

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
"We Shine For All Through Christ"
St. Marys, Ohio

November 28, 2021	First Sunday of Advent	10:30 a.m.
Order of Service		

Welcome to our Worship Service today. Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP
WELCOME**

PRELUDE	“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”	Lani Smith
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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH “Hope” Greg, Tracy, Austin, Dylan, Ava and Hunter Winget
In God there is always hope that a new reality might be created.
May God’s hope for this world become our hope as well.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow, a light has shone. For the yoke that was weighing upon them, and the burden upon their shoulders, you have broken in pieces, O God, our Redeemer. Let us pray

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer in this Advent season for ourselves and for our families who live with painful thoughts and memories. We ask for strength for today, courage for tomorrow and peace for the past. We ask these things in the name of your Christ, who shares our life in joy and sorrow, death and new birth, despair and promise. Amen.

***HYMN 154** “O Come O Come Emmanuel”

Note: The hymn “O come, O come, Emmanuel” is a song of people in darkness longing for God’s light. It is not calling us to rejoice in the worldly form of the word, but calling our spirits and souls to reflect the true hope and joy that only God can give.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests

ANTHEM	"Come Follow That Star"	Price/Besig
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ON THE STEPS WITH THE CHILDREN

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Leader and children: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

(Those of you who are new among us today, please fill in the Welcome card that you will find in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate - Thank you!)

HYMN 178 “Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD *DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION
"Pastorale"

Frederick Archer

GOD SPEAKS TO US

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80, Mark 13: 24-37

SERMON "The Advent Blues" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT

HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

***HYMN** "You Are Mine" Insert

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: May the hope of the Christ Child sustain us through this darkness.

People: That together we may shine again. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

POSTLUDE

“An Acclamation Of Joy”

David Paxton

***Denotes those who are able are invited to stand in body and in spirit**

.....Depart to serve

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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email: smucc@bright.net website: www.stpaulsuccssm.com
email for Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer: rhainer@bright.net and cell phone number: (563) 210-3508
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email for Christian Education: jnj12021@gmail.com
email for media: spmedia@bright.net

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children's Ministry Coordinators
Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music	Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director	Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	<i>Vacant</i>, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
<i>Vacant</i>, Sunday Nursery Supervisor	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director	Becky Anderson, Church Pianist

Liturgist	Amy Keller
Acolytes	Confirmands
Children's offering.....	Savanah Hill
Missionaries.....	Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God November 21, 2021
Current - \$1807.00 and Mission - \$80.00
Attendance – 105

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

SATURDAY ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERIES: If you order altar flowers, be sure to let your florist know that the **Elevator entrance** is the **only door** that will be open on Saturdays, and that **deliveries must be made before we lock up at noon**. Thank you.

WOMEN’S ADVENT BREAKFAST

The women of Zion Lutheran Church cordially invite the women of your congregation to our annual Advent Breakfast on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in Zion’s auditorium. Our program is Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. Please RSVP to (419) 394-3115 by November 29th.

Breaking Bread Reminder

NOTICE of Meal Schedule Change:

There will be **NO MEALS** in the month of December

Breaking Bread Staff are taking a Holiday Break!

Please join us back here on January 13th! Thank you.



The Family Room Event



Fa La La La La La La

Join us for an afternoon around the town to sing ***Christmas Carols*** on ***Sunday, December 12th at 1pm.*** We will meet in Fellowship Hall and will divide into groups and sing to shut-ins, friends and family in the nursing homes and other church members. Afterwards, we will gather back at church for hot chocolate and treats. Watch for sign-up sheets and let Amy Keller know of anyone who would enjoy a visit.

Advent and Christmas

F	L	H	H	S	W	W	W	A	I	T	J	L	Q	M	R	R
G	C	C	P	H	B	D	U	C	D	J	C	Q	N	J	K	D
X	H	F	F	R	Z	D	J	H	E	B	A	R	W	J	O	Y
R	U	X	P	G	O	X	P	R	E	P	A	R	E	A	W	N
P	R	H	U	I	T	B	S	I	W	O	W	Y	B	D	O	P
G	C	T	H	F	Z	S	K	S	V	S	W	T	I	V	W	H
Q	H	R	N	T	Z	P	Y	T	F	S	H	A	R	E	W	T
D	P	J	Q	A	J	R	F	M	D	B	D	V	T	N	L	J
E	K	F	S	P	L	A	D	A	D	X	J	O	H	T	I	P
W	Y	V	T	X	T	Y	Q	S	O	A	E	Z	D	G	Q	F
U	M	U	F	H	T	I	M	E	U	T	P	T	A	T	W	Z
T	S	F	A	M	I	L	Y	Q	Q	K	K	Z	Y	F	B	W
C	A	E	N	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	I	O	N	R	A
P	A	S	D	Q	U	F	U	G	S	G	L	O	A	H	G	W
U	P	L	S	D	P	N	O	C	C	B	O	X	O	R	R	V
J	W	T	W	Q	P	N	T	L	B	F	V	S	O	M	B	O
V	J	E	S	U	S	A	V	J	W	U	E	U	M	M	W	P

Advent	birthday	celebration	Christmas
church	family	gift	Jesus
joy	love	pray	prepare
share	time	wait	

WELCOME! If you are visiting for the first time, we are Glad you are here. If you are a returning visitor Welcome Back. Please complete the Welcome card located in the pew pocket in front of you and place it in the offering plate. Should you have a prayer request, please complete the back side and place in the offering plate.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Don't forget that we now have online giving! It is available now by downloading Vanco Payment Solutions onto your mobile device by going to the app store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church". The download is free. We also have a button on our website that will also take you to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!



- Please keep the following people in your prayers: Vern Luedeke, Janet Keller, Verneda Fark, Cheryl Kline, Harold McCune, and Shirley Huckeriede. Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
 - Remember to pray for our shut-ins and for their caregivers that take care of them.
 - All prayer requests shall be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.
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- The **2021** Altar Flower Chart and the Liturgist sign-up sheets are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment.
 - **We need Liturgists!** Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

**PERSONNEL MEETING TOMORROW AT
6PM IN THE OLD LIBRARY**

NOTICE – CONGREGATION MEETING
2022 Budget Presentation & Consistory Members Vote
The 2022 budget (approved by Consistory) is included in the December edition of “The Communicator”. The budget will be considered for the congregation’s approval at the congregational meeting after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 12th.

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!

- ✚ **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** - For your convenience, we have a staffed nursery located in the educational building. Should it become necessary for you to leave the sanctuary during worship, you can view the morning service on the TV in the nursery. **PLEASE NOTE** - Only Newborn to Kindergarten age children are permitted in the Nursery during our morning worship service to allow safety for the newborns and toddlers. Children 1st Grade and older need to remain in the church. Thank you for your understanding
- ✚ **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** rest room is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room and it also contains a baby changing table.
- ✚ **ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES** - Available if needed (consult an usher).
- ✚ **TELEVISED WORSHIP SERVICE** - Our worship service here at St. Paul’s is shown on **TSC cable - Digital channel 1** or **non-digital channel 2**, every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. There is a one-week delay of the service shown.
- ✚ **WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE INTERNET** – If you do not have TSC cable, you can watch our service on our church web page at www.spuccsm.com or on YouTube.
- ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** - On the registers at the North and South entrances you will see a tray where you can place your bulletin to be recycled (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

Today	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Choir practice
	10:30 am	First Sunday in Advent Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	7:00 pm	Advent Service
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum
	9:15 am	Choir practice
	10:30 am	Second Sunday in Advent Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

**THERE IS COFFEE AND TEA AVAILABLE
IN THE ELEVETTE ROOM**



Advent Communion Service

Who is invited to the Lord's Table?

All are invited;
the young and the old,
the rich and the poor,
the lowest and the least;
sinners and saints together in communion.
Come find your place here
where there are no strangers or foreigners,
only brothers and sisters in the sight of God.

Why do we give thanks at this table?

We give thanks because Jesus showed us the way,
we give thanks because Jesus is the Way.
Jesus was a gift from God for the world.
He was called Immanuel, “God with us”.
He came to save us from our sins.
Jesus lived a life of thankfulness
and gave his life as a sacrifice for many.
We give thanks that he is our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Why do we eat and drink at this table?

We eat because on the night before Jesus died,
he ate with his friends.
He gave them bread and said,
“This is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”
At that same meal he took a cup of wine and said,
“Drink this cup. This is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

What do we remember at this table?

We remember Jesus’ birth and his presence as God with us.
We remember Jesus’ life and his love.
We remember Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross.

We remember the resurrection and the promise of life.
We remember that we are waiting in hope to see Jesus again.

Let us pray:

God of grace, thank you for this bread and wine,
and for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.
God of hope, fill us with your Spirit today
that we might have the wisdom to understand the mystery of this Table,
and the depth and height and breadth and length of your love for us.
Through this meal, strengthen us to be followers of Jesus,
a community of peace in a broken world.

[communion is served]

Closing prayer:

Jesus, you truly are Immanuel “God with us”.
In this season of hope, may the meal we`ve shared together
nourish us to be your body in the world,
your kingdom come,
your will done on earth as it is in heaven.
With the angels in heaven we join in singing your praises,
Glory to God in the highest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Amen.

Isaiah 64:1-9 New Revised Standard Version

64 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

² ^[a] as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴ From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵ You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed. ^[b]

⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷ There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered ^[c] us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;

we are all the work of your hand.

⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalm 80

Prayer for Israel's Restoration

To the leader: on Lilies, a Covenant. Of Asaph. A Psalm.

¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
² before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might,
and come to save us!