
HEIDELBERG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
251 PERKIOMEN AVENUE, SCHWENKSVILLE, PA 19473
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SERVICE CONDUCTED ON FACEBOOK LIVE & IN-PERSON WORSHIP
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Today's Thought:

"Advent. The coming of quiet joy. Arrival of radiant light in our darkness." ~ Anonymous

Centering Words:

Advent is a time of waiting, a time to open our hearts to God's presence, a time to pay attention to God's call. God's love breaks in over and over again. Be awake, for God is near.

** = Stand in Body or Spirit*

GATHERING TOGETHER

Ringing the Bell

10:30am

Welcome

Pastor Adrian

Prelude

"On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry"

Pat Clemens

Call to Worship

L: Come, joy,

P: Lighten our spirits.

L: Come, hope,

P: Lift us from despair.

L: Come, peace,

P: Ease our frantic worry.

L: Come, love,

P: Shine in all we do.

L: Come, Jesus,

P: Be born in us.

L: Come, Lord,

P: Set us free.

L: Come, God,

P: Rule in our hearts and teach us to sing with joy!

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Adrian

* Opening Hymn

"We Hail You God's Anointed"

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 Advent Candle - The Candle of Hope

Waldron Family

Candle Response

"Little Bethlehem of Judah"

Little Bethlehem of Judah, what good news you bear! Out of you will come the Ancient One as heir.

Though your people suffer trouble, waiting for the child, soon all strife and hatred shall be reconciled.

Long awaited comes the Shepherd who will rule the earth; God made low has come to serve in human birth.

* 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

Save us, O God. Save us from indifference and impatience. Save us from the distractions of life. Enter our lives and restore the goodness you have planted within. By your saving love, draw us into lives of healing and hope. Heal our brokenness. Shape our lives with your loving hands, that we might reflect your love. Come down, O God, and restore us this day. In the name of Emmanuel "God with us", we pray. Amen. [Silent Prayer]

* Words of Assurance

God is the potter who shapes our lives. God is the parent who loves us. We are the people of God. Hear the good news: you are forgiven, loved, and freed. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Carol of Praise

"Joy to the World" (Verse 2)

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.

Children's Chat

"Advent"

Special Music

"Light One Candle"

Rose, Lily, Lucas

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 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Lesson (NRSV)

Pastor Adrian

Mark 13:24-37

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

"It's Worth the Wait"

Rev. Adrian Tierson

Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

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.

Call to Offering

Pastor Adrian

As we wait for God this Advent season, let us bring the gifts of our lives: our money, our time, and our skills. God has given abundantly to us. Let us respond faithfully with gifts of joy.

* Doxology - Advent Words

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

Generous and loving God, you give us everything we need. Surrounded and supported by your love, there is nothing we lack. As we bring our offerings to you, may they support your work of peace and justice, and bring hope to the world. As we bring our very selves to you, mold and shape us as you will, then send us forth to serve. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD

* Closing Hymn

"O Christ, How Shall I Meet You"

O Christ, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast, to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me; your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty: O love beyond all telling, that let you to embrace in love all love excelling our lost and fallen race.

A heav'nly hope you give me, a treasure safe on high, that will not fail nor leave me as earthly riches fly. My heart shall bloom forever with joyful praises new, and from your name shall never withhold the honor due.

* 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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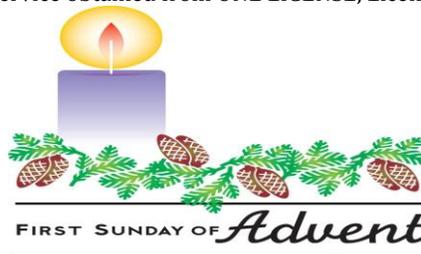
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Pastor Rev. Adrian Tierson 1-585-455-6364

Pastor's email adtierson@gmail.com

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

All other times by appointment

Church office – 610-287-9736

Church Email – office@hucc.net

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
Arrangements	Warren Doerner	Eleanor Risell
Head Usher	Nancy Doerner	Ron Sivick
Acolyte	Jacob McDowell	Rose Waldron
Liturgist	Anne Ryan	Jeanette Kriebel
Song Leader	Christie Lohr	Christie Lohr
Greeters	Bob Messersmith, Tina Richards	George Witmayer
Technology	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert
Nursery Care	Karen Giannini & Vicki Bosler	Karen Giannini & Donna Lohr

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.

The Consistory encourages you to wear a mask throughout all worship services. Thanks for your consideration.

Next Sunday - Worship Service "Second Sunday of Advent" (December 6th): "Facebook Live" and In-Person Worship at 10:30am. We are excited to be able to welcome you to worship in the sanctuary today. Please take a moment to read over the Guidelines in place for in-person worship found on our website (www.hucc.net) and posted within the building.

Communion - Next Sunday is Communion Sunday. For our virtual worshipping community: please have elements of bread and juice prepared so you can partake of the sacrament with us.

Youth Sunday School - Classes will be held in TWO WEEKS, Sunday, December 13th. Classes are held during the 10:30am worship service following the Children's Chat.

Nursery Care - The Nursery is available TODAY. Nursery is offered on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays following the Children's Chat.

Pastoral Care - Pastor Adrian will be on vacation this week (Monday - Saturday). If you need pastoral care, please call Carla in the church office and an Elder will be notified. In the case of an emergency, Pastor Adrian will be available.

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.

Audio-Visual Team - Would you like to be part of a team that will become our AV experts for our services of worship? We are looking for about 6 people willing to learn the system and improve the system. Please reach out to Tina Richards at 215.534.3851 or ssgrich@aol.com

Ministry Opportunities: Greeter [Eleanor Risell], Head Usher [Cindy Cook], Special Music or Song Leader Subs [Pat Clemens or Pastor], and Nursery Care Attendants [Matt McDowell] - Would you like to be a Sunday servant? Please reach out to get signed up!

Daily Bread Community Food Pantry - Due to limiting contact at the food pantry they will not be hosting the Christmas party for the clients of the food pantry at our church this year. They are striving to supply each family with children a turkey in November and again in December. For the clients without children she is giving them a gift card they can use to get whatever they need and it will be ample to provide a turkey if they choose to use it for that. But she really needs help! Each family is only allowed to come in once a month. If you can provide a turkey, you can drop it off between 9 and Noon Monday through Friday. You can back up to the garage door on the side of the building and if it is in the back of your car they will remove it without any contact. (Masks are still required however to protect the volunteers.) If you want to help with sending money, you can send it to them at 3938 Ridge Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426. You can designate it to be used for a turkey or toward a gift card. We sincerely appreciate any help you can give!!!

At-Home Bible Study - Philippians: God's Guide to Joy - An 8-week Study. Tomorrow - Monday, November 30th from 7-8pm Pastor Adrian will host a gathering for those interested in reviewing what was learned and hear how one another experienced the lessons from Philippians.

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!**

Advent At-Home Study - If you would like to participate in this 4-week study, please see Pastor Adrian for a packet. You will complete this at home to help settle into this holy season of Advent and Christmas.

Advent Devotionals - Advent devotionals are available for individuals and families. One booklet per family.

Poinsettias and Memorial Fund - Poinsettias used to beautify our sanctuary on Christmas Eve are available for purchase this year for \$7.00 each. Feel free to take your plants home after the Christmas Eve services. 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 20th.

Family in Need - Do you know a family or individual in our community that could use an extra Christmas blessing this year? One family has been submitted already. 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 13th.

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