



St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ

4344 South Fremont Avenue
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December 11, 2011

St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ

Pastor — Rev. Becky Hebert
Organist — Kyle Aho
Music Director — Liz Stafford
Secretary — Beth Shane-Clark

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Liturgist — Kathy Pittman

December 11, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent
Christmas Cantata

10:30 A.M.

(All who are able, please stand.)*

10:20

Meditative Organ Prelude

by Kyle Aho

This season of preparation is half done, and today we will let music guide us to the joy of Christmas that awaits us. We will rejoice in the Anointed One who came and who comes.

Ringing of the Bell and Lighting of Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Kathy Pittman

***Opening Hymn**

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

No. 195

***Call to Celebration**

Leader: Now each new day brings growth and change. We sense the fullness of time, growing heavy with the fruit of new life.

People: **We find ourselves wondering with curiosity and some concern; What will spring up from the garden that God has sown?**

Leader: What is the good news the Christ Child will bring and can it truly save us?

People: **We come to enjoy the company of our God. We light three candles to bear witness to God's promise of a Savior. We find our voices and sing loudly. We let our light shine so the world will know that a God-sent baby is coming!**

***Lighting of the Third Advent Candle**

Esther and Johna Steinhauer

"Waiting For You"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Waiting For You". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "We are wait - ing for you, know - ing". The second staff continues: "that you al - ways a - bide, we are wak - ing". The third staff continues: "to your pres - ence and our hearts are o - pen". The fourth staff concludes: "wide, o - pen wide o - pen wide." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some phrases like "o - pen wide" being repeated.

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.

***Call to Confession**

Leader: Sin happens when we live in the past instead of bringing the past into the present.

People: **Sin is anything that keeps us from wholeheartedly giving and receiving God's love.**

Leader: Let us honestly confess the manifold times we have sinned.

***Prayer of Confession**

***Silent Meditation and Personal Confession**

Pastor: Amen.

People: **Amen.**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Pastor: The grace of God frees us from the bondage of our sin as nothing else can.

People: **And stands us up to shout our songs from the rooftops.**

Pastor: In the name of Christ we are forgiven, released and freed to sing, dance and love.

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

Morning Prayer, Lord's Prayer (*debts and debtors*)

Offertory

"Christmas Introit"

David Clydesdale

***Doxology**

***Dedication Prayer** (*in unison*)

All: In the bringing of these gifts, we give You thanks, O Gentle One who touches our souls. Help us claim our strength and our awesomeness and fragile beauty, that this Christmas compassion may be reborn in the human family and the face of the earth renewed. Amen.

Cantata

"Call His Name Jesus"

Musical Director: Liz Stafford

Pianist: Kyle Aho

"The Name of Jesus"

"No Other Name But Jesus"

When I Speak His Name"

Soloists: Kyle Aho and Liz Stafford

Reading:

Reflection on Luke 2: 1-6

Tona Rowett

And it came to pass in those days that Caesar Augustus issued a decree that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, everyone to his own city. So, Mary and Joseph went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem. And while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. O Bethlehem, you are but a small Judean village, yet you will be the birthplace of a King who is alive from everlasting ages past! Will you welcome Him, will you honor Him, will you find room for Him?

"No Room"

Soloist: Chris Trumbull

"There Were Shepherds"

Reading

Reflection on Luke 2: 8-11

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo! The angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round

about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

“Glory to God in the Highest”

Quartet: Mia Datema, Christy Graham, Butch Stillman, and Gary Tebbenkamp

Reading

Luke 2: 7 with Reflection

And she gave birth to her first-born, a Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger because there was no room in the inn. In the desert sky above, the stars were brightly shining- the very stars He had made.

“Sleep Holy Child”

Soloist: Christy Graham

Reading

Luke 2:15-19

And the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us.” And they came in haste and made their way to Mary and Joseph. And they found the baby, lying in a manger. And when they had seen Him, they made known what had been told them concerning this child. And Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart.

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Reading

Matthew 2: 1-2, 9, 11

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the King, behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem saying, “Where is He who is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him.” And the star went on before them until it stood over the place where the Child was. And on coming to the house, they saw the Child with Mary, His mother and they fell down to worship Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

“Wise Men Still Follow Him Today” Soloist: Butch Stillman

Celebrate Jesus

Carol Medley

Congregation: Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her

King; Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing!

The First Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel! Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

O Come, All ye Faithful, joyful and triumphant; oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels; Oh come, let us adore Him, oh come, let us adore Him, oh come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Vs. 1, No. 195

Organ Postlude

"Messiah Majesty"

by David Clydesdale

Pianist

Kyle Aho

Voices of Chancel Choir

Sopranos

Mia Datema
Shirley Datema
Johna Steinhauer
Loy Swanson
Elaine Tebbenkamp

Altos

Judy Bartell
Ida Barry
Beverly Graham
Christy Graham
Jan Rund
Jeanne Krueger

Tenors

Pat Barnes
Pete Graham
Butch Stillman

Basses

Nick Baker
Lee Bartell
Danny Pace
Ken Swanson
Gary Tebbenkamp
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.

Please remember the following people in prayer:

Earl Reed— His health continues to decline.

Remember our members who are unable to attend:

Flo Valentine at Ravenwood Assisted Living 1950 E. Republic Rd. Spfld. MO. 65804

Virginia Steury at 1820 Plaza Drive Nixa, MO. 65714

Matthew Gromer would like Christmas Cards. His address is:

Sgt. Matthew Gromer

CMR457 Box 1727

APO AE 09033-0018

Tanner Brunner, Cloella' Leverenz' grandson, who lives in St. Louis, has just undergone major surgery on November 28th at Barnes Jewish Hospital. They rebuilt his hip sockets and both legs were shortened. He is in a spica cast for 2 more weeks. He is in a new rehab center, Rankin-Jordan Pediatric Rehab, for therapy. It is full of people his own age. Please keep Tanner and his family in your prayers.

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

The Toys and Diapers are Due Today.



Please welcome Parker Steven Dodge, son of Amanda And Phillip Dodge, and first grandson of Steven and Margaret Dodge. Parker was born on December 1st. He was 22 inches long and weighed 11 lbs. Parker has a sister, Allison, and he arrived on Karen Dodge's 19th birthday. Congratulations to the Dodge families.



Candlelight Christmas Eve Communion Service
Saturday, December 24th @ 7:30 PM
(also @ 11 PM at the North Church)

December 11, 2011

Dennis Gromer will open the church in today

Cantata

TODAY:	Worship.....	10:30 am
	3rd Day Of Advent	
	Advent Family Esther & Johna Steinhauer	
	Independent Women meet at the Tower Club.....	1:00 pm
Tuesday	The Brotherhood.....	8:00 am
	Council.....	6:30 pm
Wednesday	No Choir Practice.....	7:00 pm
Saturday	Children's Christmas Party & Pageant Rehearsal	
	Rehearsal-10 am-12 pm and Party- 12-1:00 pm.	

Next Sunday, December 18th:

The Children's Christmas Pageant
4th Sunday Of Advent

Poinsettia Order Forms are in the Narthex. Please pick one up today. Your generous donation benefits Crosslines. Today is the deadline to submit your donation.



Our Stewardship for Sunday, December 4, 2011

Worship: 82 Offering: \$3,422.00
Sunday School:13 Offering: \$14.00

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

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.