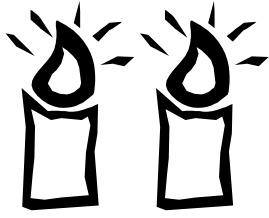


*of Christmas go...*

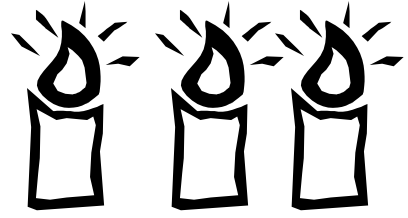
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**St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ**

4344 South Fremont Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65804-7306  
[www.stjohnschapel.org](http://www.stjohnschapel.org)



*The*  
*Evening*  
*of Light*  
**Christmas Eve**



December 24, 2009

7:30 PM

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

**Prelude**

“Improvisation on ‘The First Nowell’ ”  
“Who Is This Child?”

Burton

*(Words for silent reflection as the Prelude is played.)*

Be attentive.  
The membrane  
between heaven and earth  
is thin this blessed night,  
and calls from God  
are easily heard.

**Ringing of the Bell and Lighting of Candles**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, all who are faithful and all who seek joy in their lives.

**People: The season of great joy draws near.**

Leader: The symbols of hope, peace, love, and joy shine brightly in our hearts.

**People: May they remain with us throughout the year.**

Leader: We now share a reality that was fulfilled by God:  
“Unto you is born a child.”

**\*Processional Hymn** “O Come All Ye Faithful”

No. 175

**\*Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candle** The May-Harper Family

**\*Collect for Christmas Eve** *(in unison)*

O Fragile Savior You come, unprotected, into our dangerous world and offer Yourself as our Peace. Let our Joy be to seek Your Peace. Let our Hope be to foster Your peace. Let our Purpose be to announce Your Peace with all the fervor of the Angels and all the courage of the Poor: Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth, God's Peace! Amen.

**Hebrew Scripture Reading** Isaiah 9:2-7 p. 624

**Carol** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 169, vs. 1 & 2

**Psalm Reading** Psalm 96 p. 539

**Carol** "O Holy Night" No. 183

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 2:1-14 p. 933

**Sermon**

"Light, Hope, Passion, Peace"

The Rev. Becky Hebert



## **“Light One Candle”**

by Peter Yarrow

Light one candle for the Maccabee children  
With thanks that their light didn't die  
Light one candle for the pain they endured  
When their right to exist was denied  
Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice  
Justice and freedom demand  
But light one candle for the wisdom to know  
When the peacemaker's time is at hand

### **[Chorus]**

Don't let the light go out!  
It's lasted for so many years!  
Don't let the light go out!  
Let it shine through our love and our tears.

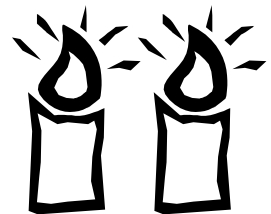
Light one candle for the strength that we need  
To never become our own foe  
And light one candle for those who are suffering  
Pain we learned so long ago  
Light one candle for all we believe in  
That anger not tear us apart  
And light one candle to find us together  
With peace as the song in our hearts

### **[Chorus]**

What is the memory that's valued so highly  
That we keep it alive in that flame?  
What's the commitment to those who have died  
That we cry out they've not died in vain?  
We have come this far always believing  
That justice would somehow prevail  
This is the burden, this is the promise  
This is why we will not fail!

### **[Chorus]**

**Don't let the light go out!**  
**Don't let the light go out!**  
**Don't let the light go out!**



**Carol** "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" No. 195

**Christmas Offertory** "In the Bleak Midwinter" Holst/Moore  
**Chancel Choir**

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

**Anthem** "Who Is This Child?" Douglas E. Wagner  
**Chancel Choir**

**Service of Holy Communion**  
(pages 15-16 in *Worship Resources* found in pew rack)

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*in unison*)  
We give thanks, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us at Your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Service of Lights**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Ringling in Christmas Day**

**\*Light from Christ Candle**

*The pastor will light her candle from the Christ candle. The ushers will light their candles from the pastor's and will move down the aisle to light the congregation's candles. The person nearest the center aisle will receive the light and in turn, give it to the next person.*



**Song**

**“Light One Candle”**

Peter Yarrow

Light one can-dle for the Mac-ca-bee child-ren givethanks that their light did-n't die Light one can-dle for the

6  
pain they en-dured when their right to ex-ist was de-nied Light one can-dle for the ter-ri-ble sac-ri-fice\_

11  
jus-tice and free-dom de-mand Light one can-dle for the wis-dom to know when the peace-ma-kers time is at

16  
hand\_ Don't let the light go out it's last-ed for so ma-ny years Don't let the light go out\_ Let it

23  
shine through our love and our tears\_ Don't let the light go out\_ Don't let the

28  
light go out\_ Don't let the light go out\_



*Don't let the  
light go out...*



## **“Stille Nacht”**

Thelma Hurshman, soloist

Chris Trumbull, guitar

## **“Silent Night”**

Congregation

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright;  
'Round yon virgin mother and Child.  
Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Wondrous star, lend thy light!  
With the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King!  
*(Raise candles )*  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

### **\*Benediction**

*(Lower candles and extinguish now before leaving sanctuary.)*

**Organ Postlude** “Chorale Prelude on ‘Es ist ein Ros’ Entsprungen” Brahms

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## **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.

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### **St. John's Chapel UCC Staff**

Rev. Becky Hebert

Pastor's Home: 882-0415 Cell: 773-6702

Pastor's E-mail: [pastor@stjohnschapel.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnschapel.org)

Secretary: Deb Hall

Church Office: 881-5175 FAX: 881-1647

Church E-mail: [sec@stjohnschapel.org](mailto:sec@stjohnschapel.org)

Music Director - Chris Brammer

Nursery Attendant - Lea Ann Kruger

Organist - Vicky Claborn

Custodian - Lee Bartell

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Worship — 10:30 AM

Pastor's Day Off — Friday

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

## ~Poinsettia Dedications, 2009~

Corneil & Shirley Datema, In Memory of **Parents & Loved Ones**

Mary Lou Datema & Family, In Memory of **JoAnne Datema**

Margaret E. K. Dodge, In Memory of her Grandmother, **Elizabeth Hawksworth**

Stephen T. Dodge, In Memory of his Mother, **Barbara R. Brook**

Charles & Jane Dunham, In Memory of **Our Parents & Loved Ones**

Evelyn Edwards, In Memory of **my son, John, & husband, William**

Sharon Haislip, In Memory of **Family & Loved Ones**

Lois Rahmoeller, the David Rahmoeller Family & the Kenneth Rahmoeller Family,

In Memory of **Norman Rahmoeller**

Marsha G Schatz, In Honor of **Gerald Willoughby** by his Daughters

Virginia Shean & Family, In Memory of **Wes Shean, & Hubie & Maledia Chranford**

Ken & Loy Swanson, In Memory of **Andy & Lorene Bain, & Jeanne Loveless**

Kent & Betty Weber, In Memory of **William Morehouse**

Suzanne Grammer, Nancy & Denny Schlueter & Bob & Barb Valentine,

In Memory of **Bill Valentine**

Carolyn Wolfe & Family, In Memory of **Kirk Wolfe, & Ed & Anita Hoffman.**

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Poinsettia Dedications help to fund our Friendship Circle's food bank donations  
in this year and in this season of tremendous need.

**Thanks for Caring**



**The Friendship Circle**

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**Merry Christmas!**

