



DECEMBER 1, 2024 10:30 A.M.
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Optional) Tune to 96.1 FM for the service

The service can also be listened to on any radio on church property.

PRELUDE

CARRYING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD

INTROIT *Emmanuel* No. 134

GATHERING HYMN* *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* No. 123

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 FIRST ADVENT CANDLE (SEE INSERT)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*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: Donna Larsen

Children's Sunday School Teachers:

Brittany King, Sarah Hogan, Hayden Rauls

- Handicapped restrooms are on the main and lower levels.
- Hearing assistance devices are available on the blue table near the altar by the back entrance.
- Children's Sunday School is available year-round during the service for children who are toddler age through 5th grade. Children depart to go to Sunday School after the Children's Moment.

Lay Reader: Carolyn Conner

Fellowship Meal: 1st Sunday Carry-in

Today's altar flowers are given by the Severtson family in honor of Ashley & Austin's birthdays.

- All are invited to enjoy lunch and conversation in the downstairs Fellowship room following the service. Donations of snacks are always welcome. Lunch is provided by volunteers with the help of your donations. The first Sunday of the month is always a church potluck.
- Please consider donating new non-perishable food items to our outdoor food pantry, the food pantry shelf downstairs, or the collection box in the comfort room.
- Card Ministry: Please sign the cards on the table at the front of the sanctuary. Let Shirley or Gretchen know about those with physical or emotional needs who would appreciate a card. Your prayers for these people are much appreciated.
- Church Email List: If you would like to receive updates about church events and worship, please give your email address to Pastor Brian and he will add you to the church email list.
- Cold & Flu Season: It is that time of the year when Covid, Flu, and RSV infections increase. There are new vaccines for each of these viruses now available. If you are sick, please consider watching online until you feel better as we have some members who are more vulnerable to illness.

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

December 8th, 2024
 Malachi 3:1-4 and Luke 3:1-6
 Fellowship Meal: TBD
 Lay Reader: Patti King

CALL TO WORSHIP[†]

Leader: In Advent we watch and wait, and prepare to welcome the Christ Child into the world.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: In Advent we prepare for a life of discipleship, and watch faithfully for signs of God's light breaking into the world.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: As we wait, dear One, we watch for signs of your action in the world, actions of compassion and grace breaking in.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Leader: Holy God, we recognize that we do not know the day or the hour, but we know that the day is near.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come! Be born anew in our world and in our lives.

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION[†]

All: Holy and Loving God, we give thanks for the promise of this sacred season and for the joy we find in the Christ Child. Yet even as we rejoice, we recognize that we often fail to live with the hope of redemption. In this season of anticipation, we know that we are easily distracted by our own projects and preparation. We lose focus on the one who is the Source of our joy. Forgive us, God, and restore our hope in you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS[†]

Leader: The promise of the season of Advent is the promise of Emmanuel, God with us. Jesus calls us to keep awake so that we are ready for God's arrival. Therefore, let us lay aside all those things that distract us from faithful watching for God. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: Thanks be to God!

TIME OF PRAYER (You may remain seated)
Call to Prayer Hymn *The Advent of Our God* No. 120
Joys and Concerns
 All: Dear Lord, hear our prayers.
Silent Prayer
Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)
Choral Response *A Nativity Prayer* No. 126

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

BELL CHOIR *In the Bleak Midwinter
Love Has Come*

LESSONS Jeremiah 33:14-16 OT pg. 860
 Luke 21:25-36 NT pg. 115

SERMON "Promise"

COMMUNION

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:
None**

Ongoing;

Military Card Program

We have been continuing our military card ministry. We are asking those who are interested to fill out a card.

Today;

Washington UCC Fund Drive

Today is the final day to help Washington UCC's Christmas program assisting around 100 families. You can write a check or give cash to Beaver Church. Please write Washington UCC on the check memo line or envelope.

Wed. Dec. 4th;

Book Study: Reconnected, 7:00 pm

Our book study is continuing on Wednesday nights at 7PM through December 11th. This is a hybrid book study, we will meet in person in the fellowship hall, and there will a connected Zoom session. The Zoom link will be sent out via email. Dec. 4th – Ch. 11-15; Dec. 11th – Ch. 16-20

Sun., Dec. 8th;

Hanging the Greens, 12:15 pm

We will meet after lunch on December 8th and decorate the church for Christmas. Please stay to help.

Sun. Dec. 15th;

Christmas Coat and Scarf Drive

This year we will be collecting new coats, scarves, hats, and gloves for women and children to give to St. Vincent DePaul in Dayton to provide to people being provided care at their Gateway shelter for women and families. We will be collecting the items through Sunday December 15th and you can place these items in the cry/comfort room by the entrance to the sanctuary. St. Vincent DePaul's Gateway shelter for women and families, provides care for over 200 women and children at a time.