

HEIDELBERG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
251 PERKIOMEN AVENUE, SCHWENKSVILLE, PA 19473  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT & HOLY COMMUNION  
SERVICE CONDUCTED ON FACEBOOK LIVE & IN-PERSON WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 5, 2021

Today's Thought:

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern." ~ Mother Teresa, Love: A Fruit Always in Season

Centering Words:

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us - giving light to those who sit in darkness, comforting those who dwell in the shadow of death, and guiding our feet in the way of peace.

\* = Stand in Body or Spirit

**GATHERING TOGETHER**

Ring the Bell

10:30am

Welcome

Pastor Adrian

Prelude

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

Chancel Bell Choir

Call to Worship

Pastor Adrian

L: The Lord has looked with favor on God's people.

**P: Praise to the Lord!**

L: A messenger of peace will be sent to us.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

L: The messenger will place peace in our hearts and our spirits.

**P: Come, O Messenger of Peace, we stand in need of your presence.**

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Adrian

\* Opening Hymn

"Toda la Tierra"  
(All Earth Is Waiting)

**All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and open furrows, the sowing of our God. All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty; it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.**

**Thus says the prophet to those of Israel, "A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel": One whose name is "God with us," our Savior shall be, through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.**

**Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain; open new highways, new highways for our God. Who is now coming closer, so come all and see, and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.**

**In lowly stable the Promised One appeared, yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today, For Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now; again, on arriving Christ brings us liberty.**

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE WREATH**

The Candle of Peace

The Hapenovich 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

*In Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ, full of grace and truth. Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another ...*

\* Prayer of Confession – Silent Prayer

**Lord, hear us this day as we open our hearts and our spirits to you. These times in which we live are often confusing and fearful. We are pushed to make preparations for a season which is supposed to bring hope and peace; yet we crowd it with obligations and stresses and shut the door to your healing love and compassion, forgive us. We find ourselves being on edge, fretful, wondering if we have done enough, can do enough; forgive us. You answer our fears with your voice, "Peace, be still". Help us to hear you. Slow us down. Encourage us to take some time to listen rather than shout, to stop and rest rather than run. Cause us to look around at situations and people who are in need and to place our focus on helping them. For it is in helping your people and reaching out in love that we will find true peace. These things we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen. [Silent Prayer]**

\* Words of Assurance

*Good News! God has done great things for us. We are loved; we are forgiven; we are claimed by God's grace. Hear the good news: 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

"Get Ready! Get Ready!"

Pastor Adrian

Special Music

"Each One Can Reach One"

Vocalist: Anthony Alvarez

Drums: Bruce Lohr

### **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

Malachi 3:1-4

Pew Bible pg#778

Philippians 1:3-11

Pew Bible pg#953

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Gospel Lessons (NRSV)

Pastor Adrian

Luke 1:68-79 & Luke 3:1-6

Pew Bible pg#832

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Gospel Alleluia

"Alleluia! Give the Glory"

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Give the glo - ry  
1 and the hon - or to the Lord!  
2 and the hon - or to the Lord!

Sermon

"The Way of Peace"

Rev. Adrian Tierson

Hymn

"Now Bless the God of Israel"  
(Song of Zechariah)

#122

Now bless the God of Israel, who comes in love and power, who raises from the royal house deliverance in this hour. Through holy prophets God has sworn to free us from alarm, to save us from the heavy hand of all who wish us harm.

Remembering the covenant, God rescues us from fear, that we might serve in holiness and peace from year to year; and you, my child, shall go before to preach, to prophesy, that all may know the tender love, the grace of God most high.

In tender mercy, God will send the dayspring from on high, our rising sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh. God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no more. Sing praises to the Holy One! O worship and adore!

### SHARING FAITH & LIFE

Joys, Concerns & Announcements

Pastor Adrian

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Adrian

Call to Offering

Pastor Adrian

*What is a fitting offering that is pleasing to God? When we sense the wonder of God's majesty and realize the amazing extent of God's concern for us, we can only respond with all that we have and all we are. What we place on the altar is a small measure of our gratitude.*

\* 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

**Immanuel, God with us, in gratitude for the mercy you showed our ancestors in faith, and in thanksgiving for your holy covenant with all your people, we offer you these gifts and offerings. Amen.**

### CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymn

"What Feast of Love" (Verses 1,3)

**What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven? What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!**

**What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven? What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given? This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!**

Preparing the Table

Pastor Adrian

**Note to Guests:** *Through the waters of baptism; we are born into Christ's family. That family is nourished and sustained at this table. Though we are baptized but once, in the Lord's Supper we reaffirm our commitment to Christ, and God renews us with grace. This is the joyful feast of the people of God! Our Savior invites everyone to share the feast, which he has prepared.*

**Invitation**

L: In this season of expectant waiting, we are invited to Christ's table here and now. Coming to Christ's table is a way to experience the grace of God. Therefore it is open to all. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Communion Prayer**

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: It is a right, good, and joyful thing always and everywhere to give our thanks to you, who sent the prophet Malachi to announce your coming reign, the priest Zechariah to remind us of your tender mercy, and John the Baptist to proclaim your coming among us in Jesus. You promise to give light to all who are in despair, and to guide our feet on the way of peace.

L: And so, with your creatures on earth and all the heavenly chorus, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

L: Holy are you, and holy is your child, Jesus Christ, whose birth in our hearts we prepare with hope and anticipation, and for whose life, passion, death, and resurrection we give thanks beyond measure.

**Bread the Bread and Pouring the Cup:**

L: On the night in which he gave himself up, Jesus took bread, broke it, saying: "Take, eat, all of you. This is my body, broken for you. Whenever you eat it, do so in remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup, saying: "This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for the healing of the world. Whenever you drink it, do so in remembrance of me."

L: And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ to a world that sits too often in gloom and fear. Creator of all, Light of the world, Spirit of truth, you are the one God to whom we offer our praise and our thanks.

**P: Amen.**

With Christ's words on our lips and in our hearts, we pray:

**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.**

L: The bread of life, to feed our souls. (bread is broken) The cup we share, to nourish our lives. (cup is poured) These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

***Virtual Instruction:*** *As those physically present come to the chancel to receive Holy Communion, please commune with us at home with elements of bread and juice or something similar.*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion**

**God, as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, we thank you for preparing our spirits through these gifts of the bread and cup. As we go out into the world this week, help us to look to the future before us and live as people of hope. Amen.**

**GOING INTO THE WORLD**

\* Closing Hymn

"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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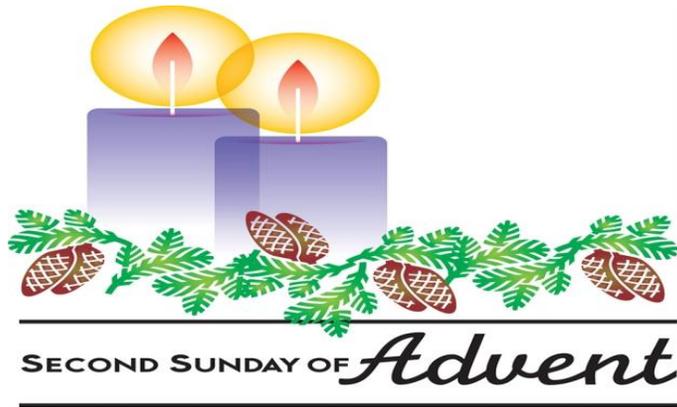
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**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

	<b>TODAY</b>	<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>
Arrangements	Warren Doerner	Eleanor Risell
Head Usher	Ron Sivick	Ron Sivick
Acolyte	Jacob McDowell	Ethan Beideman
Liturgist	Joe Homan	Susan Krajnik
Song Leader	Anthony Alvarez	Anthony Alvarez
Greeters	Bob & Jan Stahley	Anne Ryan
Technology	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert Kaelin Godfrey	Doug MacWade & Brian Pippert Kaelin Godfrey
Nursery Care	None - Sunday School Weekend	Vicki Bosler

**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** - 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 three services this year: 4:30pm, 7:00pm, and 11:00pm. All the services will be candle light. We will celebrate Holy Communion at 7pm. The 11pm service will be live streamed.

**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 12<sup>th</sup>**. 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 TODAY and again Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Nursery Care** - The Nursery will be staffed on the opposite Sunday's of Sunday School classes. The Nursery is staffed Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Preparing for Advent Options -**

1. A 4-week devotional study packet giving you a memory verse, a prayer, a Scripture reading, and a reflection question. See Pastor Adrian for a packet.
2. Family Devotionals AND Individual Devotionals are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. One per family, please.

**The Board of Christian Ed** - Is collecting fuzzy non-slip grip socks to make Christmas sock "cupcakes" for the residents at Greenfield Senior Living. We are asking the congregation to purchase the socks; the search information is below if you would like to use your Amazon Smile account. For safety purposes, please be sure to purchase "non-slip grip" socks. A donation box is in the narthex. **Search on Amazon** for "Fuzzy socks with non-slip grip for men" and "Fuzzy socks with non-slip grip for women".

**Christmas Caroling** - On Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> following worship at 12noon, the BOCE is inviting you to join them in visiting the seniors at Greenfield Assisted Living and delivering the Cupcake Socks and caroling to the residents. A pizza lunch will be offered at the church after singing for anyone who would like to stay. Due to continued COVID concerns, Greenfield has given us their protocol we must follow in order to visit:

- Adults must be vaccinated
- Temperatures will be checked at the door
- Masks are required regardless of vaccination status
- We need to keep unvaccinated children to limited

Understanding the protocols, we invite you to save the date and signup to join us for this festive occasion. **A signup sheet is in the Narthex.** See Pamela Waldron for more information.

**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 19<sup>th</sup>.

**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 19<sup>th</sup>**. The response from Heidelberg last year, even with the pandemic, was fabulous! Thank you and we hope to make it fabulous again this year!

**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](http://www.hucc.net)) homepage (lower right column). Click, shop and support!

**Ladies Lunch** - Lunches are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday's of the month. The next lunch will be Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 12noon. See Diane McFarland to make your reservation.

**Shop-With-Scrip** - You can purchase gift cards from your favorite brands to use for your daily purchases and for Christmas presents! See Eleanor Risell for more information or to make your purchases.

**Volunteers Needed** - The Daily Bread Community Food Pantry is looking for people to help stock shelves any day Monday-Saturday, 9am-noon. Please contact Anne Ryan 215-256-4448 if you are interested.

**Get Well Card** - If you wish to send a get well card to Sharon Rosenberger, her address is:  
855 Callant Drive, Little River, SC 29566.

**Lower Frederick Fire** – The fire company will be in the Narthex today offering to sell their 2022 Christmas Lottery Calendars. Stop by the table in support of our first responders.

**Offering Envelopes** – Please remember to pick up your 2022 offering envelopes in the Narthex. If you have any questions, contact Penny Berger.

### **Address Changes**

Please remember to contact Carla Godshall at the church office 610-287-9736 or email [office@hucc.net](mailto:office@hucc.net) with any changes to your name, address, email address or phone number for the Annual Report.

### **From the Financial Secretary**

In order to prepare for tax season, you are reminded that **if you want your gifts to the church to be credited to 2021 they must be received in the church office before year end.**

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