



St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ

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

December 5, 2010

Second Sunday of Advent

10:30 A.M.

(All who are able, please stand.)*

Gathering

Meditative Music

played by Tom Davis

As we gather for worship we invite you to observe silence and enter into reflection.

In the season of Advent we expectantly wait for Christ to be born anew in our midst. We ask ourselves throughout this season how we personally and as a community can prepare ourselves to receive God's love unleashed—a shalom without bounds.

Space to write down your thoughts: _____

You may wish to light a candle at the Communion table to symbolize the concerns or joys you carry with you to worship, or whatever is in your heart and mind.

Lighting of Altar Candles

Acolyte: Sarah Graham

Please come forward if you would like to receive communion at this time.

Ringling of the Bells

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Pastor Becky Hebert

This year we are recognizing individuals and families who have recently joined our church. Today Evelyn Edwards & Sharon Haislip will light our 1st and 2nd Advent candles.

Please remain seated in silence until Pastor motions the congregation to stand...

***All: Come Lord Jesus!
Open our lives to the Peace which You bring;
let us turn to You, and get ready!**

***Call to Worship**

Pastor: The Reign of God is drawing near:

People: The prophet calls us to change our lives!

Pastor: Prepare the way for the Christ:

People: A just and peaceful path!

Pastor: Welcome one another, for Christ welcomes you:

People: For the glory of God!

***Hymn of Celebration**

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

No. 157

***Call to Confession**

Pastor Stephan Scharf

Pastor: Oh God, You call us to turn our lives around, and work with patience and diligence to prepare the way for your Reign, but we get discouraged and give up too soon.

All: Lord, Have mercy.

Congregation or choir

Leader
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The image shows a musical score for a congregational or choir setting. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are 'Lord, have mercy upon us.' The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

Pastor: Oh God, You call us to collaborate in community to prepare the way your Reign, but we neither trust nor honor the gifts of others.

All: Christ, have mercy.

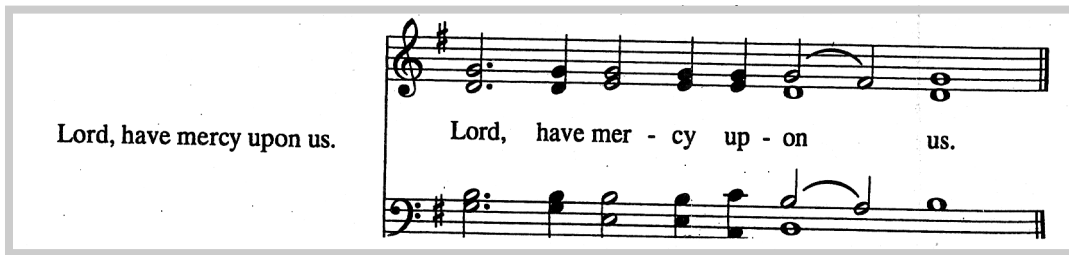
Christ, have mercy upon us.

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Pastor: Oh God, You call us to be full of joyful confidence to prepare the way for Your Reign, but we burden ourselves with anxiety and fear.

Lord, have mercy.



***Silent Meditation and Personal Confession**

***Words of Assurance**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

***Gloria Patri** ("Glory Be to the Father" No. 9 in *Sing to the Lord*)

Joys and Concerns Pastor Stephan Scharf

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer Pastor Stephan Scharf

Pastor: Let us pray:
 Wondrous God, as we light our Advent candles, ignite in us the yearning for Your visions of true peace and justice, of true hope and reconciliation. Sometimes our spiritual life, as individuals and as a church, feels cut to a stump, just barely alive amidst troubles and worries. In the excitement and joy of Advent and Christmas, remind us of our hope and rekindle our joy and trust in You. Thus we ask:

All: Come, O Come Emmanuel, take room in this world and in our hearts. God hear our prayer.

Pastor: God, we thank you for our church community, the fellowship and joy we share together. Be with Larry and Karen on their special day, and continue to bless their lives. Thank You, God, for the Pittmans and everyone in our midst. Especially in this Advent season, remind and help us to be your witnesses through the love and communion we share with each other, and through the compassion with which we reach out to our community.

Thus we ask:

All: Come, O Come Emmanuel, take room in this world and in our hearts. God hear our prayer.

Pastor: Where our lives and the lives of people we know, especially of the people we called by name today, feel as if cut back to a stump, restore them to

vibrant fullness. For the ones who grief, the ones suffering in sickness, the ones living with financial pressures, the ones struggling with their relationships, and the ones that feel unable to love even themselves, and for the lonely and dispirited, we pray, restore their lives, and thus we ask:

All: Come, O Come Emmanuel, take room in this world and in our hearts. God hear our prayer.

Pastor: Awaiting your coming in peace and justice, we are troubled by the long wars that this and many other countries seem to be trapped; caught in the spiral of strife and violence...in the same way we are pained to see people suffering under poverty and exploitation. All the more we yearn for Your coming to make real with your reign, that which does not tolerate hurt or destruction. Help us to realize your reign of peace wherever we can and move the rulers of this world to follow Your vision of peace and justice. Thus we ask:

All: Come, O Come Emmanuel, take room in this world and in our hearts. God hear our prayer.

Pastor: In silence we offer the prayers of our heart to You, O God.
Silence

Thus we ask:

All: Come, O Come Emmanuel, take room in this world and in our hearts. God hear our prayer.

Anthem "Judea" William Billingsly

Reading of Holy Scripture Isaiah 11: 1-10 p. 627
Romans 15: 4-13 p. 1035

Sermon "The Spirit Unleashed" Pastor Stephan Scharf

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 163

Offertory Instrumental Interlude played by Kyle Aho

***Doxology and Dedication Prayer** ("Praise God" No. 7 in *Sing to the Lord*)

**All: With these gifts, dear God,
accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts
which rejoice in your goodness and love.
Let our gifts point to your presence in the world
and further your dream for the world
through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us.**

Amen.

Reception of New Members

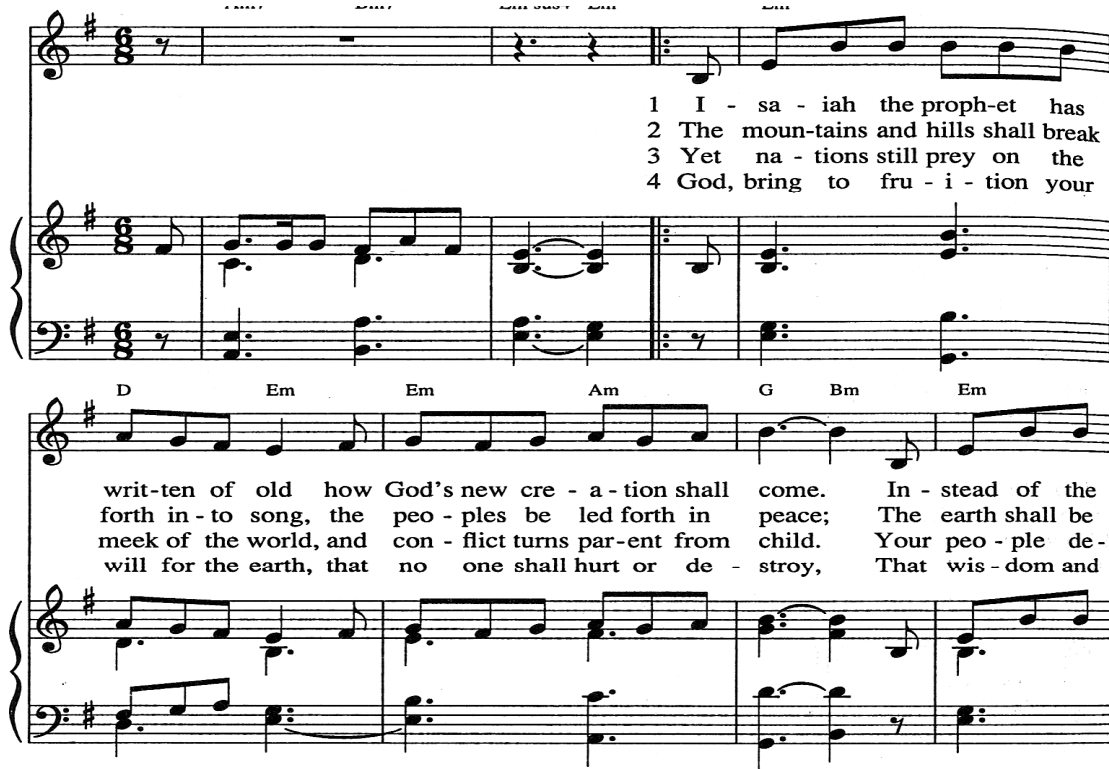
Words of reception ending with...

Sponsors: Member of St. John's Chapel UCC who are able, please stand and welcome Larry and Kathy Pittman into your midst.

Congregational Welcome

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Closing Hymn "Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old"



1 I - sa - iah the proph-et has
2 The moun-tains and hills shall break
3 Yet na - tions still prey on the
4 God, bring to fru - i - tion your

writ-ten of old how God's new cre - a - tion shall come. In - stead of the
forth in - to song, the peo - ples be led forth in peace; The earth shall be
meek of the world, and con - flict turns par-ent from child. Your peo - ple de-
will for the earth, that no one shall hurt or de - stroy, That wis - dom and



Bm7 C Em/G D

thorn tree, the fir tree shall grow; the wolf shall lie down with the
 filled with the knowl-edge of God as the wa - ters cov - er the
 spoil all the sweet-ness of earth; the brier and the thorn tree grow
 jus - tice shall reign in the land and your peo - ple shall go forth in

C D Em Am7 Bm7 Em

lamb, the lamb, the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.
 sea, the sea, as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 wild, grow wild, the brier and the thorn tree grow wild.
 joy, in joy, your peo - ple shall go forth in joy.

***In the Life of the Church**

***Benediction**

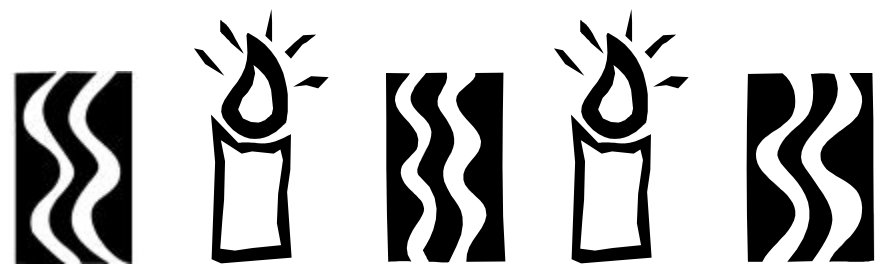
Congregational Response

"Emmanuel"

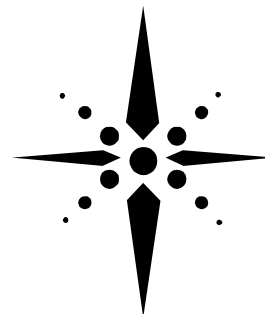
No. 165

Organ Postlude

played by Kyle Aho



2011 Advent Calendar



Sunday, December 5: Second Sunday of Advent]

Evelyn Edwards & Sharon Haislip

Sunday, December 12: Third Sunday of Advent

Favorite Hymn Sunday

The Thompsons and Pat Barnes

Sunday, December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Children's Pageant

Christy & Hillary Dempsey, Larry and Karen Pittman

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

Curt & Sheri Bartell (for newly confirmed member, Brady Bartell)

Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve Service at the North Church, 10:00 pm

Merry Christmas

To Our Congregation...The Ministerial Relations Committee will meet today after worship. Please speak out and let your "likes and would likes" be known to any of the following committee members.

Thanks, Jim May, Council President

Karl Kruger . Nancy Anderson . Chris Trumbull

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.



You can now follow
St. John's Chapel
On Facebook :)

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 12**, 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!

POINSETTIA DONATION FORM
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 28, 2010

Worship: 72

Offering: \$2,105.00

Sunday School: 18

Offering: \$19.00

The average weekly offering needed to meet annual budget is \$2,704.00



Crosslines Toy "Store" 2010
Donate a gift for a 0-18 month old
*FYI, stuffed animals are the **least** chosen toys.*
Leave toys as purchased in manufacturers'
packaging with the price tag intact.
Our 2009 Crosslines Toy Store Coordinator
is Eleanor Lockhart, 881-3811.

TO: All who offered prayers for my grandson Tanner Brunner.

He is doing very well now at home, even in the VERY reclined position. He is allowed a 30% elevation for eating and a change for his comfort. Also, a tutor comes to the house for a few hours a week. The prayers were needed and his family is most grateful.

Clo Ella

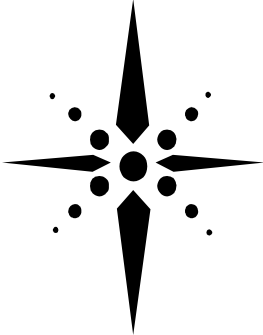
All are welcome...

Anyone who finds themselves without
plans, family or available friends for Christmas Dinner
is invited to join
Lee & Judith Bartell & Family

Christmas Dinner
Christmas Day]
1:00 pm

*Depending on the number of guests, dinner will either be served
at the Bartell Home or here at the Chapel. Please be in touch with
Judith for details. Advance reservations are a must~*





Please join us for
*christmas eve at
 the north church*
 1110 North Main
10:00 pm



Dear Santa...

Churches sometimes need gifts, too...so here's our list.

Simplex Grinnell for various fir-control inspections through the year:
 \$544.00 per year.

*Federal Protection Company for required fire alarm inspection, \$312.00. **PAID!***

*Annual lawn sprinkler shutdown in the fall, \$60.00 **PAID!***

Janitor supplies—very specific paper towels and toilet paper for dispensers, so your monetary donation is appreciated! And monetary donations for any of the following will also be greatly appreciated:

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Christian Education (books, VBS, etc)* | Stewardship* | Kitchen Supplies* |
| Board of Service Ministries* | 2011 Organ & Piano Maintenance, approx. \$330 | |
| Snow Removal, estimating \$450 | Library* | News-Leader weekly listing, \$499 |
| Thur, Sat, Sun New-Leader subscription, approx \$105 | | |

- *Denotes that donation amounts are unspecified and that no donation is too small.
- Where amounts are listed, if a designated service costs less, the unused donation amount will be applied toward another "need" area listed above.

Thank you!

A True Christmas Story



When piano tuner, Rod Butterworth, heard that St. John's Chapel would not be tuning our piano this December for lack of funds, he did not hesitate. Rod recounted what a good customer the church had been over the years, booked an appointment, and came and tuned our pianos **FREE OF CHARGE**. Please take a moment to sign the thank you card on the podium in the Narthex after service today.



*Thank you
Rod Butterworth!*





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

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

**This week's "special offering basket" in the Narthex is for~
 CUE Seminary Support**

December 5, 2010

Jim May will open the church in December

- TODAY: Second Sunday of Advent
 Communion
 Pastor Relations Meeting following Worship
- Monday: Grace & Weight 5:30 pm
 Board of Service Ministries 6:00 pm
- Wednesday: Budget Meeting..... 6:30 pm
 Bells Practice 6:30 pm
 Choir Practice 7:40 pm
- Thursday: Women's Guild Holiday Luncheon 12:00 n
- Friday: Spiritual Development Course 6:00 pm
- Saturday: Youth Group Gathering 4:00 pm—7:00 pm
 Board of Christian Education Christmas Party 5:30 pm
- Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent
 Favorite Hymn Sunday
 Bring Crosslines Food
 Congregational Budget Meeting Following Worship
 Independent Women..... 1:00 pm



PEACE



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.