



DECEMBER 15, 2024 10:30 A.M.

THIRD 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* *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* 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 THIRD 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: None

Fellowship Meal: Hors d'oeuvres Carry-In

Today's altar flowers are given by Pat & Doug Goudy.

- 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 22nd, 2024
 Fellowship Meal: Alan & Shirley Nelson
 Lay Reader: None

CALL TO WORSHIP†

Leader: The joy of the season is almost upon us.
People: We have come to praise the Lord!
 Leader: We are here to sing praises to God, the Holy One in whom we place our trust.
People: God opens our eyes and lifts us up.
 Leader: Let us praise God
All: who reigns forever.

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION†

All: We confess, O God, that we, so easily, have given into the expectations of people and situations around us. We allowed the times of quiet we promised for you to slip away. Forgive us in our distractions; help us renew our preparations for your coming. We look forward to your promise to change things - to bring life, and strength and courage to us: eyes to see, ears to hear, and tongues to speak your word.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS†

Leader: We come to you confessing what is on our hearts and minds. We do so trusting that you want to hear our petitions and that you have already forgiven what needs to be forgiven. We believe that our prayers will be answered in your time and almighty wisdom.
All: Thanks be to God!

TIME OF PRAYER (You may remain seated)

Joys and Concerns
All: Dear Lord, hear our prayers.

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

Choral Response *A Nativity Prayer*

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

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Story That Never Grows Old

Bells: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Choir: *O Come, Emmanuel*

Bells: *Away In a Manger*

Choir: *The Story That Never Grows Old, Soloist Ellie Rauls*

Bells: *The First Noel*

Choir: *The Good, Good News*

Bells: *We Three Kings*

Choir: *Cherish That Name, Soloist Bill Barger*

Bells: *Carol of the Bells*

Choir: *Carol Medley*

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; **Christmas Coat and Scarf Drive**

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

Today; **Christmas Program / Hors d'oeuvres Carry-In**

Today, 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.

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.

Sun., Dec. 22nd; **Impromptu Christmas Pageant, 10:30 am**

Please join us for our Impromptu Christmas Pageant on Sunday December 22nd. We will hand out parts, and there will be costumes available for anyone who wants them. It will be a bunch of fun.

Tue., Dec. 24th; **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.

Sun., Dec. 29th; **Question Sunday, 10:30 am**

Sunday December 29th will be a Question Sunday. Church members will be asked to write down questions at the beginning of the service or submit them via Facebook.