



DECEMBER 5, 2021 10:30 A.M.  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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**(Optional) Tune to 96.1 FM for the service**

The service can also be listened to on any radio on church property.  
For those that wish to stay in your cars for the service, you can listen to  
the station listed above.

PRELUDE

CARRYING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD

GATHERING HYMN\* *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vs. 1 & 2)*  
No. 124

GREETINGS, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Welcome to Beaver UCC!*

*If you are new or would like more information, please fill out a  
welcome card, located in the holder on the back of each pew,  
and place it in the offering plate.*

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE (See Insert)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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\*All who are comfortable, please stand.

**BEAVER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Organized 1809      www.beaverucc.org      937-426-5602  
1960 Dayton-Xenia Road, Beaver Creek, Ohio 45434

Rev. Brian Eastman, Pastor

Pastor's Phone: 937-469-1383      pastorbrian@beaverucc.org

Office Hours: Tues. 1-6 p.m.  
Wed 10 a.m. -12 p.m. & 5-7 p.m.  
Thu 10 a.m. -12 p.m.  
Other times available by appointment

Choir Director: Karen Barger      Organist: Alex Ignatiou  
Children's Sunday School: 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Teacher: Brittany King  
Young Learners: K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Teacher: Sarah Hogan  
Nursery: Infant – Pre-K Teacher: Hayden Rauls

- Handicapped restrooms are on the main and lower levels.
- Hearing assistance device is available at the sound system control table.
- Nursery Child Care is available for infant to kindergarten and those children that parents feel would be best in the Nursery. Due to the pandemic, the Nursery will be held in the Fellowship Hall and outdoors when weather permits. There will be two vaccinated teachers at all times.

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Lay Reader: Stuart Wells

Today's altar flowers are donated by the Tobias family in honor of their 56th anniversary.

†Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession provided by the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways publication

December 12, 2021

Scripture: Zephaniah 3:14-20 & Luke 3:7-18

#### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>†</sup>

Leader: The Reign of God is drawing near:

**People: The prophet calls us to change our lives!**

Leader: Prepare the way for the Lord:

**People: A just and peaceful path!**

Leader: Welcome one another, for Christ welcomes you:

**All: For the glory of God!**

#### INVOCATION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>†</sup>

**All: Oh God, you call us to turn our lives around, and work with patience and diligence to prepare the way for your Reign, but we get discouraged and give up too soon. Lord, Have mercy. Oh God, you call us to collaborate in community to prepare the way your Reign, but we neither trust nor honor the gifts of others. Christ, have mercy. Oh God, you call us to be full of joyful confidence to prepare the way for your Reign, but we burden ourselves with anxiety and fear. Lord, have mercy.**

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS<sup>†</sup>

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus, savior from sin, is present with us in the painstaking work of the Reign of God forgiving our weakness, rebuilding our relationships, restoring our joy.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

Karen Barger & Alex Ignatiou

#### TIME OF PRAYER (You may remain seated)

Joys and Concerns

**All: Dear Lord, hear our prayers.**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

Organ Response

OFFERING OF GIFTS & SELVES TO GOD

Offertory

**Presentation of Gifts\***

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen*

Prayer of Blessing

SPECIAL MUSIC

Alex Ignatiou

LESSONS

Malachi 3:1-4

OT pg. 1040

Luke 3:1-6

NT pg. 81

SERMON

“Refined”

PARTING SONG\*

*Lord of Life*

**Lord of Life, Lord of Love, walk forever beside us.  
Day by day show the way, be Thou our vision to guide us.  
Striving to follow Thy noble plan, nothing can divide us. Lord  
of Life, Lord of Love, walk forever beside us.**

BENEDICTION, POSTLUDE, & CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**December Meetings:**

**Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, Consistory via Zoom, 7:00pm**

Today;

**Hanging the Greens, 11:30 am**

We will meet after church on December 5<sup>th</sup> and decorate the church for Christmas. Please stay to help.

Sun., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>;

**Children’s Clothes and Toy Drive**

We are collecting new, unwrapped, toys and children’s clothing for our sister church in Cincinnati, Washington UCC. We will collect toys and clothes until December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Sun., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>;

**Bell Choir Cantata, 10:30 am**

Sunday December 12th will be the first performance of our new bell choir. They will be performing a bell cantata for the congregation. Please join us as we hear beautiful music to inspire us for the Christmas season.

Sun., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>;

**Christmas Fund Offering, 10:30 am**

We will take up our final special denominational offering for the Christmas Fund.

Wed., Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>;

**Service of Remembrance, 7:00 pm**

This year we will again be holding a special service to honor those who will not be with us this holiday season. The service will take place on Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM.

Fri., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>;

**Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 pm**

Please join us for our traditional Christmas Eve service at 7:00 pm. Pastor Brian will offer a Christmas message, and we will sing your favorite traditional Christmas hymns. We will end with Silent Night by candlelight.