

**Union Evangelical Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20th, 2020**

"Our Mission is to follow Jesus and serve as He would."



Welcome

Prelude - Of the Father's Love Begotten...setting by John Carter
©1987 in Carols for Piano by Hope Publishing Co.

Call to Worship

Good news! The Holy One, God Almighty,
claims us as God's very own!

Rejoice in the Lord!

Good news!

The times of trouble are nearly over!

Rejoice in the Lord, always!

Good news!

God is in our midst, ready to renew us with holy love!

Rejoice in the Lord, always!

Again I say rejoice!

Good news! Good news!

The peace of the Lord will dwell in our hearts!

We lift up our hearts in thanksgiving.

Thanks be to God!

Let us gather round the words
the prophets spoke long ago
and believe:

Emanuel is on the way!

Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 4

We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth.

Enlighten us with your grace that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Hymn – Once in Royal David's City ELW. 269 (vss. 1 & 2)

Once in Royal David's City



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Confession & Forgiveness

Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this world.

We confess **that we live as though the light had never defeated darkness.**

We confess **that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us. We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts.**

Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus.

Prepare us for His return.

Help us rejoice in the light, so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts.

silence

May the God of peace cleanse you through and through. The promise is that our whole being—spirit, soul and body will be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Rejoice, then, and give thanks as we receive forgiveness and healing in Christ's name. **Amen.**

Gospel – Psalm 113

Children's Message

Narrative Reading – Luke 1:26-45 [46-56]

Sermon – The Rev. Gordon A. Camp

Special Music – Welcome to Our World...Chris Rice, arr. Jack Schrader

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Sierra Hohenshilt, vocal soloist

Tears are falling, hearts are breaking, how we need to hear from God. You've been promised, we've been waiting; welcome. Holy Child. Hope that you won't mind our manger, how I wish we would have known. But, long-awaited holy Stranger, make yourself at home. Bring your peace into our violence, bid our hungry souls be filled. Word now breaking heaven's silence, welcome to our world. Fragile finger sent to heal us, tender brow prepared for thorn, tiny heart whose blood will save us, unto us is born. So wrap our injured flesh around you, breathe our air and walk our sod. Rob our sin and make us holy, perfect Son of God.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers

We seek the mighty God in the most unlikely places as a child in a stable, and in an empty tomb. May God hear these prayers, which come from the unlikely corners of our lives.

A brief silence.

Turn the church from dogma and doctrine towards the least and lowly; grant that we may see your presence in all of our neighbors and seek to serve you by serving them.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the world from desolation, exploitation, and pollution and turn our hearts towards restoring and protecting all that you have made.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the hearts of our leaders to concern for those without power or influence; help our societies to better care for the vulnerable and oppressed.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn hearts of despair into hearts of hope; use us to deepen and strengthen relationships and communities.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the weeping of grief and pain into the joy of wholeness and healing; provide comfort and care to all who need it.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn us outwards from our own selfish desires and limited vision; bless our ministries and use us to proclaim your grace and love to everyone we meet.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn our thoughts towards serving you in the way the saints have served you through the generations; inspire our faith and work through their example and teachings. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to watch, that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of joy as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

Hymn - Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn (ELW No.242, vss. 1 & 4)

Text & Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, GIA Publications, Inc.

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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Announcements

Benediction

May starlight guide your steps towards this place of wonder
May angels sing their news as you travel to the manger
May promise fill these days as you watch at the edge of birth
and may faith tell you... Emmanuel will be with us soon!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Postlude - My Soul Will Magnify the Lord...Getty & Townend, arr. Larry Shackley

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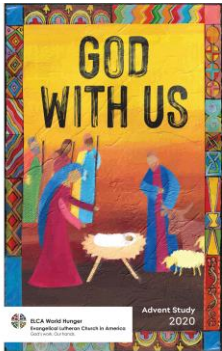
Week of December 20, 2020

Children's Sunday School – Ages 3 through Grade 6. A Sunday School link is sent out via email every Sunday via the Sunday Xpress. Please click the link and participate at any time.

Youth Group (*Christ's Café*) – Grades 7 -12. Every Sunday 9:30 – 10:15

Outdoors (weather permitting) or via Zoom.

“Happy Hour” (*Adult Class*) – Happy Hour is a gathering of adults. (*Come one week a month or come every week-it doesn't matter*). Every Sunday 10:30 via Zoom.



Come join us to view a video and to join the discussion of “God With Us”, an Advent Study created for us in this crazy year of 2020 by the ELCA. This study draws parallels between “waiting” during this pandemic to “waiting” for the arrival of the Christ child. Each week we will email the study and scripture readings. You can read and ponder on your own or join us on a Sunday morning at 10:30 AM for a Zoom discussion with your church family. Not a fan of technology, please call the church office at 610-767-6884 and we will mail a copy to your home.

Sunday Worship Services - will continue to be emailed to you every Sunday morning. Check out previous worship services or Wednesday devotions by going to our website: www.ulclv.org. Click on the blue button “Click here for Virtual Worship”.

Listen to Worship Services on your Phone - Hearing Pastor Camp's weekly scripture reading and sermon is only a phone call away...just call 610-885-8237. This phone call is free and will allow those who do not have access to a computer to hear Pastor's weekly message. Check it out...Call 610-885-8237!

Drive Thru Communion –December 20th, January 3rd and January 17th Pastor Camp will offer Holy Communion. Come anytime between 11:00 AM to noon. Enter the parking lot and proceed to the covered entrance way. There Pastor will offer prayers, communion and a blessing. Communion will be served using individual sealed cups which include both the wafer and grape juice.

Drive-in church – will be held every Sunday. You will be able to stay in your car and tune your radio to our very own Union Lutheran FM radio “station”, 94.3 FM, or you can simply open your window and listen live! Note if you have a larger vehicle, please be considerate of others and park your vehicle in the back or sides of the lot. If you prefer sitting outdoors, no problem, seating will be available in the parking lot. Please continue to bring your chairs and to wear your masks.

Christmas Eve Services – will be held at 3 pm, 8 pm & 11 pm. All services will be held outdoors in the parking lot by way of car parking and the 94.3 FM radio station.

Book Club Zoom - Hello, all Readers out there! I'm sure, like me, many of you have still been reading during these crazy months. Sadly, we had to abruptly stop book club back in March and I have really missed talking about books! I am hoping many of you feel the same way. I am proposing starting the Book Club again via Zoom in January 2021. We would begin where we left off by discussing the book *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng that was scheduled for March. To continue we will need to choose a new book to read as well as a date and time to discuss it. This will be the tricky part - When do we want to meet? For our first meeting I would like to schedule the Zoom for Sunday, January 10 @ 11:00 am. If you are interested in being a part of the group please e-mail me at bjsm2@ptd.net or call the church office. Happy Reading! Barb Mahoney

Lil Pantry – We are so blessed to be able to help our community by providing food in our Lil Pantry. It is being used heavily. How can you help? Either drop off your food donations directly to the Lil Pantry or mail a check to Union Lutheran Church. We will purchase food and restock.

Hunger Corner by Social Ministry - Northern Lehigh Food Bank and the Parkland Cares Pantry help to serve the food needs of our extended local communities. Since our building is currently closed, it is difficult to drop off food donations. Dianne Gillikin has volunteered her front porch as a drop off spot. Dianne and Carl live only a minute or two from the church at 5168 Stahley Dr. Schnecksville. Place your bags on their porch and Dianne will ensure that your donations get to the food banks.

Advent Food Box Collection – Due Sunday December 27th from 9:30 to noon. Please bring them to the parking spaces outside the family life center and someone will come outside to get it. Thanks for your support with this ministry.

You are welcome to join our Union Lutheran Family - All are welcome no matter if you are coming from a Lutheran background or another faith tradition. *We are so excited for the opportunity to have you join our ministries.* Becoming a part of our family is simple. Just contact Pastor Camp or the Church Office at [610-767-6884](tel:610-767-6884) or office@ulclv.org. Let us welcome you during one of our upcoming worship services.

Prayer Card Ministry - Patti Hoffman mails cards to all members of our church family who are on the prayer list. If you are adding a non-member to the prayer list, please provide their mailing address as well. We would love to mail them a card!

Clothing Donations - Place your gently used clothing, shoes, belts, hats, bedding, linens, towels, and drapes in a bag and place them in the COLLECTION BINS located in lower parking lot. Proceeds from the used clothing collection will continue to benefit our youth ministries!

Journeyman – meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 7 am. Ron Pugh sends a Zoom link the week prior. For access to the link and to participate Zoom, please call the church office 610-767-6884, email the church office at office@ulclv.org or email Ron at ronpugh@rcn.com.

FOOD BANK DIRECTOR - FT Director is needed for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Supervises, oversees, trains, and communicates tasks to volunteers, office helpers, warehouse helpers, distribution helpers and others. Evaluates and manages inventory and orders food. Prepares routine work schedules for helpers and ensures that commodities/food are stored, received, and distributed in compliance with local, state and government guidelines. Oversees maintenance and cleaning of the warehouse, coolers, and freezers. Must attend State and Federal mandated training. Must be able to multi-task and have good communication and organization skills. Must be able to maintain confidentiality. Must be able to operate office equipment and be proficient in Microsoft Windows and Office. Must be able to lift boxes/packages weighing up to 50lbs. Must be able to work independently

and lead a team of volunteers. Vacation and PTO offered. Full time. 40 hrs. a wk. \$15.00 hr.

To apply: Send resume to Friedens UCC Church, PO Box 277,

7227 PA-873, Slatington, PA 18080 or Email to NLFBSEARCH@gmail.com

Keeping in our prayers:

Kenny Muth, Scott Cummings, Judy Schild, Karen Mack, Alex Rebeck, Chuck Allison, Nancy Antram, Dottie Bealer, Richard Carlstrand, Bailey Cummings, Barry Fink, Bob Frey, Abby Graham, Jake Hammond, Linda Houser, Melissa Ludwig, Jeffrey Trapp.

Stacie Folk, daughter in law of Irene Folk

Luis Marmolejos- friend of Steve and Tammy Diamond who was recently diagnosed with bone cancer.

Barbara Fung, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

Tina Doll - undergoing cancer treatments

Charles Kopcho, treatment for mantle cell lymphoma.

We pray for our homebound members, members of our congregation and community who struggle with employment, people affected by the natural disasters and our service people.

We pray for the church Hope, Cherryville – The Rev. Jami L. Possinger.

Please contact Pastor Camp pastor@ulclv.org or the church office office@ulclv.org to share prayer concerns

Report of December 13, 2020

Today's	Weekly Offering: \$4,011	9am Outdoor Worship Attendance: 107
	Vision 2020: \$8,590.57	Virtual Sunday Worship Attendance: 52
		Virtual Wednesday Devotional Attendance: 24
		Total Weekly Attendance: 183

Worship Participants

Online Worship Readings	<i>Audrey Marsteller</i>
Music	<i>Sierra Hohenshilt</i>

Join us this week...

Sun. 12/20	Outdoor Worship	9:00 am
	Virtual Worship	Online Link 9:00 am
	Children's Sunday School	Online Link 9:00 am
	Happy Hour	Zoom 10:30 am
Weds. 12/23	Union Chorale Rehearsal	7:45 pm
Thurs. 12/24	Virtual Worship	3:00 pm
	Outdoor Worship	3:00 pm
	Outdoor Worship	8:00 pm
	Outdoor Worship	11:00 pm
Sat. 12/26	Praise Band Rehearsal	8:30 am
Sun. 12/27	Outdoor Worship	9:00 am
	Virtual Worship	Online Link 9:00 am
	Children's Sunday School	Online Link 9:00 am

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

610-767-6884 Church Office

Website: www.ulclv.org

email: office@ulclv.org

Facebook.com/ulclv

Miller-Keystone Blood Center #1258 - ULC

Staff	
Pastor	The Rev. Gordon A. Camp pastor@ulclv.org Cell 610-554-8061
Pastor Emeritus	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
Asst. to the Pastor	Cathy C. Shaffer
Director of Music	Susan Frickert
Asst. Office Administrator	Katie Stauter
Sexton	Terry P. Hoffman
Parish Nurses	Dorothy Bealer Jane Borbe

Congregation Council Members

Officers		Committee Liaisons	
President	David Geiger	Christian Education	Gail Lafferty
Vice President	Patty Hersh	Christian Life	Kim Kuhlman
Secretary	Kandy Lang	Fellowship	Brian Bucks
Treasurer	Cathy Shaffer	Finance	Jay Marakovits
		Library	Sally Grim
Union Board Representatives		Property	Vacant
President	Vacant	Social Ministry	Patty Hersh
Secretary	Kandy Lang		Kandy Lang
Delegates	Lynne Banzhoff	Staff Support	Debra Grundstrom
	Patty Hersh	Worship and Music	Lynne Banzhoff