastor Ken will be offering a new midweek video devotional series throughout Advent based on the Advent readings from Isaiah, beginning November 30. Isaiah's messianic prophecies offer a lasting hope as we journey through these chaotic and uncertain days. This hope is based not in our ability to master our days and times, but in God who finds what is lost. This hope empowers us to wait for the God who is God in faithfulness. Each Wednesday during Advent a new episode will be posted on the church's Facebook page and YouTube channel. Invite your friends and neighbors to check out this new series!



Poinsettias 2022

(Please notify church office if names or dedications are incorrect)



Given by

Lorna Acker

Brenda Burkham

Gail Crumpler

Frank Fehmel

Kathleen Ferguson (2)

Jeanne Haben (2)

Joe & Amy Hinkle

Anne Kirchmeyer

Courtland & Rich Lewis

Sharon Meurer

Kevin, Katie, & Nathan Miller

David Pierce

Richard & Diane Royer

Geraldine Shotswell

David & Patti Sloey

Nancy Smith

Dedication

1) In loving memory of Charlie Acker

2) In loving memory of Don Acker

1) In memory of Lynn Echols

2) In memory of Jeff Wallace

In remembrance of my cousin, Barbara

1) Jennifer Fehmel

2) Kathie Jo Babisak Fehmel

3) Grandparents

All Glory to God

In memory of Paul Haben

1) In memory of Bob Hinkle

2) In memory of Jenny and Jerry Rutland

3) In memory of David Rutland

1) In memory of parents, Jessamine & Henry Scheele IV

2) In memory of grandfather, Henry Scheele III

1) In memory of our parents

2) In honor of our grandchildren

1) In memory of John Marxer

2) In memory of David Youngstrum

3) In memory of Jack Walden

1) In memory of Doc & Nina Mecum

2) In memory of Carole Miller

1) In memory of John Marxer

2) In memory of Jane Louise McGee

3) In memory of Bob Hinkle

In memory of Kenny Royer

1) In remembrance of all my family members

2) Remembering my Faith United family

In loving memory of Harvey & Marian Garoutte

To the Glory of God

Brighten a child's holiday.

TOY DRIVE

Each donated toy gives hope to a child of opening up at least one gift this holiday season.

Help by donating new unwrapped toys for children ages 1-18. Collect toys based on what you think a child or teenager would like or refer to our Most-Needed Toy list below.



Metrocrest Santa Store 2022!

Bring your New unwrapped gifts and put them in the designated location at the church.

If you cannot participate this way, call the church office for assistance. We will deliver the gifts to the Store on or shortly after Monday, 12/12.

Thank you for your donations!



MOST-NEEDED TOY ITEMS

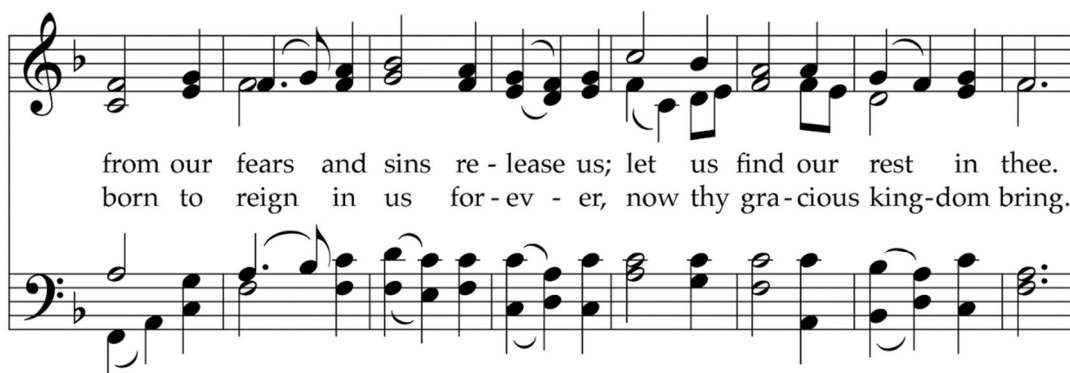
Sports & college apparel
Electronics, video & board games
Gym bags & sports equipment
Wallets, jewelry, & watches
Leggos
Hair dryer, flat & curling irons
Nail & cosmetic sets
Perfume/cologne sets (AXE sets)
Wal-Mart & Amazon gift cards
Disney themed items
Marvel themed items

OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;




dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.


With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

HYMN of MEDITATION


Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129




1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;
3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,



of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.
with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.
dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where.



It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of
To show God's love a - right she bore for us a
En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he




win - ter, when half spent was the night.
Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.
saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

HYMN of DEDICATION

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

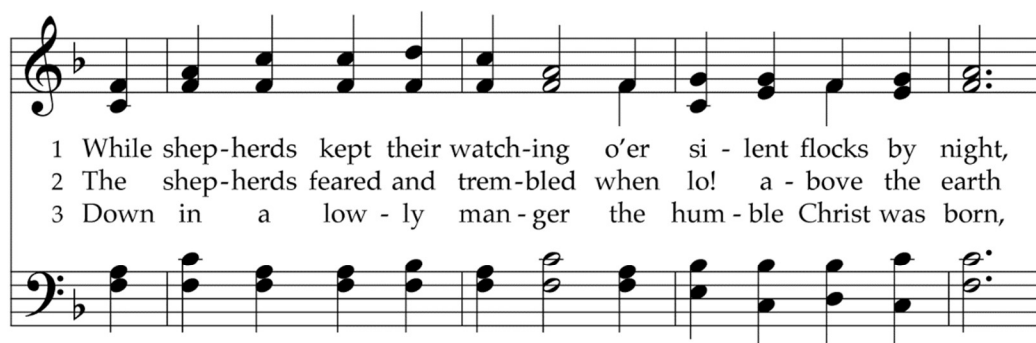
Refrain 



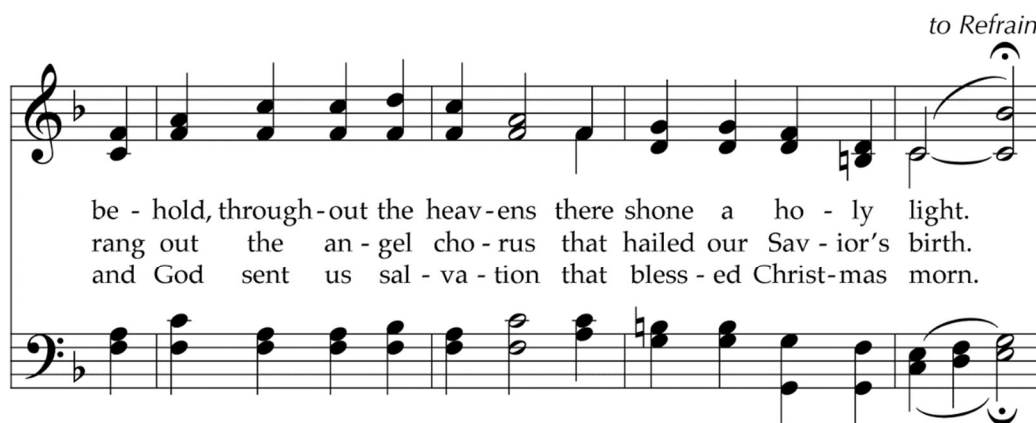
Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

FUPC Choir and Music leadership

David Pierce, Director of Music

Katia Dinas, Pianist

Soprano

Marissa Guerrero
Lois Norton
Barbara Ritchie
Gerry Shotswell
Katelyn Spivey

Alto

Patti Sloey
Jessica Stottlemeyer
Renee Wensley

Tenor

Houston Burns
Kyle Feather
Jeremy Rohwer

Bass

Hawkins Burns
Rich Lewis
Zachary Rohwer

The Session

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie, Moderator of Session
Rich Lewis, Treasurer

Class of 2022

*Kathleen Ferguson, W&M
*Debbie Menefee, CL
*Katie Miller, CE
*Tracy Tiemann, B&G

Class of 2023

*Courtland Lewis, O&E
*Patti Sloey, Finance
Brenda Burkham, CL

Class of 2024

Kurt Booth, O&E
Frank Fehmel, Finance
Terrie Russell, CE
Nancy Smith, W&M



* denotes Committee Chair

CHOSEN TO SERVE

Disciples: The People of Faith United

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie,
Ken@FaithUnited-pc.com

Business Manager: Brenda Swindle,
Brenda@FaithUnited-pc.com

Director of Music: David Pierce

Pianist: Katia Dinas



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