

Service Of Worship

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

WORSHIP THROUGH PRAISE

Musical Worship Prelude/Lighting of Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Striking of the Hour

*Call to Worship

Pastor: O Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye people. His merciful kindness is great toward us.

People: Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord forevermore.

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Praise

Come, Thou Almighty King

#247

Children's Story Time

WORSHIP THROUGH MEDIATION

Symbolism Of The Advent Wreath:

The wreath is round, with no beginning or end, testifying to the eternity of God's creation, of His love and care for mankind. The wreath is of evergreen, recalling that our faith, our hope, and our love are always alive when they spring from God and His Son. The candles represent the one who said, "I am the light of the world." There are four candles, each representing a Sunday in Advent, and a fifth candle, which is the Christmas candle.

The Lighting of The First Advent Candle

The Marty Johnston Family

Song

Light A Candle in The Night (Hope)

Choir

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

CONGREGATION: Why do we light one candle?

Leader: This first candle reminds us of the light of hope that the prophets had in their expectation of a Messiah who would bring peace and love to the world.

UNISON: Isaiah the Prophet wrote: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined."

*Hymn of Preparation

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#89

***UNISON PRAYER: Dear God, Our world is in darkness. We need the light of hope and love to shine in our world. Help us to prepare our lives and our homes to receive the One who said, "I am the light of the world." We pray in the name of Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Morning Prayer

Choral Response

WORSHIP THROUGH STEWARDSHIP

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

*Offertory

Doxology

WORSHIP THROUGH PROCLAMATION

Choral Selection

There Will Be Joy

Choir

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:16-21

Sermon

A Picture of God

Rev. Thompson

WORSHIP THROUGH DEDICATION

* Hymn of Invitation

I Love to Tell the Story

#572

*Benediction

*Chiming of the Trinity

*Extinguishing of the Candles of Worship

*Time of Fellowship and Friendly Greeting

*All who are able please stand

Welcome! We welcome all those who worship with us today. If you are a guest, we want to give you a special welcome. If you are looking for a church home, we would count it an honor to have you make it here. A staffed **Nursery** is available for small children through the doors at the front right side of the sanctuary. We have a Children's Worship Time during the "Sermon" time. Children ages 3 yrs. old through 1st grade leave following the Offertory.

The Nativity Arrangement on the Altar today is given to the Glory of God and in memory of Lawton and Mary Maddox.

Sunday: 10:00 Sunday School

10:55 **Worship Service – We light the first Advent Candle and Light the Christmas Tree** during our worship this morning.

12:00 **Deacons** will be at the door to collect a Love Offering for the Harrison family

1:30 **Choir Practice**

3:15 **Practice for the Youth/Children's Christmas program** in the Sanctuary. All ages are needed. If you can't be present this Sunday afternoon but would like to be part of the program, please contact Mary Griffin. The program will be presented on Sunday evening December 16 at 6:00

4:00 **Youth**

Monday: 7:00 Board of Trustees meet in the Library

7:00 **Cub Scouts**

Tuesday: 9:00 Well Wishers will leave to go the Rudy Theater

Wednesday: 6:30 Bible Study

7:00 Boy Scouts

Saturday: 8:30 Breakfast with Santa at St. Luke UMC.

Next Sunday: 6:00 Practice for Youth/Children's Christmas program in the Sanctuary.

We will receive a **special love offering** for the Harrison family today. This will assist with expenses related to the passing of Kyndle Harrison. Deacons will be at the exits as you leave the Sanctuary.

Beginning today, the Deacons will again offer the **Christmas Card Exchange** program for Shallow Well folks. Just bring your cards addressed to other Shallow Well attendees, and place them in the box in the Narthex. Then check the box each week to pick up cards addressed to you. There will be a jar for donations of postage that you save and the proceeds will go to the Deacon's Fund to help those in need. This is a good way to wish your Church Family a very Merry Christmas.

We will be **going caroling** at Eames Drive and Winslow Drive Housing complexes on Tuesday, December 18 at 6:00. We need you to help spread Christmas cheer. We give each residence a pound cake, candy for the children, and sing a Christmas carol. You will be blessed by spending an hour of your time this Christmas sharing the love of God. We will meet at the mailboxes at Eames Drive. If you would like to donate to help buy cakes the cost is \$1.00 per cake. You can give the money to Mary Griffin.

If you would like to give a **poinsettia** in honor or in memory of someone, please let Mary Griffin know by Sunday, December 9. There are forms in the bulletin today and in the Narthex. They will be placed in the Sanctuary on December 16 and 23.

Memorials have been made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Steve Hempe** by: Wilson, Reives, & Silverman PLLC, Owen Henry Willis Jr., Ralph and Ann Kelly, and Charles McDonald; to the General Fund in memory of **Steve Hempe** by: Carolyn Williamson, Faithful Followers SSC; to the General Fund in memory of **Fred Johnston** by: Faithful Followers SSC; to the Memorial Fund in honor of **Florence Hughes's** 100th Birthday by: Jan and Morris Wilson.

Thanksgiving and Christmas seem to be the high times of the year for donations and giving. Typically, that's not the rule here in Shallow Well United Church of Christ. Opportunities abound to help those that are in need: homeless, hungry, harmed by natural disaster, and those that are hurting. Our food of focus for CUOC is **canned vegetables** this month of December. The personal hygiene items we add are such a relief to those that receive them.



Shallow Well Church

(A United Church of Christ Congregation)

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“Loving God, Growing Together, Serving Others”