

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

A Caring Church for Thinking People

130 Broad Blvd † Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 † 330.928.4847
† www.pilgrimcf.org †



Sunday, November 27, 2022



4. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

PRAYER

One: Let all who are blessed by God—come, and take your inheritance.

All: Help us to receive the gift of eternal life promised by God. May we celebrate the majesty of God's name this coming week and all of our days. Amen

RESPONSE *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates* #117 *New Century Hymnal*

3. Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to you; here, Christ, abide!

Let me your inner presence feel; your grace and love in me reveal.

4. So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;

Your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Arr. Anthony Berger

Altar Flowers: *Mick Miller* **Liturgist:** *Michael Subichin*
Dedication: *In Memory of Karen Wickiser!*
PowerPoint: *Kathie Richards* **Live Stream:** *Mark Opritza*

Pilgrim United Church of Christ Staff

Guest/Pulpit Supply Pastor: *Rev. Carol Clements*
Minister of Music: *Benjamin Knight* Choir Director: *Kimberly Knight*
Secretary: *Kelly Gerstenberger*

Cover photo downloaded 11.23.2022 from: <https://www.freeimages.com/download/nativity-scene-1443021>



Watching and Waiting
Rev. Carol Clements

Pilgrim United Church of Christ
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
† Sunday, November 27, 2022 †
1st Sunday of Advent

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUST BREATHE: (moments for silent reflection)

Prepare us to celebrate your birth, and guide us to create your kingdom on earth. Light our way with your promised presence.

One: *O come, O come, Emmanuel!*

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Arr. Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Bob & Jo Kindel

One: Christians around the world begin this day to await the advent of Christ.

We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles—
a symbol of our faith and a sign of God's love.

All: We gather as people of hope.

One: Christian people around the world stand today in breathless anticipation of
a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years and, yet, it
astounds us anew each year.

All: Our hope springs anew from an ancient vision.

One: We light the first Advent candle. Let it stand for hope based not on
wishful thinking but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we
have received, the Promise and the Great Gift and, therefore, in the midst
of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

**All: We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we
have heard that a special child is to come, that God is to be among
us, and we soon will see a new creation on earth. We are a people
of hope!**

HYMN #116 New Century Hymnal

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

GATHERING PRAYER

Michael Subichin

One: O God of all seasons and purposes under heaven, we come in this
season of new beginnings to pray for guidance in all aspects of our lives.

- FILL THE PEW -

◇ Bring new blankets and new towel sets for Good Neighbors.

◇ Items are being collected for the Blessing Box.

Cereal	Canned Fruit	Canned Vegetables
Canned Meats	Kleenex	Shaving Cream/Razors
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes		Toilet Paper
Gloves/Mittens/Hats/Scarfs/Socks		



CALENDAR

Sunday, November 27, 2022: 1st Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. In-Person & Live-Stream (Facebook) Worship Service,
Rev. Carol Clements, Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. Fellowship/Social Hour - Beverages, Social Hall

11:40 a.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal, Music Room

Monday, November 28, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin Lessons, Adult Library

Tuesday, November 29, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin Lessons, Adult Library

6:30 - 10:00 p.m. Broad Highway AA, Heritage Room

Wednesday, November 30, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin Lessons, Adult Library

6:00 p.m. Advent Dinner, Carols, & Crafts, Social Hall

Thursday, December 1, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Scout Pack #3186, Social Hall, ATTIC, Art Room

7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Emotions Anonymous, Adult Library

Friday, December 2, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

Saturday, December 3, 2022:

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Social Hall

Sunday, December 4, 2022: 2nd Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. In-Person & Live-Stream (Facebook) Worship Service,
Rev. Carol Clements, Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. Fellowship/Social Hour - Beverages, Social Hall

11:40 a.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal, Music Room

WELCOME

We joyfully welcome all visitors!
Please join us again!

We are very glad You chose to Worship with Pilgrim United Church of Christ!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Advent Dinner, Crafts & Carols

*Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
Pilgrim UCC Social Hall*

*Sign-up to bring a side dish, salad or dessert!
Sign-up Sheets are located on the table across
from the restrooms in Education Wing!*

Call the office if you need a ride!

<https://www.freeimages.com/download/1st-advent-wreath-1411679>



These small stuffed critters are in the church sanctuary and are ready to take to anyone who needs to know that someone cares about them.



The collection box is set-up in the hallway on the way to the sanctuary from the parking lot. Place your receipts from August 4 - December 24, 2022 with the

“Community Cash Back” amounts in the collection box or send into Pilgrim’s office.

As of November 6th Pilgrim has collected \$1,681.05 in Community Cash Back!



a just
world
for all
ucc.org

All: Help us to remember that no matter what happens, you are always with us—in times of joy and sadness, life and death, silence and speech, dancing and mourning, war and peace. We pray in the name of God of all our days and ways. Amen.

RESPONSE *Come, O Long-Expected Jesus* #122 New Century Hymnal
1. Come, O long expected Jesus, born to set all people free;
From our fears and sins release us; grant us your true liberty.
2. Israel’s strength and consolation, hope to all the earth impart;
Dear desire of every nation, enter every longing heart.

OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

The Bleak Midwinter

Arr. Mark Hayes

INVITATION

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH*

I believe in God—a smiling, hurting, loving God who has given me everything I need, who knows all my sins, and loves me still.

I believe In Jesus Christ who came to earth and experienced human joy, sorrow, hunger, and thirst, and, with the perfect love of God in his heart and the perfect way of life, shared these with all people.

I believe in the Holy Spirit as the spark of the divine in each of us that is fanned into flame to strengthen and support us—our connecting link to God.

I believe that because of these beliefs, I should joyfully share my hands in service, my mind and voice in prayer, and my life in love to all people whether near or far.

I believe that if all people served in this way, we would see the Kingdom of God here and now.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: God be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Come to the mountain of the Lord!

All: We come with hopeful hearts.

One: Lift up your voice in strength!

All: We lift our hearts and our voices to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

CONSECRATION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the Body of Christ and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. Now, send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to find the lost and lonely, to heal broken souls, to free prisoners, to love kindness and mercy, and to do justice. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil and to proclaim in all we say and do the Good News of Christ Jesus, our risen Savior. Amen

HYMN #114 New Century Hymnal

Return, My People

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Carol Clements

CHOIR ANTHEM
(or)

Come, Child of Peace

Ruth Elaine Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC

O God Beyond All Praising

Gustav Holst
Kimberly Knight, soloist

PASTOR'S PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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!

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

Michael Subichin

Isaiah 2:1-5 CEB

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: ²In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. ³Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the

mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. ⁵Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Matthew 24:36-44 CEB

³⁶"But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. ³⁷As it was in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. ³⁸In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. ³⁹They didn't know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the Human One will be like that. ⁴⁰At that time there will be two men in the field. One will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left. ⁴²Therefore, stay alert! You don't know what day the Lord is coming. ⁴³But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn't allow the thief to break into his house. ⁴⁴Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don't know.

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Watching and Waiting

Rev. Carol Clements

SONG

I Wonder as I Wander

Traditional Appalachian Carol

1. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.
2. When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall
with wise men and farmers and shepherd and all.
but high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
and the promise of ages it did then recall.
3. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.