

HYMN

The Birthday of a King

1. In the little village of Bethlehem, there lay a Child one day,
And the sky was bright with a holy light O'er the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain:

Alleluia! O how the angels sang. Alleluia! How it rang!
And the sky was bright with a holy light, 'twas the birthday of a King.

2. 'Twas a humble birth-place, but O how much God gave to us that day,
From the manger bed what a path has led, what a perfect, holy way (*Refrain*)

PRAYER

One: Light shines in the darkness each and every day. This is the challenge
of our lives. Christ's realm is now and not yet, but this is the promise we
know:

**All: God is with us today and all days. Thanks be to God for this glorious
gift!**

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: *Jim Hampshire*

Liturgist: *Kimberly Knight*

Dedication: *In Loving Memory of Cindy Hampshire!*

PowerPoint: *Kelly Gerstenberger*

Live Stream: *Dan Gerstenberger*

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*

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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, December 4, 2022



Road Work
Rev. Carol Clements

Pilgrim United Church of Christ
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
† **Sunday, December 4, 2022** †
2nd Sunday of Advent

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUST BREATHE: (moments for silent reflection)

Signs of Advent hope and peace abound. Let us catch God's vision for our world.

One: Thank you, God, for bearers of hope and peace.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE
John & Kathie Richards

One: Advent celebrates the season of peace.

All: In the midst of our struggles, rumors of war, and the threat to the Security of our daily lives, God comes to us to provide tranquility and quietness.

One: But peace is not the absence of conflict in our lives or in our world.

All: Peace is the assurance that justice has been accomplished and the people of good will have come together at the table of understanding.

One: Our second Advent candle is the candle of peace. This light, just as our candle of hope, must brave the darkness. In the name of that Child born so long ago, we light the candle of peace.

All: We know the wonder of the surprising and remarkable Incarnation, of God-with-us, who strengthens us to work for justice and promises us Peace. Let us worship together the God of peace!

HYMN #326 Pilgrim Hymnal, verses 1, 2, 5 *Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne*

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

HYMN #109 Pilgrim Hymnal *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Carol Clements

CHOIR ANTHEM *Come, Child of Peace* Ruth Elaine Schram

(or)
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 Kimberly Knight

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the desert of Judea announcing,
² "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!" ³ He was the one of whom Isaiah the prophet spoke when he said:

The voice of one shouting in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight."

⁴ John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁵ People from Jerusalem, throughout Judea, and all around the Jordan River came to him. ⁶ As they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. ⁷ Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to be baptized by John. He said to them, "You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? ⁸ Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. ⁹ And don't even think about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham's children from these stones. ¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire. ¹¹ I baptize with water those of you who have changed your hearts and lives. The one who is coming after me is stronger than I am. I'm not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹² The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out.

TODAY'S MESSAGE *Road Work* Rev. Carol Clements

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



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 Deadline is Coming!

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 28th Pilgrim has collected \$2,100.95 in Community Cash Back!

- 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		



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CALENDAR

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

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

Meet Rev. Joy Fenton-Jones, part-time Pastor beginning January 8th.

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

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

Monday, December 5, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

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

Tuesday, December 6, 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, December 7, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

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

Thursday, December 8, 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 9, 2022:

Absorbent Minds Montessori School

Saturday, December 10, 2022:

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pilgrim Community Lunch, Kitchen & Social Hall

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Scout Pack #3186 - Parent/Committee Meeting, Adult Library

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

Sunday, December 11, 2022: 3rd Sunday of Advent

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

11:30 a.m. Pilgrim UCC Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary

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

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