

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

10708 Lavinia Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63123 314-843-5100
www.stphilipsucc.com

December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent



Pastor: Rev. Michael (Mike) Krewson
Administrative Assistant: Carol O'Shea

Council President: Sandy Stevenson
Youth Director: Andrea Tukin

Music Director: Mike Orzel

*indicates that you may rise as comfortably able
(text in bold read in unison)

Second Sunday of Advent

Lighting the Candles

Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Prelude

Birthday Celebrations

* Call to Worship (Responsively)

We lift up our souls to you, Holy God.

Teach us, O God, that we may know your ways.

We trust the Lord with our past, present and future.

Guide our every move, Holy One, that we may walk in your paths of love and mercy.

* Opening Hymn: “Angels, From the Realms of Glory” # 149

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
you who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations, you have seen the natal star;
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, here among us shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

* Invitation to Confession (Pastor)

* Prayer of Confession (Together)

Compassionate, Forgiving God, we sometimes forget the lessons of those who came before us. We sometimes fail to see the destruction of our

actions and how they distance us from you. Bring us home to you, Merciful God. Show us your future in the shoot growing out of the stump. Help us to see your love. Amen.

* Assurance of Grace (Pastor)

* Response: "Glory Be to the Father" # 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Children's Time

Prayer of Preparation (Together)

**Calm us now, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open our
hearts to your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel
our spirits leap for joy as your promises are fulfilled. Amen.**

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and

Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called:
“The Lord is our righteousness.”

Hymn: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” # 150

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, off-spring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Sermon: “A new shoot grows from an old stump”
Rev. Mike Krewson

Anthem: “Warm the Time of Winter”

Prayer Time:

Wordless Meditation - Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Our Gifts

Response "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer Dedicating our gifts (Together)

Thank you, O God, for all the blessings we enjoy. As we pause by the shore at the feet of Jesus, let us see the love in his eyes as his gaze falls upon us. We dedicate what we give so that others might share in our bounty. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION (Responsively)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The risen Christ is with us.

Praise the Lord!

PRAYER (Responsively)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may love you with our whole selves.

We see your goodness in heaven and earth and in Jesus.

We remember when you showed your risen self to the disciples and we remember the loaf you broke. The bread you give, is your body.

Break into our lives, O God, and transform these gifts, that they may be for us your substance, and that as we receive, we may be restored as his body for the world. Amen.

THE BREAKING and THE POURING

SHARING THE BREAD (Pastor)

With this bread, O God, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. (Prayerful pause as we meditate on the Bread)

Take and Eat; (Partake of the Bread)

With this bread, O God, we integrate your substance into the living of our lives. (Prayerful pause as we meditate on the actions of faithful living.)

SHARING THE DRINK (Pastor)

With this drink, O God, we visualize our new wholeness born of this sacrament. We look with hope for his coming. (Prayerful pause as we connect to the Drink)

Take and Drink; (Partake of the Drink)

With this drink, O God, we integrate your substance into the living of our lives.

(Prayerful pause as we meditate on actions of faithful living.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Together)

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

* Closing Hymn: "Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates" # 129

Life up your heads, ye mighty gates, behold the glorious ruler waits!
The Sovereign One is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! We open wide our hearts to you; here Christ abide!
Let us your inner presence feel, your grace and love in us reveal.

So come, our Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;
your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

Benediction - Postlude

OUTREACH MINISTRY

We are again participating in the "Adopt a Family" program through Feed My People. Because of Covid, Feed My People has requested Gift cards instead of food baskets and gift items. Contributions can be made in the Church Offering plate or by mail. Please specify funds are for "Adopt a Family". The gift cards allow family members to shop for Christmas presents for each other. Our contributions truly make a difference!

Our Traditional Cap, Mitten and Scarf tree is set up in the Gathering Area. Please help us "decorate" it during Advent. Items donated will go to Caroline Mission.

Thanks in advance for your generosity.
Outreach Ministry

LOGOS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The youth from our LOGOS program are presenting the Christmas Story on Wednesday, December 15. ALL ARE WELCOME! We would love to have you join us!

We plan to share a meal and Christmas themed games at 5:30. The children will present their nativity play at 6:30 and we will end the evening with a craft and dessert.

If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Andrea Tukin at 314-566-8633 or andreatukin@gmail.com.

We hope to see you there!

Peace & Blessings,

The LOGOS Team Christmas Program

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday in December we plan on having lots of Christmas fun learning about the Christmas Season. Make sure to join us for some special crafts and treats!

BOOK CLUB NEWS

On December 19 after Church, we will discuss The Book That Matters Most.

Our next selection, Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue will be discussed on Sunday January 16. It explores the experiences of immigrant families in their quests for the American Dream.

Consider joining book club! Books come in kits from St. Louis County Library, and are available for pick up on the Sundays that Book Club meets, or at other times by contacting Barbara Barnes. We meet after church, share a potluck lunch, and always have a good time.

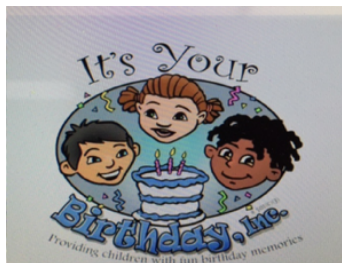
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**Happy Birthday to our members
who will be celebrating this month.**

We will sing on the 1st Sunday
of each month.

*“Happy Birthday to You!,
Happy Birthday to You!,
Happy Birthday Everybody!
and God Bless You!”*

Linda Kotthoff	5
Kim Tangeman	7
Sarah Witte	9
Carla Moran	11
Robyn Mikusch	15
Markus Brooks	19
Devin Coleman	21
Chloe Armistead	24
Karen Nickel	26
Katie Eason	28
Ashley Henson	30
Scott Stevenson	30



LUNCH BUNCH

The December Lunch Bunch will be at Sandy's on Wednesday, December 8 at noon. Please sign up on the bulletin board or let Sandy know you're coming.

We're having Kendrick roast beef sandwiches and you're invited to bring a food item to share if you like. As usual, we'll eat, visit and play the much cherished (?) Rob Your Neighbor game.

Be sure to bring a wrapped white elephant present! All who are fully vaccinated are welcome to come. Hope to see you then.

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP

Paul Shrout of Art & Paul has recently undergone the amputation of his second leg. His medical needs are high and equipment and care have been expensive. A GoFundMe Page has been set up. You can access it at:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/helping-hands-for-paul-shrout?utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer

or go to:

gofundme.com

Click Search in the upper left

In the blue box, type Paul Shrout

Select "Helping Hands for Paul Shrout
by Lindsey Rawlings"

If you would like to contribute without going on-line, you can give or sent a check to church, with Paul Shrout written on the subject line.

POINTSETTIA ORDERS

We will again this year be offering poinsettia plants in a variety of colors. The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary at the Christmas Eve service on Friday, December 24. You may take your plants home after the Christmas Eve service.

Order forms should be available by Monday, December 6 and will be emailed as soon as they are finalized. Paper copies will be available on December 12 on the credenza just outside of the sanctuary.

Orders due on Sunday, December 19.


CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT TRADITION

It has been a St. Philip's tradition for all families attending St. Philip's to bring an ornament from home to hang on our tree in the sanctuary. If you are new to St. Philip's or have not had an opportunity to hang an ornament on the tree, feel free to do so before or after church any time during Advent.



*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service*

*Friday, December 24
7:00pm*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	6 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg 7:00 Church Council Meeting	7	8 noon Lunch Bunch @ Sandy's 5:30-7:00 LOGOS	9	10 5:15 Spiritual Life Mtg	11
12 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	13 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg 4:30 ECC Board Meeting	14	15 5:30-7:00 LOGOS Christmas Program	16	17	18
19 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	20 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	21	22	23	24 7:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 
26 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	27 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	28	29	30	31	1 January 2022!



Our Vision Statement

St. Philip's Vision Statement

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

Minds to study God's word,
Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,
Eyes to see the needs of others,
Arms to welcome all,

Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.



Judy Hickman
Russ Hickman
Deb Hudson
Harry Jennings
Pam Kelly
Brian Malin
Marilyn Milne
Jered Nagle

Janet Remmers
Wendy Remmers
Paul Shrout
Dottie Vinyard
Paula Williams



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www.ucc.org

