



DECEMBER 8, 2024 10:30 A.M.
SECOND 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* *I Wonder as I Wander* No. 139

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

*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: Patti King

Fellowship Meal: Kristine Petrick

Today's altar flowers are given by Karen Barger, in honor of the bell and vocal choirs.

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: 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[†]

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.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS[†]

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: Thanks be to God!

TIME OF PRAYER (You may remain seated)

Call to Prayer Hymn	<i>What Can I Give Him?</i>	No. 154
Joys and Concerns		
All: Dear Lord, hear our prayers.		
Silent Prayer		
Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)		
Choral Response	<i>A Nativity Prayer</i>	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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Greensleeves* R. Vaughan Williams
Performed by Donna Larsen & Karen Barger

LESSONS Malachi 3:1-4 OT pg. 1040
 Luke 3:1-6 NT pg. 81

SERMON "Prepare"

CLOSING HYMN *Go Tell It on the Mountain* No. 138

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; **Hanging the Greens, 12:15 pm**

We will meet after lunch today and decorate the church for Christmas. Please stay to help.

Today; **Ornament Party, 5:00 pm**

The Nelson's have invited the church to their annual ornament party. Please bring an ornament for the ornament "trade". Their address is 4207 Country Glen Cir., Beaver Creek, 45432. Please let them know you are coming as well.

Wed. Dec. 11th; **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 be 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. 15th.; **Christmas Coat and Scarf Drive**

This year we will be collecting new coats, scarves, hats, and gloves for women and children through December 15th to give to St. Vincent DePaul in Dayton to provide to people being provided care at their Gateway shelter for women and families.

Sun., Dec. 15th; **Christmas Program / Hors d'oeuvres Carry-In**

Next Sunday, we will have our Christmas Program from the choir and bell choir during the service. After the service we will have an hors d'oeuvres carry-in. We are asking that people bring plates of small appetizers to share.

Wed., Dec. 18th; **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 18th at 7:00 PM.