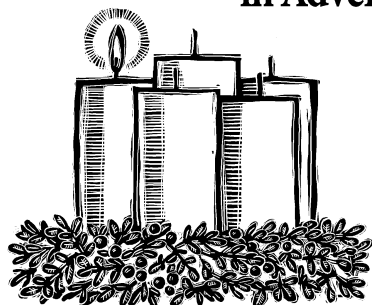


First Sunday
in Advent



St. John's Chapel
United Church of Christ

4344 S. Fremont Ave.
Springfield, MO 65804-7306
www.stjohnschapel.org
Liturgist Nancy Anderson

November 27, 2011

Hanging of the Green

10:30 A.M.

*(*Denotes when to stand if able.)*

Worship begins in full light. Assign someone to turn off lights later in service. Assign usher to assist in helping people up steps for hanging ornaments.

Meditative Prelude

10:20

As we gather for worship we invite you to observe silence and enter into reflection. The theme of today's worship will focus on us waiting for God to solidify the union of heaven and earth. Reading today's scripture passages from Isaiah 64: 1-9 and Mark 13: 24-37 may prove helpful in preparing yourself for worship..

Space to write down your thoughts that surface while you meditate:

Or you may wish to light a candle at the altar.

Lighting of Altar Candles

Ringling of Bells

Introduction

Choral Introit and Processional

“”

played by Kyle Aho

Welcome

Pastor Becky



***Setting the Stage**

Mark 13: 24-25

Nancy Anderson

Leader: Will all who are able please stand so that we can set the stage for the coming of Christ.

“But in those days, after that suffering,

People: the sun will be darkened

Leader: and the moon will not give its light,

People: and the stars will be falling from heaven

Leader: and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

***Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Lee & Judith Bartell

Unison: As our days grow shorter and our nights longer, we who are people of faith turn to symbols such as candles, evergreens and wreaths to proclaim our belief in an unquenchable light; our longing for the One who tears open the heavens; comes down and kindles a fire in our soul. In the darkness the first light of Advent appears.

***Celebration Carol**

“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 deep - est night Christ's 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, whose hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 cold the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

Je - sus 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;

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the vocal line with lyrics. The second staff contains a guitar accompaniment line with chords G/B, C, and D. The third staff contains a guitar accompaniment line with chords G/B, C, D, G/B, and Am7. The fourth staff contains a bass line.

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
 One with-out voice breaks forth in song, a lame one leaps in
 Love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our end - less

 geth - er, to o - pen wide the heaven - ly door, and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of the an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak are raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry, may God fill ev - ery day we share, and

 lives now in-side us for ev - er. . . .
 shat - ter all hate and in - jus - tice. . . .
 weap-ons are bro-ken a - sun - der. . . .
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry. . . .

Hanging of Wreaths Corneil Datema & Dean Rund

***Hanging of Chrismons**

*Will the congregation please process behind the Wreath Hangers and go to the Christmas Tree to hang a Chrismons. As the tree is decorated we will continue to sing "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn". The organist will continue to play the carol until the tree decorating is completed. Once decorations are placed on the tree, the **tree lights are turned on.***

(Children may exit after for Pageant Practice)

***Call to Confession**

Nancy Anderson

Leader: How shall we make this space a reminder of our need to let die that which needs to die?

People: **By taking an inventory of the ways we destroy and hurt—and by confessing them to God.**

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison: Dear God we begin our long wait to Christmas. We confess we are not big on waiting and would much prefer taking a short cut. Especially when we hear that we must let die, some things that need to die in order to birth new and healthier ways of being together.

We confess we would prefer taking the easy way to Christmas. We would prefer spending our time in the hustle and bustle of shopping, wrapping presents, tying pretty bows and call it *preparation*. Forgive our desire to turn from the real work of preparing ourselves for the arrival of The Christ Child. Amen.

***Silent Meditation and Personal Confession**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Pastor Becky

Pastor: God of the Past, has sent messengers, angels to prepare human hearts for the coming of Christ.

People: We rejoice that through the centuries these messengers of hope have brought confidence and joy to people.

Pastor: What God has done in the past, God does in present—in this very moment God is present touching each of our hearts with forgiveness.

***Gloria Patri**

(“Glory Be to the Father” No. 9 in *Sing to the Lord*)

Joys and Concerns

Pastor Becky Hebert

Morning Prayer

Anthem

“Mary’s Lullaby”

By Jane Sibery

Reading of Holy Scripture

Isaiah 64: 1-9

p.680-681

Mark 13: 24-37

p.925-926

Sermon

“The Crystal Dome”

Pastor. Becky Hebert

The Crèche

Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

No. `163

Offertory "Good King Wenceslaus by John Mason Neale

***Doxology** ("Praise God" No 7 in *Sing to the Lord*)

Presentation of Offering

Service of Holy Communion (pp. 13-14 of *Worship Resources* in pew rack.)

***In the Life of the Church** Pastor Becky

***Benediction**

Closing Hymn "Waiting For You"

We are wait - ing for you, know - ing
that you al - ways a - bide, we are wak - ing
to your pres - ence and our hearts are o - pen
wide, o - pen wide o - pen wide.

Postlude "Joy To The World" By George Frideric Handel
Played by Kyle Aho





Crosslines Toy "Store" 2011

Donate a gift for infants, or diapers, size 1

Leave toys as purchased in manufacturers' packaging with the price tag intact.

Cash donations for toys are also accepted

See Judith Bartell if you have questions.

**Toys are due on or before December 11
Bring hope & smiles to local little ones!**



2012 Advent Calendar

Sunday, November 27: First Sunday of Advent

Hanging of the Green

Judith & Lee Bartell

Sunday, December 4: Second Sunday of Advent

Corneil & Shirley Datema

Sunday, December 11: Third Sunday of Advent

Christmas Cantata

John & Perdy Scafe

Sunday, December 18: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Children's Pageant

Jeanne & Karl Krueger

Saturday, December 24: Candlelight & Holy Communion Service, 7:30 pm

Nancy & Ed Anderson



Merry Christmas- Christmas Day Favorite Hymn Sunday at 10:30 am



Our Mission Statement

St. John's Chapel UCC is called to love unconditionally, seek justice, foster spiritual growth, and embrace diversity of thought and body as taught by Jesus Christ.

IT'S TIME FOR *POINSETTIAS*

A donation of everlasting, permanent poinsettias has been made to our Chapel. In addition to remaining perfectly lovely through the Christmas season, these already purchased poinsettias enable **100% of your donation** to go towards feeding families via Friendship Circle's Food Pantry/Crosslines in this year of tremendous need.

- 1) Fill out the form below.
- 2) Include your check for the desired amount made out to Friendship Circle, noting "Crosslines" on the memo line.
- 3) Prior to **Sunday, December 11**, turn in your check and completed form in an envelope clearly marked POINSETTIAS to the Chapel Office.

And we would love to have your independently purchased live poinsettias beautify our altar. Just remember to make a donation to the Poinsettia Fund, too!

P O I N S E T T I A D O N A T I O N F O R M

Please Print

Donor's Name _____

Circle one:

Given in Memory Of _____

Given in Honor Of _____

Today's Date _____

Thank you for caring



Our Stewardship for Sunday, November 20, 2011

Worship: 74

Offering: \$2,116.00

Sunday School: 11

Offering: \$11.00

The average weekly offering needed to meet annual budget is \$2,423.00



Sunday School — 9:15 AM
Worship — 10:30 AM
Pastor's Day Off — Friday

Secretary's Office Hours: 8:30 AM — 1:00 PM Monday-Friday

November 27, 2011

Shirley Datema will open the church in November
Hanging Of the Green

TODAY: Worship..... 10:30 am
 1st Day Of Advent
 Advent family Judith & Lee Bartell
Monday Grace & Weight.....5:30 pm
Wednesday Choir Practice.....7:00 pm
Saturday Bread For The World– Alternative Gift Market at National Ave. Christian
 Church.....9:00am– 3:00 pm.

Next Sunday, December 4th:

Worship Committee Meets after Worship
2nd Day Of Advent

You, whether a member or guest, are an important and valuable part of this St. John's Chapel Community. Your participation in this worship service is a blessing. May you always know God's gift of unending love.

A nursery is available during worship for children up through three years of age. If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an usher.

Hearing-assistance devices are available for use during worship. If you would like to use one, please ask an usher to get one for you.