

December 1, 2019



FEDERATED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Gathered at 76 Bell Street, Chagrin Falls, Ohio

Ministers to the World: All the Congregation

Ministers to the Congregation: All the Church Staff

December 1, 2019

1st Sunday of Advent

10 am

~Gather in Spirit~

Theme: Hope in the Midst of Hopelessness

Prelude *There Is a Voice in the Wilderness* (R. Benson) Marcia Snavely, organ

Welcome and Announcements and Hospitality book signing Rev. Mark Simone

Thank you for signing the hospitality booklet this morning. Your presence here is a blessing! When you sign in, it lets us know both who's here and who's not. When you're able to be at worship, we celebrate that. And when you're not, we miss you. Help us to keep connected by signing in.

Introit *Light of Light* (J. Raney) Federated Choir

Lighting of Advent Candle of Hope Brady, Ali, Anna, Kate and Ella Hively

One: Teach us your ways, O Light of the world.

As we gather, we remember and confess that we have not put our hope in you, O God. So we join in prayer:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**For those times we have not looked for hope amidst hopelessness,
For those times we have not been hope for those who need it,
For those times we have given up hope without first coming to you,
We ask your forgiveness, O merciful God. Amen.**

One: We put our hope in the assurance of Christ's promise of forgiveness, rejoicing that our God of all hopefulness promises mercy and forgives our sins. As we bring to light our first Advent candle, our candle of hope, we remember that Christ's light rises up and brings light amidst the hopelessness in our world. And so we pray, God of All Hopefulness,

All: Come to us!

One: Shine out in the midst of hopelessness.

All: Shine out to light our way.

One: Shine in our darkest places.

All: Shine through us for the world to see.

Congregational Response sung (remain seated)

* Those who are able stand

**** Worshipers may be seated

Light of Light

Congregational Part

JOEL RANEY



Voi - ces cry out from a world in grief:
prayers of those who seek re - lief.
End their dark - ness, hear their call for
peace on earth, good will for all.

Choir Introit Continued

One: Let us pray: God of our Hope, open our eyes to see you in the midst of hopelessness. Fill us with your light that we may be a beacon of hope for others. Amen.
Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace and hope.

* Passing of the Peace

(Children leave for Sunday School)

* Hymn

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

No. 136

Prayers of the People and Fellowship of Prayer

Rev. Simone

* Hymn

Come, O Long-expected, Jesus

No. 125

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Advent Cry (J. Martin)

Federated Choir

* Hymn of Dedication *To God, All Glorious Heavenly Light* (Tune: TALLIS' CANON)

To God, all glorious heavenly Light;
To Christ revealed in earthly night;
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.

* Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

Isaiah 2:1-5

Sermon

(Children return from Sunday School)

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

- * **Communion Hymn** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (vs. 1,2,4) No. 124

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Liturgy (sung)

(Adapted from Rev. Beth Quick, *A Sung Communion Liturgy for the Season of Advent*)

Soloists: Rev. Throckmorton, Rev. Simone, Nancy Isham, Kate Breen

Congregational response (sung)

**Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Welcome to the Table

Come up the side aisles to the front of the Sanctuary to receive the sacrament. Take the bread, dip it into the cup, partake immediately. Then return to your seat by the center aisle. The gluten free option is available in the small bowls on the communion plates. Also, we use only unfermented grape juice in the cup. Communion in our church is open to all who seek to walk the way of our Savior, Jesus Christ. You need not be a member to share. Freely receive at this table a gift from God, never earned or deserved.

Communion Music *Savior of the Nations, Come* (J.S. Bach)
The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (P. Manz)

* **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who 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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

- * **Hymn** *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates* No. 129

* **Benediction**

- * **Postlude** *The King Shall Come* (E. Childs) Marcia Snavely, organ

~Serve in Love~



Hearing Loop System Available - This Sanctuary is equipped with a Hearing Loop system that works with all Telecoil-equipped hearing aids to amplify sound with excellent clarity. For more information please speak to an usher.
