



**United Presbyterian Church
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www.facebook.com/UnitedPresbyterianChurch

**First Sunday of Advent
Communion**

December 2, 2018

10:00 a.m.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

Alex Sandor

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

***INTROIT**

**Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
For the time is drawing nigh.
Sisters, don't grow weary;
Brothers, don't grow weary;
Children, don't grow weary,
For the time is drawing nigh.**

(#350)

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE The Hecht Family

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

from *Psalm 24*

One: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world,
and those who live in it;

**All: For God has founded it on the seas, and established
it on the rivers.**

One: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall
stand in God's holy place?

**All: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who
do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not
swear deceitfully.**

One: They will receive blessing from the Lord, and
vindication from the God of their salvation.

**All: Such is the company of those who seek the Lord,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

One: Lift up your heads, O gates!

**All: Be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory
may come in.**

One: Who is the King of glory?

**All: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in
battle.**

One: Lift up your heads, O gates!

**All: Be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory
may come in.**

One: Who is this King of glory?

All: The Lord of hosts, the Lord is the King of glory.

***HYMN**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #93

*During this hymn, children and youth preparing for the
Christmas pageant may go to the Youth Room.*

AN ADVENT PRAYER

One: In peace let us pray.

**All: O Holy God, you promise to come to us and set
things right in this world where so much seems to
have gone wrong. Open our ears that we may hear
cries for justice, aid, healing and peace. Open our
hearts that we may respond with compassion, help,
comfort and care. Open our eyes that we may see
even faint signs of righteousness and recognize
Your presence. You are indeed, the King of all glory,
and we lift our hearts to you. Amen.**

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*You are invited to share the blessing of Christ's peace with those
near you by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you."*

***RESPONSE**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing! (#134)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jackie Ranco
New Testament Reading *I Thessalonians 3:9-13*
Gospel Reading *Luke 21:25-36*

ANTHEM *When Emmanuel Has Come* Chancel Choir
Nancy Price and Don Besig Jane Wester, Directing

SERMON *Look Up!* Rev. Charlotte Frantz

***HYMN** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* #347

OFFERING

MOMENT FOR MISSION Supporting UPC

OFFERTORY

***HYMN OF DEDICATION**

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you
aright?

Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's
delight!

O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and
goodwill,

To bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.

In patient expectation we live for that great day

When your renewed creation your glory shall display.
(#104)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: Let us pray together.

All: We offer these gifts to you, O God. Let them be
used for the renewal of your creation, the
establishment of justice among peoples, and
righteousness among nations. Let your grace
shine through our lives and show your love for
all persons. *Amen.*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God most High.

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

One: Holy God, our loving Creator,

**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.**

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All are invited to participate in this Sacrament of
Holy Communion, regardless of age or church
affiliation. We use gluten free bread and non-
alcoholic grape juice. Servers will distribute the
bread and then the cups throughout the
congregation. Please eat and drink as you are
served.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Let us pray:

All: We give you thanks, O God, for this meal where we are reminded of your holy promise: that in the time to come, justice and righteousness shall reign, the earth shall be renewed, and all flesh shall see your glory. At this table, you strengthen our faith in you and increase the bonds of our love for each other and for all. Keep us in communion with all the saints until we rejoice together in your eternal kingdom. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT OUR LIFE TOGETHER

***CLOSING HYMN**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

#88, stanzas 1, 6 and 7

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:25-36

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

United Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY 12/2

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship – Pageant Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. Parent/Grandparent Meeting
6:00 p.m. Scout 221 Meeting
6:00 p.m. UPC Volleyball

MONDAY 12/3

5:15 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts 3221 Christmas Party

TUESDAY 12/4

2:30 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting
4:30 – 9:00 p.m. Youth Soccer League

WEDNESDAY 12/5

12:30 p.m. Presbyterian Women Lunch at Ace's on 29th
4:00 p.m. Board of Deacon's Meeting
4:00 p.m. CSA Pick-up

THURSDAY 12/6

4:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
5:30 p.m. Session Meeting

FRIDAY 12/7

5:30 p.m. Scouts 221 Lock-in Arrival

SATURDAY 12/8

10:00 a.m. Scout 221 Lock-in Departure

Children are welcome to use the nursery or the area in back of the sanctuary during worship. Your assistance in cleaning up and putting away toys and activities is greatly appreciated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING THIS WEEK

Pageant Rehearsal	Sunday, Dec. 2 at 10:10 am
Parent/Grandparent Meeting	Sunday, Dec. 2 at 11:00 am
Worship Committee	Tuesday, Dec. 4 at 2:30 pm
PW Meeting at Ace's	Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 12:30 pm
Deacon Meeting	Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 4:00 pm
Finance Committee	Thursday, Dec. 6 at 4:30 pm
Session Meeting	Thursday, Dec. 7 at 5:30 pm

REMINDER

A reminder to the Board of Deacon's that they should bring 3 dozen cookies with them to this week's meeting. We will be setting up the cookie boxes that will be handed out while we are caroling on Sunday, December 9th.

SCOUT 221 LOCK-IN

The Scouts will be having a Lock-in here at UPC beginning on Friday, December 7th at 5:30 pm and running through until 10:00 am on Saturday, December 8th.

CAROLING

Please make plans to join the Board of Deacons for Christmas Caroling on **Sunday, December 9th**. Everyone is welcome! We will be gathering together after the worship service for a lite lunch before heading out for our caroling visits.


CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our traditional Christmas pageant will on December 16th. Rehearsals for children and youth are today and Dec. 9, during worship. Bring your children/youth for the opening of worship, then they will be dismissed to prepare for the pageant and do some Advent crafts.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Do you have children or grandchildren here at United? immediately following worship we will meet with Christy and other parents and grandparents – What do you want United to be offering for the children you bring? Also, get details about Christmas activities for families, youth and children.

WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- ✦ Join us for a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall following worship.
- ✦ Pick up a copy of *The UPBeat*, our monthly newsletter, from the table in the narthex.
- ✦ Call the church office at 715-392-4751.
- ✦  Follow us on Facebook.

HELPFUL TO KNOW

- ✦ We have large print bulletins.
- ✦ We have hearing assistance devices.
- ✦ There are children's activity sheets available in the narthex.

PRAYER REQUEST

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the Prayer Time during each worship service. Prayer Request cards are located in the pew slots in each row and on the table by the main entrance. Cards will be asked for and collected during worship service or may be placed in the offering plate.

The Prayer Chain may be activated by calling
Jan Letsos at 715-394-6009
or
Dean Hecht at 715-398-6532.

PASTOR	Reverend Charlotte Frantz
DEACONS OF THE MONTH	Jane Wester & Sandy LeMieux