

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

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www.stphilipsucc.com

December 4, 2022 Second Sunday of Advent



Worship Leader: Rev. Laura Mignerone
Administrative Assistant: Carol O'Shea

Council President: Sandy Stevenson
Youth Director: Andrea Tukin

Liturgist: Sandy Stevenson
Music Director: Mike Orzel

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

Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

* CALL TO WORSHIP - Worship Ways (Responsively)

A shoot soon comes from Jesse's stump, and a branch shall spring from roots.

Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

A leader soon comes who will lift the poor with righteousness around his waist.

Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

A child soon comes from an innocent place with wisdom and might he'll lead the way.

Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

* OPENING HYMN: "Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates" # 129

Lift up your heads, O 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.

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION - Worship Ways (Together)

God of the waiting wanderers in the wilderness, we enter this moment of worship expecting that when we leave this hour of prayer, we will be full of the courage needed to stand as a signal. We come to the mountain to feel closer to your presence, O God. May the mountains yield prosperity for your people. May righteousness flourish and peace abound. You,

alone, are the God who does wondrous things. May your glory fill this place as we worship you in spirit and in truth. AMEN.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE (PBUCC)

In this season, we can be overwhelmed with so many things—busyness, impatience, despair, and even violence

As we wait for the Prince of Peace.

Today, we gather to listen for the voice crying in the wilderness, comforting us and challenging us at the same time.

We need to be surprised by the Spirit this season.

Today is a first step of turning toward God with expectation.

We come with open ears, open minds, and open hearts.

God's Spirit calls us to worship and to work for justice.

We have come in to be overwhelmed with peace.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

HYMN: "One Candle is Lit" # 128 Verse 2

Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare

for a gift that compels us with justice to care.

Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease.

One candle, is lit for the reign of God's peace.

PRAYER - UCC BOW (Together)

Eternal God, we thank you that through all the years you have given peace to your people. Help us to have your peace in our lives. We pray that, in this Advent season, we may, by what we do, show your presence to the sick, to the hungry, and to the lonely, so that they too may have peace. AMEN.

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

RESPONSE: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight,

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell

you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

I baptized you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

HYMN: “Lo How a Rose E’er Blooming” # 160

Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse’s lineage coming by faithful prophets sung;
it came a flow’r-et bright, amid the cold of winter when half spent was the night.

Isaiah ’twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright she bore to us a Savior when half spent was the night.

SERMON: “Something New”
Rev. Laura Mignerone

ANTHEM: “On Jordan’s Bank”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (“Thanks Be to God” by Glen E. Rainsley pg 81)

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Your kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

Offertory

* Doxology #46 "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 of Dedication (Together)

We dedicate these gifts that have been shared for the fortification of the beloved community. Let these gifts do justice in the world. Let them be a signal to the people that there is a God who saves, heals, and sets free. AMEN.

* CLOSING HYMN: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" # 140 Verses 1, 3, and 4

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!

Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captives free,
to take away transgressions, and rule in equity.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth.

Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.

Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,

his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

the tide of time shall never his covenant remove.

His name shall stand forever; that name to us is Love.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

WELCOME PASTOR LAURA

This Sunday would be a good time to come back to church if you haven't been here for awhile. It will be the first Sunday for everyone to meet Pastor Laura and welcome her to our church.

After service we will have a meet and greet time. If you would like to bring a little something for us to put out for everyone to snack on, that would be great. Hoping to see you on Sunday!

ORNAMENT TRADITION

It has been a St. Philip's tradition for many years for all those attending St. Philip's to bring an ornament from home to hang on our tree in the sanctuary. This is a simple way to celebrate the community of Christ.

If you are new to St. Philip's, please consider doing so before or after church any time during Advent.

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
Devin Coleman	21
Missy Ruffino	21
Chloe Armistead	24
Karen Nickel	26
Katie Eason	28
Ashley Henson	30
Scott Stevenson	30



ST. PHILIP'S - YOUNG ADULT AND FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

We would like to invite families to the following event. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Tukin at 314-566-8633 or andreatukin@gmail.com

Wild Lights @ St. Louis Zoo: **Saturday, December 17.** Official details to come, but tentatively planning to meet at 4:30pm @ South Entrance. For more info and to [RSVP CLICK HERE](#). Tickets are available for purchase here [Link to buy tickets](#).

CHOIR REHEARSAL AFTER WORSHIP

Anyone interested in joining the Choir please join us for another rehearsal. For now, **we will meet every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.** December's rehearsals will be on the 4th and 18th.

The Choir rehearses the Anthem and Hymns for the upcoming Sunday worship service. New members are always welcome. There is no audition – anyone with a love for music and a desire to sing is invited to join. Rehearsal lasts usually about an hour and we always have fun! Contact Mike Orzel, our Music Director, for more information.

Please wear your name tag during worship.

Thank you!

WORSHIP LISTENING DEVICES

Listening devices used during worship are now available in the Admin Assistant Office as you walk in the door to the right.

LUNCH BUNCH

The December Lunch Bunch will be at Sandy's on Wednesday, December 14 at noon.

For lunch we're having potluck so bring a dish you would like to share. No need to indicate your type of dish - just signup your name on the signup sheet on the bulletin board or let Sandy know you're coming.

As usual, we'll eat, visit and play the much cherished (?) rob your neighbor game. Be sure to bring a wrapped white elephant present! Hope to see you then!

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Our **Cap, Mitten, Glove, and Scarf tree** is up and awaiting your contributions! Items collected will go to Caroline Mission, which has an Early Childhood Education program for infants to 5-year olds, and items for babies and children are especially appreciated. The families served also have older children and adults, so items of all sizes are needed.

We are again participating in the Feed My People **"Adopt a Family Program"**. Our family members are Zemfira, 47 years old, Kasim, 52 years old, and their four children ages 14-24. We hope to collect funds to buy a \$50 gift card for each of them and a \$50 grocery card for a holiday meal. Contributions can be made in your offering envelope with "Adopt a Family" written on the memo line. Thanks ahead of time for your hospitality!

Hello Friends.

I would like to invite you to free Christmas Concerts presented by a choir that I sing with. We sing only Black Gospel music. About 50% of the choir is black and 50% white. Our goals are to make beautiful music and to promote racial and cultural harmony. I think you would enjoy hearing us sing! It is not necessary to reserve seats for the afternoon concerts. The Saturday evening concert includes 2 other groups and we expect a big crowd for that concert. Hope to see you in the audience!

Barbara Barnes

Community Gospel Choir Offers Three Opportunities to See us This Christmas

A GOSPEL CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Community Gospel Choir and special guests will present a selection of traditional Christmas spirituals and contemporary Gospel Christmas favorites sung by more than 50 glorious voices.

This concert is free. A free will offering will be taken.

**SATURDAY, DEC 3,
2 PM**

**KIRKWOOD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
201 W. Adams
Kirkwood, MO

**SUNDAY, DEC. 4
4 PM**

**BRIDGEWAY UNITED
ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
11950 Mark Twain Ln.
Bridgeton, MO

A Concert Celebrating the Harmony of Differences



SAINT LOUIS WOMEN'S
CHORALE

Community
Gospel
CHOIR of St. Louis

THE
LEGEND SINGERS

Join Us 12/3/22 7PM

**SATURDAY,
DEC 3
7 PM**

**KIRKWOOD UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**
201 W. Adams
Kirkwood, MO



Christmas Poinsettias

Back again this year are beautiful poinsettia plants in your choice of red or pink, and mums in either white or yellow.

The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary on Saturday, December 24 during the Christmas Eve service. You may take your plants home after the Christmas Eve service.

The cost is \$11.00 each plant.
Make check payable to 'Walter Knoll Florist'

Name _____

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u>
_____	Red Poinsettia
_____	Pink Poinsettia
_____	White Mum
_____	Yellow Mum

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

You can drop your order form and payment in the offering plate or give to Carol O'Shea in the church office **by Tuesday, December 13th**.

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to those who donated candy toward the Christmas bags the kids put together for Isaiah 58 Ministries. We hope they make the season brighter for those in need. As always, thank you for your generosity! You're the best!

Love,
The LOGOS Families



BOOK CLUB

We will meet on **December 18** after church to discuss 'Less' by Andrew Greer, and to share a potluck lunch. Books are checked out from the St Louis County Library in kit form, and can be picked up at church on December 18, or they can be delivered to your house on request.

Our next selection is Beartown by Fredrik Backman. We have enjoyed two of his previous books and expect to enjoy this one as well. Consider joining us, we always have a good time, and everyone is welcome, even those who have not read the book!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	5 7:00 Church Council Mtg	6	7 5:30-7:00 LOGOS	8	9	10
11 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	12 4:30 ECC Board Meeting	13 Poinsettia Plant Orders Due	14 noon Lunch Bunch @ Sandy's	15	16	17
18 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	19	20	21	22	23	24 8:00 Christmas Eve Worship
25 No Worship Service	26	27	28	29	30	31
1 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	2 7:00 Church Council Mtg	3	4	5	6	7



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.



Gail Avery
Joyce Brand
Sandy Ganz
Grace Heady
Virginia Hladnick
Pam Kelly
Marilyn Milne

Sue Myers
Jered Nagle
Shirley Nottelmann
Janet Remmers
Paul Shrout
Lily Swanson
Paula Williams



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