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Meeting ID: 943 2792 1872

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Those joining us for worship on Zoom can present their tithes and offerings online through our [website](#) or by downloading the [Tithe.ly App](#) for your iPhone or Android device. You may also give using Venmo. Our Venmo “handle” is @UUCAlfred, but you can find us by searching for the name of the church, or you can scan this QR code to donate to UUC on Venmo:



UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

PRELUDE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *arr by John Innes*

***INTROIT #219** **Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Speaker 1: Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. Let us light it again to show that our hope continues. (Light the first candle.)

Speaker 2: John the Baptist called on the people of his day to prepare the path for the coming of the Messiah. He called them to repent, turn around, change their ways. To live in peace with others, we need to repent and change directions.

Speaker 1: We light this second candle to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He shows us how to share God’s peace with others. (Light the second candle.)

Speaker 2: The prayer of St. Francis asks God to help us be peacemakers. Let us say it together:

Family: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is sadness, joy;
And where there is darkness, light.
Grant that we may seek
not so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

*** HYMN OF THE MONTH #212 Comfort, Comfort, O My People**

PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER – LORD’S PRAYER *(debts/debtors)*

*** HYMN #216** **Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming**

GIFT OF MUSIC Some Children See Him *Luanne Crosby*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY What Child Is This *arr by James Mansfield*

*** DOXOLOGY #71A & BLESSING**

Praise God, the source of life and birth.

Praise God, the Word who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy Flame.

All glory, honor to God’s name. Amen

SCRIPTURE Joshua 2:1-21 (pew Bible 186) Hebrews 11:31 (pew bible 1051)

MEDITATION Helpless and Hungry (Hymn #268)

SERMON The Courage To Risk *Rev Roberto Che Espinoza, PhD*

*** CLOSING HYMN#218 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

*** BENEDICTION**

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

(congregation left leads, congregation right responds)

Congregation left: Soli deo gloria

Congregation right: Soli deo gloria

Congregation left: To God alone all glory be

Congregation right: To God alone all glory be

All: Amen, amen, amen.

POSTLUDE

O Come All Ye Faithful

***Please stand as you are able.**

Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the Church Center following worship.

Serving Today

Lay LeaderLarry Casey
Advent Candles.....the Stephens Family
Greeter(s)MaryBeth McDonough
Coffee HourMaryBeth McDonough
Organ.....Laurel Buckwalter
Piano Peter O'Connor
SoloistLuanne Crosby
Usher.....Dave Porter
Zoom Hosts Jim Ninos, John Buckwalter

Looking Ahead

December 15, Third Sunday of Advent

Lay LeaderCatherine Chambers
Greeter(s)Amie Acton
Coffee Hour Fasano/Heineman
OrganLaurel Buckwalter
Piano Peter O'Connor
UsherMary Perkins
Zoom Hosts..... John Buckwalter & Jim Ninos

PRAYER CONCERNS

Ding Jiayi & Family, Chang Weiping & Family, Clayton Stutzman, Hugh Langelier, Wes Bentz, Lowin, Michelle Garcia Escobar, Vangelia Perryman, Esther & Marcus Epps, Kenneth Williams, Bob & Deb Lewis, Steve Crandall, Bob Condrate, the Burdick family, Joan & Brad Bowden, Chrystal Dodge, Vaughn Mussmon (Joan Schulze's niece's youngest son), Mary-Lou & Jerry Cartledge).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Cookies for the Food Pantry: These cookies can be left in the church kitchen until December 18.

The Christmas Eve choir needs singers! Luanne and Laurel will be directing a community choir. Rehearsals will be on Sunday nights, December 15 and December 22, at 7 PM in the sanctuary. Laurel is hoping that church members will be able to provide special music on Sunday morning December 22, doing one of the songs we will learn on the 15th.

Tonight: UUC Potluck Dinner & Christmas Party

You're invited to the UUC Christmas Party tonight at 5pm in the King David Room of the Church Center! The Youth will host a festive evening of inspiration, Christmas carols, and a magical mystery 'White Elephant' activity.



CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY



Blue Christmas Service December 21, 2024 | 7:00 PM

Join us on the longest night of the year for a contemplative **Blue Christmas Service**, a sacred time to honor the complexity of the holiday season. This service is designed for those who find this season difficult—whether due to grief, loss, loneliness, or simply the weight of the world. Through quiet reflection, candlelight, and gentle music, we will create space for sorrow and longing, while holding hope for renewal and healing. Together, we will acknowledge the shadows, honor our emotions, and find solace in the presence of community and the sacred.

Come as you are—whether heavy-hearted or seeking peace—and allow this time to ground and renew you as we await the light's return. All are welcome.

Financial Update:

Operating Income is running behind budget by about 29%

Income through November 30: \$61,189.00

Income needed through November 30 to make budget: \$86,430.00

219 Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

PREPARE YE THE WAY 8.8

Capo 3: (G) B \flat (A m7) C m7 (B m) D m (D) F

Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord,

pre - pare ye the way of the Lord.

Text: Isaiah 40:3, Matthew 3:3, Mark 1:3

Music: Stephen Schwartz (USA), © 1971 Range Road Music, Inc., Quartet Music, Inc., and New Cadenza Music, Inc.,
dist. Hal Leonard, Inc.



212 Comfort, Comfort, O My People

GENEVA 42 (FREU DICH SEHR) 8.7.8.7.7.8.8

F Dm B♭ F C F

1 Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple, speak of peace, now says our God.
 2 Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 O make straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain.

Dm B♭ F C F

Com - fort those who sit in shad - ows, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.
 bid - ding all to full re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits a ho - ly reign.

C F B♭ C

Speak un - to Jer - u - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them.
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!
 For the glo - ry of our God now o'er earth is shed a - broad.

F Gm Dm F B♭ F B♭ C F

Tell of all the sins I cov - er, and that war - fare now is o - ver.
 Val - leys, rise in ex - al - ta - tion; hills, bow down in ad - o - ra - tion.
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Chord symbols represent a simplified harmony.

Text: based on Isaiah 40:1-5; Johannes Olearius (present-day Germany), "Tröstet, tröstet, meine Lieben," *Geistliche Singe-Kunst*, 1671; trans. Catherine Winkworth (England), *Chorale Book for England*, 1863, alt.

Music: Louis Bourgeois (present-day France), *Genevan Psalter, Octante Trois Pseaumes de David*, 1551; harm. adapt. from Claude Goudimel (present-day France), *150 Pseaumes de David*, 1564

216 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS' 7.6.7.6.6.7.6

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem has sprung!
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind.
 3 Flow - er, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

Of Jes-se's lin - eage com - ing as saints of old have sung.
 With Ma - ry we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor gloom and grief ev - 'ry - where.

It came, a flow'r - et bright, a - mid the
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to
 True man, yet ver - y God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.
 death he saves us, and light - ens ev - 'ry load.


Text: stanzas 1–2 anon., “Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen” (present-day Germany), 15th c.; *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengasäng* (present-day Germany), 1599; trans. Theodore Baker (USA), 1894; stanza 3 Friedrich Layritz (Germany), *Liederschatz*, 1832; trans. Harriet K. Spaeth (USA), *The Hymnal*, 1940, alt.

Musical: German traditional, 15th c.; *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengasäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (present-day Germany), *Musae Sionae VI*, 1609

218 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (Em/D) (A) (D) (A) (D)
F C F Gm/F C F C F




1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
2 Come, thou u - ni - ver - sal Sav - ior; come, re - deem the
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and

(Em/G) (A) (D) (A) (D) (Em/D) (A)
Gm/Bb C F C F Gm/F C



peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
hu - man race. Life and joy spring from thy fa - vor;
yet a king; born to reign in us for - ev - er,

(D) (A) (D) (Em/G) (A) (D) (F#m) (Bm7) (Em7)
F C F Gm/Bb C F Am Dm7 Gm7



let us find our rest in thee: Is - rael's strength and con - so -
cheer each soul in need of grace. Still we wait for thine ap -
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

Text: Charles Wesley (England), *Hymns for the Nativity of Our Lord*, 1744; stanza 2 adapt. from "Light of Those Whose Dreary Dwelling" in the same collection

Music: Rowland H. Prichard (Wales), ca. 1830, *Cyfaill y Cantorion*, 1844; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (England), *The English Hymnal*, 1906, adapt. 1951, *BBC Hymn Book*, © Oxford University Press, London

(A7) (D) (Bm) (Em7) (A sus) (A) (D) (Em7)
 C7 F Dm Gm7 C sus C F Gm7

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
 pear-ing— make our sense - less strug - gles cease. Guide us from our
 Spir - it, rule in all our hearts a - lone. By thine all - suf-

(D) (A) (D) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D)
 F C F Bb F/C C7 F

ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 wea - ry wand - 'ring in - to paths of per - fect peace.
 fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

