
HEIDELBERG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
251 PERKIOMEN AVENUE, SCHWENKSVILLE, PA 19473
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SERVICE CONDUCTED ON FACEBOOK LIVE & IN-PERSON WORSHIP
NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Today's Thought:

"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down." ~ Pope Francis

Centering Words:

Wake up! God is near. Wake up! God is here.

** = Stand in Body or Spirit*

GATHERING TOGETHER

Ringing the Bell

10:30am

Welcome

Pastor Adrian

Prelude

"Celtic Advent Carol"

Pat Clemens

Flautist: Amanda Schlick

Call to Worship

Pastor Adrian

L: Advent is ...

P: A pilgrimage of the soul,

L: A child's delight,

P: A journey to our own Bethlehem where something new waits to be born.

L: Advent is ...

P: Responding to a deep yearning,

L: Going on a quest,

P: Following a star to a place of wonder and joy.

L: Advent is ...

P: Bright lights and Christmas trees,

L: Watching and anticipating,

P: Waiting for a baby's cry, the angels' song and the whole world rejoicing.

L: Come, let us begin our Advent journey.

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Adrian

* Opening Hymn

"We Hail You God's Anointed"

(Sung to "I Sing the Mighty Power of God")

We hail you God's anointed, the long awaited One! Hail in the time appointed, your reign on earth begun! You come to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth; and joy and hope, like flowers, spring in your path to birth. Before you on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go, and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

The wise shall bow before you and gold and incense bring; all nations shall adore you, and praise all peoples sing; To you shall prayer unceasing and daily vows be said, your realm is still increasing, with you, O Christ, as head.

O'er every foe victorious, you on your throne shall rest; from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blessed. The tide of time shall never your covenant remove; your name shall stand forever, your changeless name of Love.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE WREATH

The Candle of Hope

The Beideman Family

* Candle Response

"While We Are Waiting, Come"

While we are waiting come; while we are waiting come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

* Call to Confession

Pastor Adrian

A new year begins in the church, we seek to leave behind our past unfaithfulness. We remember our doubts and neglect, the empty times when prayer is forgotten and our focus is narrowed to petty concerns. God is waiting to hear from us. Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another ...

* Prayer of Confession – Silent Prayer

God of blessing and love, when the time was right you sent your Son to the world. Teach us the art of patience and give us an understanding of your wisdom. Forgive us for making this holy season of anticipation a whirlwind of lists and activities, a flood of joyless obligations and heartless generosity. Forgive our rush as we forgive those who rush past us. Lead us not into anxiety, but deliver us from pretense. For your kingdom is coming with the power of love and the glory of angelic carols, now and forever, heralded in the birth of the Christ. Holy Child, loving Savior, come. Amen. [Silent Prayer]

* Words of Assurance

In God's love, we find rest. In Christ's grace, we receive forgiveness. In the Spirit's presence, we know peace. Hear and believe the good news of the gospel: In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Carol of Praise

"Joy to the World" (Verses: 2,3)

#134

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: let earth her songs employ; let fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Christ rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Children's Chat

"Advent"

Pastor Adrian

Special Music

"Thank You Lord For Everything"

Duet – Lyla & Zoey Hapenovich

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Lessons (NRSV)

Liturgist

Isaiah 2:1-5

Pew Bible pg#550

Romans 13:8-14

Pew Bible pg#923

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Lesson (NRSV)
Matthew 24:36-44

Pastor Adrian
Pew Bible pg#806

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Sermon

"Come, Lord Jesus, Come"

Rev. Adrian Tierson

Carol

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1,2,4)

#114

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

SHARING FAITH & LIFE

Joys, Concerns & Announcements

Pastor Adrian

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Adrian

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.

Anthem

"An Invitation for Advent"

Chancel Vocal Choir

Call to Offering

Pastor Adrian

We are the work of God's hands, the psalmist says, and God continues to shape us each day into a people of goodness and peace. That is why we bring gifts this morning: to be part of creating a more beautiful world through the ministry of this church and the witness of our lives each day. Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

* Doxology (*Advent Lyrics*)

All praise, eternal Christ, to thee, Whose Advent sets thy people free; Once more upon thy people shine, and fill the world with love divine. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

God of hope, we come today bringing our gifts, and dedicating them to your service. Bless these gifts and use them to serve the needs of the many who need to know your presence. We bring them with joy in our hearts, and songs of hope and praise on our lips. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD

* Closing Carol

"People, Look East"

#116

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

* Benediction

Pastor Adrian

* Final Response

"First Song of Isaiah"

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense and he will be my Savior.

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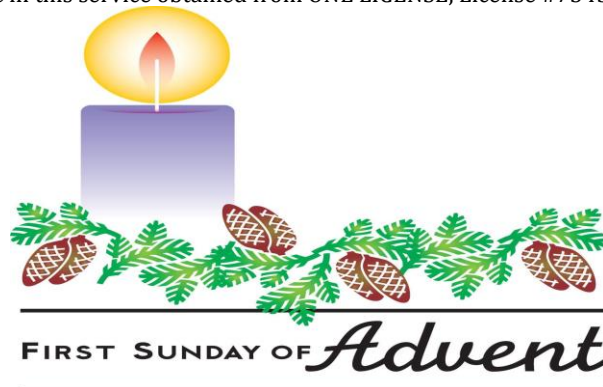
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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 A.M to 12:00 P.M.

All other times by appointment

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
Arrangements	Warren Doerner	Warren Doerner
Head Usher	Barry Pitkoff	Ron Sivick
Acolyte	Rose Waldron	Sullivan Schock
Liturgist	Don Richards	Alicia Alvarez
Greeters	Jim & Jocelyn Beideman	Alberta Lynch
Technology	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert
	John/Kaelin Godfrey	John/Kaelin Godfrey
Nursery Care	Stephanie Hapenovich	Pam Waldron

Welcome to Heidelberg! Whatever your past, whatever your religious background, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome. Join us for a spiritual journey where God is still speaking. Enter as a guest, depart as a friend.

Today – The First Sunday in the season of Advent.

Next Sunday – We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite our virtual worshipping community to have elements of bread and juice prepared so as to join us at the Lord's table.

Christmas Eve Services – We look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ with you! We will offer two services this year: 4:30pm and 11:00pm. Both services will be candlelight. The 11pm service will be live streamed.

Christmas Day Service – There will be a 10:30am Christmas Day service with Carols and Communion.

Christmas Gift Card Donations – Do you know a family or individual in our community that could use an extra Christmas blessing this year? Please let Pastor Adrian know. We are collecting gift cards to be distributed among the families or individuals with a need. Cards to Target, Giant, WaWa, Walmart, Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, etc. would be some good ideas. If you can make a donation, please have it to the church office by **Sunday, December 15th**. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Sunday School – Youth Sunday School Classes will be held every other Sunday following the Children's Chat portion of worship. Classes will be held again next Sunday, December 4th and 18th.

Nursery Care – The Nursery will be staffed every Sunday during the program year.

Confirmation – The next class will be Sunday, December 11th 9:30-10:15am.

Advent Devotionals – Family Devotionals AND Individual Devotionals are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. One per family, please.

Christmas Pageant – This year the pageant will be performed during morning worship on Sunday, December 18th. Don't miss the presentation of "The Not-So-Silent Night"

Bulletin Cover – Today's bulletin cover was created by our own Jonah Godfrey. Thank you, Jonah!

Did You Know? – Individual Hearing Aid Devices are available from the head usher.

Did You Know? – Large Print Bulletins are available in the Narthex.

Ladies Lunch – Lunches are held on the 2nd Mondays of the month. The next lunch will be held Monday, December 12th at 12noon. See Diane McFarland to make your reservation.

Chancel Vocal Choir – Would you like to join the chancel vocal choir this fall? Rehearsals have resumed on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm. See Pat Clemens for more details.

Weekday Bible Study – Thursday's at 12:30pm. Drinks will be provided, and you are welcome to bring a bagged lunch or a snack along with you.

The Board of Christian Ed – is collecting fuzzy non-slip grip socks as gifts for the residents at Greenfield Senior Living. If purchasing through your Amazon Smile account, please Search on Amazon for “Fuzzy socks with non-slip grip for men” and “Fuzzy socks non-slip grip for women.” These non-slip grip socks are requested for safety purposes. A collection box is in the Narthex.

Christmas Caroling – On **Sunday, December 18th**, following worship at 12 noon, the BOCE is inviting you to join them in visiting the seniors at Greenfield Assisted Living, singing Christmas carols and delivering the fuzzy sock gifts. A pizza lunch will be offered at the church after singing for anyone who would like to stay. Please save the date and sign-up to join us for this festive occasion A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex. Masks are required and temperatures will be taken at the door.

Christmas Toy Drive for Daily Bread Community Food Pantry – You can place your donations in the blue bin in our Narthex no later than **December 18th**. Let's help bring Christmas joy to many homes in our area! See Eleanor Risell with any questions.

Yoga - Alicia Alvarez will be offering a yoga class for you and your friends on the third Monday of the month. The first class will be Monday, December 19th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. Please bring your own mat!

Growing in Faith Together – Our second G.I.F.T event will be **Sunday, December 11th** immediately following worship. Heidelberg is adopting 7 families from the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry to provide Christmas dinners. We are in need of the following items for each family: \$25 gift cards so they can purchase a turkey or meat of their choice, 5 lbs. of potatoes, 2 vegetables, rolls, sweet potatoes, pie, butter and coffee. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board near the glass doors. All items should be brought to church on or before **Sunday, December 11th**. If you would like to help deliver the meals, please let us know. Thank you so very much! See Anne Ryan or Alicia Alvarez for additional information.

Poinsettias and Memorial Fund - Poinsettias used to beautify our sanctuary on Christmas Eve are available for purchase this year for \$7.00 each. Order blanks for both poinsettias and the Memorial Fund are available on the windowsills of the sanctuary or you may contact Rhea Levy-Fry at 610-287-7889. The last day to order a poinsettia is Sunday, December 18th.

Looking for Help – to hand out toys at the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry in the month of December – Wednesday morning, Thursday night, or Saturday morning. Helpers must be over 18 years old. Please contact Lynda Ayres at 610-489-7603.

Online Donations – If you would like to make a one-time or recurring donation to the ministry of Heidelberg UCC, we have a new and simple way to do that by credit/debit card or by connecting your PayPal account right through Facebook. Just click the "Donate" button at the top right of our Facebook Page and follow the very easy steps. Thank you for your support and generosity.

AmazonSmile –AmazonSmile is very simple to use—all you need is an Amazon account. On your first visit to the site, you will be asked to log in to your Amazon account with an existing username and password (you do not need a separate account for AmazonSmile). You will then be prompted to choose a charity to support. During future visits to the site, AmazonSmile will remember your charity and apply eligible purchases towards your total contribution—it is that easy. You can find an easy link on our website (www.hucc.net) homepage (lower right column). Click, shop and support!

Raise Right – You can purchase gift cards from your favorite brands to use for your daily purchases and it supports our church and ministry. See Eleanor Risell for more information or to make your purchases.

Prayer Requests – please e-mail the church office with any prayer concerns and we will keep our prayer list updated.