

St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ

4344 South Fremont Avenue
Springfield, MO 65804-7306

www.stjohnschapel.org



December 18, 2010

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Children's Christmas Pageant

10:30 A.M.

(* Denotes when all who are able to please stand.)

Meditative Time

Meditative Music

Played by Kyle Aho

As you enter the sanctuary we invite you to observe silence and enter into reflection.

Today's worship revolves around the Children's Christmas Pageant "The Littlest Christmas Tree." You might want to reflect on the times in your life when you have felt small and insignificant.

Space to write down your thoughts: _____

*Communion is served at the chancel **d**uring this meditative time. 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

Welcome and Announcements

Kathy Pittman

***Processional Hymn**

"The First Noel"

No. 167

(Children process in and take their places.)

***Lighting of the Forth Advent Candle**

Jeanne and Karl Kruger

Liturgist: Love's memory is long. As we come to the last Sunday of Advent, we are asked to remember that the fulfillment of Christmas comes in the birth of a baby.

God's love often comes in small packages.

In dreams which move us to risk compassion;

In a passing vision of a community whole and peace-filled;

In a star leading us to a miracle.

So we light this candle of Love and pray:

People

Come Lord Jesus!

Open our hearts to the Love which you embody;

Let that Love flow through us into your world! Let Your love continue to endure, through acts as simple and common as the birth of a baby.

(Silent Meditation and Personal Confession

Kathy Pittman

(During this time of inward reflection and repentance, you may want to use the "Examen," which simply means an examining of our lives in a prayerful way. It is different from a prayer of confession in that it reviews both the good and the bad of our lives. You pause to look back over your week, or as many days as you wish to examine, and notice where you have partnered with God. In other words, when were you trying to do it alone and when did you ask God to assist you? You can also remember the events, encounters or insights that felt like gifts from God and those that did not. Or remember the times in the day when you gave and received love, and when you did not give or receive love. Once your days are reviewed and examined you may want to offer your insight up to God to let God love you just as you are.)

***Assurance of Forgiveness and Adoration**

The Rev. Becky Hebert

***Gloria Patri**

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

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

You may be seated

Let us take a moment in silence to quiet your heart, mind, and soul, and prepare ourselves to go before God in prayer.

Silence

Offertory "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" 18th cent. English carol
played by Kyle Aho

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

Gospel Reading Mark 13: 25 Kathy p.925
Luke 2: 8-14 Pastor p.933
Mark 13: 25 Kathy p.925

"The Littlest Christmas Tree"

Children's Christmas Pageant, 2011

*Original script by adapted for the stage by Teresa Jennings
Adapted by David Rowett & Tona Rowett Costumes by Chuck Andrews*

Our Cast

Narrator :	Liz Stafford		
Big Tree	Clint Burton	Medium Tree	Mariah Datema
Little Star	Karli Rowett	Littlest Tree	Sadie Harper
Family 1	Sarah Graham, Patrick Gromer, & Tristan Hardy	Family 2	Keith Burton, Grace Harper & Emma Datema
Bird 1 -	Jack Rowett		
Bird 2	Matthew Gromer	Bunnies	Georgia Gromer, Gus Kruger, & Grant Aho

All: "Joy to the World" vs. 1. No. 173

Closing Hymn "Joy to the World" vs. 2, 3, & 4, No. 173

***Commission and Benediction**

Pastor: Let us go forth with eyes to see and ears to hear and voices to pro
claim:

In the ordinary and the vulnerable:

People: God-with-us!

Pastor In the challenge of the unexpected:

People: God-with-us!

Pastor In love giving life in justice and mercy:

People: God-with-us!

In the work of peace:

People: God-with-us!

Pastor May you be blessed today, tomorrow and every day of your life,
in your going forth with God. *(Do not print this in bulletin.)*

Organ Postlude "Good Christian Men Rejoice" 14th Cent. German Carol
played by Kyle Aho



With Sincere Sympathy

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family of Earl Reed. He passed away on Wednesday, 12-14-11. Please remember to keep the Reed family in prayer. Mr. Reed's visitation is this afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. at Greenlawn East. There will be a memorial service at 3:00 P.M.. There will be a graveside memorial with full military honors at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery at 1:00 P.M.

Please remember the following people in prayer:

Ida Barry's Niece- Ida's niece, Diane Stephans, had surgery on her liver at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis. They removed part of her liver and they believe they got all the cancer. She is doing well.

Jamie Gromer-She has been diagnosed with lupus.

Kris Swanson- Daughter of Loy and Ken. Please pray that she remains cancer free.

Liz Jordan- She had back surgery on Thursday, 12-15-11. She came through the surgery fine and her Dr. was pleased. She has had some after surgery pain.

Remember our members who are unable to attend:

Flo Valentine at Ravenwood Assisted Living 1950 E. Republic Rd. Spfd. MO. 65804. She was having trouble with her ankle and she was delighted that Gary Tebbenkamp wrapped it for her.

Virginia Steury at 1820 Plaza Drive Nixa, MO. 65714



Christmas Remembrance Poinsettias 2011

Kyle, Carrie, & Grant Aho, and Carolyn Wolfe in memory of

Ed & Anita Hoffman and Kirk Wolfe

Corneil & Shirley Datema in memory of
Parents and loved ones

Steve and Margaret Dodge in memory of
Steve's mother, Barbara Brook

Charles & Jane Dunham memory of
our parents

Sharon Haislip in memory
My Parents Merle & Mildred Kearney

Lois Rahmoeller & Family in memory of
Rev. Norman Rahmoeller

Marsha Schatz by his daughters in memory of
Gerald Willoughby

Ken & Loy Swanson in honor of
our children.



IN LOVING MEMORY AND TO THE GLORY OF GOD



A memorial contribution has been given to the Glory of God in loving memory of

Virginia Shean

By

The Women's Guild
Rosemary Witt.

The Endowment Fund
The Endowment Fund

Favorite Hymn Sing Service

Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year and we will celebrate with a Favorite Hymn Sing Service. Please make plans to attend this informal worship. We will sing your favorite hymns and Christmas carols as well as share stories about your favorite Christmas memories. This will be a very special time of fellowship. We hope to see you there. There will be no children's nursery that day. The Children are welcome to attend the service.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and everyone here at St. John's Chapel.

May your season be bright and blessed. May you find comfort for aching hearts, and an ease in times of trouble in this season of Christ's birth.

Please stay after the pageant. There will be a brief meeting regarding the budget.



Our Stewardship for Sunday, December 11, 2011

Worship: 96 Offering: \$2,002.00

Sunday School:12 Offering: \$9.00

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

The Friendship Circle's Annual Christmas Party

The Friendship Circle will be having their annual Christmas Party at Carolyn Wolfe's home on Tuesday, 12-20-11, at 6:30 P.M. Carolyn Wolfe's address 4905 S. Ashford , and her phone number is 881-3935. call for directions or if you have any questions



Pastor Stephan's Stole

When Pastor Stephan left , we purchased a stole as a going away gift for him. If anyone would like to contribute to the cost of this gift, please place it in a separate envelope, indicating that it goes toward this gift, in the offering plate. Thank you very much for your help .

The Messenger Items are due Tuesday, Dec. 20th.

Congregational Meeting Date

Please make plans to attend our annual Congregational meeting on January 15,2012

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.



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

December 18, 2011

Dennis Gromer will open the church in December

Children's Pageant

TODAY:	Pageant.....	10:30 am
	4th Sunday Of Advent	
	Advent Family Karl & Jeanne Kruger	
	Earl Reed's Visitation from 2-4 P.M. memorial Service at 3 P.M.	
Monday	Earl Reed's graveside memorial with full military honors.....	1:00 pm
Tuesday	The Friendship Circle's Christmas Party at Carolyn Wolfe's Home.....	6:30 pm
Wednesday	No Choir Practice.....	7:00 pm
Saturday	Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service.....	7:30 pm
	Service at the North Church	11:00 pm

Next Sunday, December 25th:

Merry Christmas

Favorite Hymn Sing at 10:30 am

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.