The Candle of Peace

SECOND SUNDAY OF Advent

DECEMBER 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent ~ Peace

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

Words of Welcome
As we begin our service, just some notes of preparation:
1. For Communion: For those who might have forgotten, elements are available on the tables in the atrium.
2. Prayer requests – Please text your prayer requests to Beth Fulkerson at 585.755.6310 by the time we’re listening to Special Music/Anthem. State your name should your number not be in her contact list and your requests will be read during community prayer. ALSO, for those without cell phones, slips of paper/pencils can be found on pews by center aisle. Thank you.
3. Announcements will take place right before the benediction. Should you have an Announcement to share, text it to Beth Fulkerson at the above number, identifying it as an Announcement vs. a prayer request. Beth will read those as well as those printed in the bulletin.
4. In consideration of all, please wear a mask at all times while in the building.

GATHERING
Please take this time to center yourself as we listen to this morning’s prelude.

Prelude

Land Acknowledgment: Our physical space stands on unceded land originally stewarded by the Seneca people. Today let us acknowledge and honor the Seneca nation by walking paths that lead to equality for all and care for creation.

Call to Worship (Responsive)
One: We pray for peace on earth.
Many: We pray for peace.
One: We pray.
Many: We pray with divine hope in our hearts, for peace to embrace the world.
   We pray with divine hope in our hearts, to experience inner peace.
   Let us find God’s peace in our hearts as we worship together...
   if only for a moment. Amen.
I wonder if God comes to the edge of heaven each Advent
and flings the Star into the December sky,
laughing with joy as it lights the darkness of the earth;
and the angels, hearing the laughter of God,
begin to congregate in some celestial chamber
to practice their alleluias.
I wonder if there is some ordering of rank among the angels
as they move into procession,
the seraphim bumping the cherubim from top spot,
the new inhabitants of heaven standing in the back
until they get the knack of it.
(After all, treading air over a stable and announcing at the same time
can’t be all that easy!)
Or is it everybody - that is, every “soul” - free to fly
wherever the spirit moves?
Or do they even think about it?
Perhaps when God calls, perhaps they just come,
this multitude of heavenly hosts.
Perhaps they come,
winging through the winds of time
full of expectancy
full of hope
that this year
perhaps this year
(perhaps)
the earth will fall to its knees
in a whisper of “Peace.”

Today, while the Candle of Hope sends its light into our hearts,
we light the Candle of Peace as we await the birth of the Prince of Peace.

† Opening Hymn

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*  
Chalice Hymnal, No. 135

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty!
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.
Now from the house of David a child of grace has come, a Savior who will lead us to our eternal home. Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way, the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On all by death imprisoned the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes, to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

Sharing With Children

Anthem  “Advent Meditation”  Patrick Liebergen
Laura Schunk, flute

Children are invited to Faith Formation activities following the choir’s anthem.

ENGAGING

Scripture Reading  Luke 1:68-79  Pew Bible, NT page 58
Lector: Barbara Coe

Sermon  The Reverend Dr. Margo Markesteijn

Music for Reflection  Frankie Bones

RESPONDING

Offertory Sentence and Blessing  While no plates are passed during the offering, your gifts are still needed and appreciated for the continuation of our ministries. You are welcome to use the Tithe.ly app on our webpage, send a gift via U.S. mail, or through your bank.

An offering plate is available in the narthex for those who would like to give after worship.

† Offertory Hymn  Doxology  Chalice Hymnal, No. 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, (God) all creatures here below;
Praise him (God) above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE LORD’S SUPPER

This table is open to all. Together we are the Body of Christ.
We will partake of the Bread and the Cup in unison following the Elder’s prayer.

Let us say together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples . . .
The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father (or Creator) which art in heaven hallowed be thy name.
Thy 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.

Prayer Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in deepest sin
My hand will save

I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away

I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my word to them
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save

Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)
Prayers for Our Community and the World

Hear now our community prayers. After request... God in your goodness, grace or mercy... People: Hear our Prayer.

Silent Prayers

GOING FORTH

† Closing Hymn  It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  Chalice Hymnal, No. 153

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold; “Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King.” The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing, and ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And you beneath life's crushing load whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way, with painful steps and slow, look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing; O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold; when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Preparing to Go Out and Participate in the Life of the Church

Beth Fulkerson will share an abbreviated version of each announcement in the bulletin. If you have something to announce that is NOT in the bulletin, please text it to Beth Fulkerson at 585.755.6310 and begin your message with the word “Announcement.” This is one way of assuring that those on ZOOM will be able to hear all the announcements. Thank you for your cooperation.

Benediction

Postlude

Frankie Bones

† All who are able, please stand.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Elders ..........  Kathy Schaefer & Jeannie Strong  Deacons ............................  Jess Ayers, Amy Greer
ZOOM Host.......................................... Barbara Coe  Greeters..................  All God’s People! Amy Greer
HOPES and PRAYERS – Tuesdays at 10:00 AM.
Join Diane Ellis via ZOOM for a time of sharing those things heavy on your heart as well as lifting up the ways God has already blessed your life or answered your prayers. A ZOOM invitation will be sent Monday evening.

General Board Meeting – Sunday, December 12 – 11:45 AM
All church officers are voting members of the General Board. You are encouraged to attend the meeting in the Fellowship Hall (masks required) and via ZOOM. This is an opportunity to make your voice heard. The Board Meetings are open and all are welcome to attend.

As the MOJO Christmas activity, we’re collecting items from a wish list of the residents at the Coldwater Women and Children’s Center in Chili. Please go to the link below for information on the organization.

Take however many gifts you want. Put one of the stapled cards in the bag by the tree in the Atrium so we can keep the list edited. Except for the higher priced ones, your gift must be new because of Covid. Bring it and the card you took back in a bag unwrapped by 12/12 or 12/19.

Zoomers got the edited list to ponder. Please email Kathy Schaefer your choice at shaykathryn@gmail.com so she can update the list.

https://opendoormission.com/coldwater-women-and-childrens-home

Financial Update as of November 28, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021 YTD Budgeted Receipts</th>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loose/Donations</td>
<td>$923</td>
<td>$6,868</td>
<td>$5,945</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Growth</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Church</td>
<td>$277</td>
<td>$860</td>
<td>$583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td>$14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. &amp; Prior Year</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$507</td>
<td>$507</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Envelope Giving</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intent To Give Contributions</td>
<td>$110,780</td>
<td>$105,577</td>
<td>($5,204)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Income</td>
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<td>$21,865</td>
<td>$11,840</td>
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<td>Prior Year Surplus</td>
<td>$9,250</td>
<td>$9,250</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpledged Giving</td>
<td>$2,769</td>
<td>$6,395</td>
<td>$3,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget Receipts</td>
<td>$134,038</td>
<td>$151,699</td>
<td>$17,661</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is a Care Group?
A Care Group is made up of a group of families in the church and one elder. The Elder will keep in contact with you, see how you’re doing and ask if you need anything the elder or CCC could provide. You will hear from your elder in any mode you want: letters, calls, email or texts. What might you need? Prayers, food, company or just someone to talk to. Elders also can introduce you to the members of your care group, so you can get to know them. The group is just a small entity of the larger church for your personal access.

Current Elders and Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
<th>E-mail address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pam Bakst</td>
<td>585-409-1505</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pamfromchurch@gmail.com">pamfromchurch@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connie Bottoni</td>
<td>585-747-4479</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cmbottoni@gmail.com">cmbottoni@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Brown</td>
<td>607-259-8387</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Fdbrown3933@yahoo.com">Fdbrown3933@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Foote</td>
<td>585-737-1133</td>
<td><a href="mailto:c.royal.foote@gmail.com">c.royal.foote@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Kelly</td>
<td>585-546-5929</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bkelley.ccc@inetity.com">bkelley.ccc@inetity.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Robillard</td>
<td>585-705-5886</td>
<td><a href="mailto:danrobillard@rocketmail.com">danrobillard@rocketmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Schaefer</td>
<td>585-259-0433</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shaykathryn@gmail.com">shaykathryn@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dee Staley</td>
<td>585-729-7608</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Deirdrestaley2@gmail.com">Deirdrestaley2@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeannie Strong</td>
<td>585-259-8836</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeannie.strong1950@gmail.com">jeannie.strong1950@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attention Church Officers – The 2021 written reports for the Annual Meeting must be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday, December 19 to be included in the Annual Meeting Booklet. Reports should be emailed to Sandy at Turkielegs@aol.com or hard copies may be dropped off in the office in the wooden mail slot marked “Annual Reports.” If you would like a copy of last year’s report dealing with your ministry, let Sandy know. Thanks!

   Note: The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, January 9, 2022.

“RECORDING OUR STORIES” PROJECT
WHAT: Recording stories from each church person (kids too!)
ABOUT: Who you are and someone who has been an important influence in your life (a “saint” for you!)
HOW: By ZOOM – done in groups of 2 (interviewing each other)
WHEN: Starting in November 2021 and occurring over the next several months
WHERE: At your home or at church (your preference)
COORDINATORS: Jeannie Strong and Carol Giblin; Ryan Hubbell as ZOOM master
This project is part of the Sabbatical funding that Steven Price received through the Lily Foundation grant. It will also be a part of the church’s 125th Anniversary which is coming up next year! Jeannie and Carol will be contacting everyone at some point to schedule their recording so be thinking ahead to who you would like to remember on your recording and also who you would like to have as your recording partner! All the information you need will be provided before you record; Jeannie and Carol will help you with any questions you may have!
Hungry for Some Inspiration?
Sign up now for the CCC Daily Dish - a heaping helping of inspiration! MOJO, in cooperation with our diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, is launching a new daily engagement platform. You can opt in by texting **CCCDailyDish to 43506.** Each day you'll receive a short message to ponder, reflect on, and/or share with others. Questions? Ask Shawna (shawnalusk@gmail.com or 576-5159).

Best Wishes to Those Celebrating Birthdays This Week . . .

- December 6  Shelly Cannon
- December 7  Gene Ver
- December 9  Denise Dufrane
- December 11 Carol Giblin

* A BELATED Happy Birthday on December 2 to LJ McNair and on December 3 to Karen Destino.

◆ **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**◆

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Today, December 5th</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Fellowship Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 6th</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Girl Scout Leader Training – FH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 7th</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Hopes and Prayers (ZOOM)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Deadline for bulletin announcements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Stewardship &amp; Finance Meeting (ZOOM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 8th</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Sr. Choir Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 9th</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>RGMC Rehearsal – FH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Chili Democratic Cmt. (ZOOM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 11th</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Girl Scouts – FH (til 11:30a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 12th</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Third Sunday in Advent</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Hybrid Worship – Please wear a mask.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45 (ish)</td>
<td>Children leave for Faith Formation Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Board Meeting – FH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

◆ **OUR CHURCH AT WORK**◆

**READY TO SERVE:**  
*Ron Herman, Chairperson of the General Board*
Ron can be reached at 313-2459 or duncan1160@yahoo.com

*Bill Kelly, Co-Chairperson of the Elders*
Bill can be reached at 546-5929 or bkelly.ccc@inentity.com

*Connie Bottoni, Co-Chairperson of the Elders*
Connie can be reached at 747-4479 or cmbottoni@gmail.com

*Sandy Hubbell, Office Administrator*
Sandy can be reached at turkielegs@aol.com or if you need immediate assistance, call her at 617-4009 and leave a message.

**COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
2647 Chili Avenue † Rochester, NY 14624 † (585) 247-2494
e-mail address: cccopentoall@aol.com  web page: www.cccopentoall.org
The Reverend Dr. Margo Markesteijn – Sabbatical Interim Minister
Dear Church Family,

It’s tradition at CCC to offer church members and friends an opportunity to contribute towards a monetary gift at Christmas for the pastor. Since Pastor Steven is away, we will present the gift to him later than normal - on Epiphany Sunday - the same day the Wise Men brought their gifts to the Baby Jesus. On that day we will give Pastor Steven a gift from the church in thanks for the many ways he has served our congregation so faithfully, especially during the challenging years of the Covid pandemic.

If you would like to contribute to this gift, all you need do is put your donation in the offering plate clearly marked “Pastor’s Christmas Gift” – or you can give or mail it directly to the Financial Secretary, Pat Cannon.

The Ministry of Congregational Care

DON’T MISS IT! – “Welcome Back Steven” and “Thank You, Margo” BONFIRE
Tuesday, December 21st – Snow Date – Thursday, December 23rd - 5:30 PM

We’ll stay nice and warm and toasty by the rip-roaring fire – small heaters available under the large canopy.

- Grilled Hot Dogs  A chance to greet Pastor Steven & welcome him back before Christmas Eve.
- Light Sides  A chance to express our sincere thanks to Margo for filling in so wonderfully.
- Wraps  A chance to be outside and not have to wear masks (unless you want to keep warm!).

More details to come. Make sure you mark your calendar!