

in the defense and support of the gospel. 8 God is my witness that I feel affection for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

9 This is my prayer: that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. 10 I pray this so that you will be able to decide what really matters and so you will be sincere and blameless on the day of Christ. 11 I pray that you will then be filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes from Jesus Christ, in order to give glory and praise to God.

TODAY'S MESSAGE      ***Peace-ing It Together***      Rev. Glen Shedlock

\*HYMN (see insert)      *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

\*BENEDICTION (Unison)      From A Prayer By Henri Nouwen  
**As I return to the sacred dance of my daily living, teach me, O God, to ask the questions that matter most: Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I speak words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? Yes, Divine Friend, as this Advent season unfolds, teach me to ask the questions that matter most. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE      *Spirit of God (verse 2)*      Steve Garnaas Holmes  
***Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name, the power to heal, to share your love everywhere. We cannot fail or fall, or know defeat at all, held in your hands, born on your wings. Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come!***

\*POSTLUDE      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*      Arr. Anthony Burger

**Mission Statement:**

*God calls us to live our faith as disciples  
Sharing the love of God revealed through Christ  
In the community and the world.*

**Pilgrim United Church of Christ Staff**

Transitional Pastor: *Rev. Glen A. Shedlock*  
Minister of Music: *Benjamin Knight*  
Choir Director: *Kimberly Knight*  
Secretary: *Kelly Gerstenberger*

Alcolyte: *Kristen Howe*  
Altar Flowers: *Thank you!*  
Liturgist: *Thank You!*  
PowerPoint: *Kathie Richards*  
Ushers: *Thank you!*

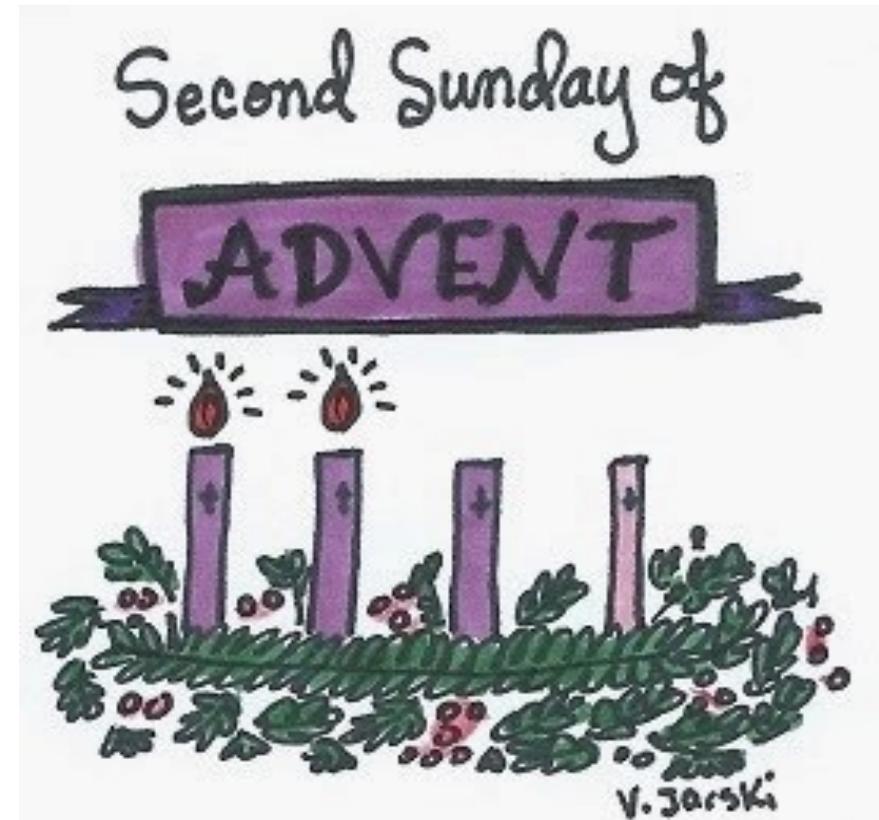
# ***Pilgrim United Church of Christ***

## **A Caring Church for Thinking People**

130 Broad Blvd † Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 † 330.928.4847  
† [www.pilgrimcf.org](http://www.pilgrimcf.org) †



Sunday, December 5, 2021



***Peace-ing It Together***  
**Rev. Glen Shedlock**

**Pilgrim United Church of Christ**

**Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio**

**† Sunday, December 5, 2021 †**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUST BREATHE: (One minute of centering) Prayer by Cristine Sine  
One: God of New Beginnings, in this time between the times of Now but Not Yet, between Conception and Completion, of Promises Half Formed and Dreams Still Emerging, help us to let go of all that holds us bound. Enable us to see clearly the Light that beckons us forward towards your Love. Give us Wisdom and Patience for the journey into the new life you are creating for us and all creation. Amen.

THE PRELUDE *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Arr. Larry Shackley

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: During these days of Advent, we walk a wilderness road that leads us on a precarious path between darkness and light, between despair and hope. While we are challenged to confront our deepest fears and ask unsettling questions about the depth of our faith, we are also summoned to gather up the broken pieces of our lives and watch for the first flickers of sunlight to break upon the horizon. God is with us! We are not alone!

**Many: A new day is dawning! Despite what we see and hear in the world around us, the sunrise is coming, and when it comes, it will break through the darkness of our world—darkness caused by violence and death and hunger and despair, and all those who now sit huddled in the shadows will be able to rise and walk with confidence in the light!**

\*HYMN #132 Pilgrim Hymnal (PH) *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

WE LIGHT OUR SECOND ADVENT CANDLE—PEACE

One: Today we continue our celebration of Advent by lighting the candles of the Advent wreath. Last week, we lit the candle of hope, remembering that all of God's promises are fulfilled in Jesus. On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of peace. According to Luke's gospel, the angels proclaimed "Peace on Earth and good will to all people" when Jesus was born. Today, as we watch our world erupting in chaos and violence, we cannot help but wonder, is peace possible? We all need two kinds of

peace in our lives: inner peace and peace with others. Jesus came to teach us how to make the angels' song real. As we light the peace candle, please join me in praying the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

**All: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to new life. Amen!**

HYMN #122 New Century Hymnal (NCH) *Come, O Long Expected Jesus*

DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERINGS & TOYS AROUND THE MANGER

OFFERING DEDICATION *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Mark Hayes

WE GATHER IN PRAYER

Joys and Concerns

Today's "Arms of Love" are wrapped around **Barbara Mellinger**

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Our Lord

**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!**

ANTHEM *See, On Mary's Arm He's Sleeping* Winnagene Hatch

THE WITNESS OF HOLY SCRIPTURE -

**Philippians 1:3-11**

3 I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. 4 I'm thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it's always a prayer full of joy. 5 I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel from the time you first believed it until now. 6 I'm sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus. 7 I have good reason to think this way about all of you because I keep you in my heart. You are all my partners in God's grace, both during my time in prison and

## WELCOME

We joyfully welcome all visitors!  
Please join us again!

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

- ◇ Brynn testing for possible cancer.
  - ◇ Kelly Gerstenberger recovery from surgery.
  - ◇ Those dealing with and healing from COVID for: Nick, Fairlawn Paramedic/Firefighter; Mike, Akron Police; Taylor, Army in Alaska; Diane, Lynchburg, Tennessee; Churches with many COVID cases; Tammy & Harvey Curtis; Jim Albright & Linda Middleton.
- Thank you to everyone for wearing masks and social distancing!***
- ◇ Healing for Jeff, Missi & Glen dealing with medical issues.
  - ◇ Prayers of gratitude for the life of Karen Wickiser, who died November 29th.
  - ◇ The Kraft family experiencing the death of a grandmother and aunt in a short time.
  - ◇ Those who... have left the church, are enemies of the church, and have not found a church. The poor and the hungry.
  - ◇ The safe return of the Missionaries from Wayne county.
  - ◇ Everyone to "Love their neighbors as they love themselves."

Prayers & Praises

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you ... to everyone who ... have continued to send-in contributions!

Contributions Received:

\$ 3,691.00	October 3, 2021	\$ 2,036.00	November 7, 2021
\$ 2,261.00	October 10, 2021	\$ 5,450.00+	November 14, 2021
\$ 4,525.00+	October 17, 2021	\$ 5,159.50+	November 21, 2021
\$ 8,042.50+	October 24, 2021	\$	November 28, 2021
\$ 2,271.00	October 31, 2021		
<b>\$20,790.50+</b>	<b>October Totals</b>	<b>\$12,645.50</b>	<b>November Totals</b>

+Ameriprise-Reserve Income (Asset Movement) \$4,000.00 + \$5,000.00 + 2,500.00  
+3,000.00 = \$14,500.00

- ***ACME Community Cash Back*** receipts are being collected. See the box across from the restrooms in the education wing.
- ***Handbell Rehearsals*** are Monday's at 4:30 p.m. in the Music Room. All are welcome to join in the ringing.
- ***The Mitten Tree*** is up outside the church office ready for gloves, mittens, etc.



## CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 5, 2021: Second Sunday in Advent**  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Rev. Glen Shedlock, Sanctuary  
11:45 a.m. Bible Study, Rev. Glen Shedlock, Heritage Room

**Monday, December 6, 2021:**  
***Absorbent Minds Montessori School***  
3:00 - 7:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School - Violin Lessons, Children's Library  
**4:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal, Music Room**

**Tuesday, December 7, 2021:**  
***Absorbent Minds Montessori School***  
2:30 - 6:45 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School - Violin Lessons, Children's Library  
8:00 p.m. Broad Highway group, Heritage Room

**Wednesday, December 8, 2021:**  
***Absorbent Minds Montessori School***  
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Legacy Barbershop Quartet Rehearsal, Heritage Room  
3:00 - 7:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School - Violin Lessons, Children's Library  
4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School - Cello Lessons, Adult Library

**Thursday, December 9, 2021:**  
***Absorbent Minds Montessori School***  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Moonlight Serenader's Rehearsal, Music Room  
7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Emotions Anonymous, Adult Library

**Friday, December 10, 2021:**  
***Absorbent Minds Montessori School***

**Saturday, December 11, 2021:**  
6:00 - 10:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Social Hall

**Sunday, December 12, 2021: Third Sunday of Advent**  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Rev. Glen A. Shedlock, Sanctuary  
11:45 a.m. Bible Study, Rev. Glen Shedlock, Heritage Room

**Monday, December 6, 2021:**  
***Absorbent Minds Montessori School***  
3:00 - 7:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School - Violin Lessons, Children's Library  
**4:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal, Music Room**