

United Church of Christ of California ~ California, Missouri
Rev. Russell Cobb
Mrs. Beth Dampf
Pastor
Organist

December 22, 2024 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

**All those who are able, please stand*

The Bell

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles Sophie & Bruce Miller

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading: LOVE

Leader: Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent wreath. The candle of HOPE, PEACE and JOY.

Lighting of The Candles of HOPE, PEACE, and JOY

Leader: Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of LOVE.

Lighting of The Candle of LOVE.

Leader: Jesus demonstrated self-giving love in his ministry as the Good Shepherd. Advent is a time for kindness, thinking of others, and sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us his most precious gift. As God is love, let us be love also. From the Gospel of John, we hear:

Congregation: **“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”**

*Hymn No. 128 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

*Prayer of the Day:

Teach us to love, O Lord. May we always remember to put you first as we follow Christ’s footsteps, that we may know your love and show it in our lives. As we prepare for our celebration of Jesus’ birth, also fill our hearts with love for the world, that all may know your love and the one whom you have sent, your son, our Savior. Amen.

*Call to Praise

O Lord, open our lips!

And our mouths shall show forth your praise!

*Act of Praise “*Gloria Patri*” (printed on laminated card in pew rack)

Invitation to Children’s Time

Hymn for Children “**Away in the Manager**”

Children’s Time

Holly Bieri

Special Music

Stacy Friedrich

Prayer for Illumination

Carla Clennin

Loving God, by the gift of your Spirit, teach us, like Mary, to treasure your words and ponder them in our hearts; through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. Amen.

Scripture Lessons

First Reading: John 1: 9-18 p. 922

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7 p. 1014

Sermon **The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem**
The Travel Itinerary
Luke 2:1-7

Hymn No. 135 “Silent Night, Holy Night”

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed

(printed on laminated card in pew rack)

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer (*debts and debtors*)

(printed on laminated card in pew rack)

Invitation to the Offering

The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves

Offertory

*Response “*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*”

(printed on laminated card in hymnal)

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 127 “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”

*Benediction

*Congregational Response – “**Soon and Very Soon**” p. 218

*“Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!”*

*Postlude

Thank you to **Jess Medlin and Family** for leading the
Advent Call to Worship this morning.

*Feel free to have your family picture taken in front
of the Christmas Tree or Poinsettias!*

Activities Calendar: December 22, 2024 ~ December 29, 2024

Sunday, December 22, 2024, Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship

Monday, December 23, 2024

6:00 p.m. – Dress rehearsal for Christmas Eve Program

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

4:30 p.m. – Salem Christmas Eve Worship

7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Program in Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 25, 2024- Christmas

10:00 a.m. – Christmas Worship Service

Sunday, December 29, 2024, First Sunday After Christmas

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship

Looking ahead.....

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 – New Year's Day-Church Office Closed

Friday, January 3, 2025 – Men's Bible Study at the Crossroads 6 am

Sunday, January 5, 2025 – Epiphany Sunday- Communion

Monday, January 6, 2025- Sunday School Teacher and Officers Meeting 7pm

Annual Meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2025

The Consistory wants your comments on the following Capital Improvement ideas.... (they are not in any priority order)

- Stained Glass Window Repairs and Stabilization**
- Church Sign on Oak Street**
- Roof/Awning at Lower Entrance**
- Tile Floor Replacement at Lower Entrance and Hallways**

**Annual Reports for Committees & Organizations are due in the
Church Office by December 27, 2024.**

Financial reports are due on or before January 10, 2025.

Please pray for these . . .

Love & Justice in God's World

Family and Friends of Larry Toellner and Helen Hunziker

Confirmands:

Conner Brockes, Jaelea Hall, Carson Kruger, Jess Medlin, Ava Motley, Brenyn Robertson, Rylan Robertson and Hazel Wolford

All Those Who Need Our Prayers, including:

Becky Zuidervaart Bill Schacht

Jo Suggs Judy Kilmer Jaden Perry (*Janice Anderson's grandson*)

All Those Serving in the U.S. Military, including:

Martin Knipker (*son of Kenny Knipker*)

Dwight Bowlin (*grandson of the late Jack & Carole Bowlin, Fort Campbell, KY*)

Dakota Meyer (*grandson of Billy Meyer, Ft. Carson, Colorado Springs, CO*)

Madelynn Perry (*granddaughter of Jan Anderson, army - Europe*)

Dylan Ash (*son of Lanny & Ellen Ash, Great Lakes Naval Base, North Chicago, IL*)

Derek Meyer (*grandson of Elaine & Eldred Proctor, Army, Monterey,*

Damion Street (grandson of Jenine Baker, Army, Munich, Germany)

Blake Street (grandson of Jenine Baker, Basic Training, Ft. Still, OK)

2025 Offering Envelopes are here.

They can be picked up in the back of the Sanctuary. If there is not a box with your name on it and you would like one, please let the church office know.

Still looking for a Nursery Attendant. Reagan's last day is today! If you are interested or know of someone that would be, please let the Consistory or Church Office know.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS HAVE BEEN
PLACED IN MEMORY OF ~**

Betty Lindsay, by the Ingram's

Rev. Richard Ferris, by Carmen Ferris

Richard Nicholas Ferris, by Carmen Ferris

Morris Burger

James & Betty Stables
by Philip & Susan Burger

Walter and Alice Pate
by Jim & Roberta Pate

**Bob Burger, Ruth Berroth,
Ralph Stegner & Fred Stegner**
by Jim & Roberta Pate

Martin, Florence and Bob Burger
by Mary Burger

Irvin, Vernie, Fred, Ralph & Ruth Stegner
by Mary Burger

Wayne Bueker, by Mary Bueker & Family

Walter & Maxine Bueker
by Mary Bueker & Family

Bob Keil, by Mary Keil & Family

Nick & Trella Clennin
Harold & Ruth Clennin
by Carla Clennin

Harley and Norma McDaniel,
by Steve & Barb, Deb & Billy and Family

Ed & Mary Lou Hert, by the Family

J.E. & Charlene Ford, by Jimmy Ford

John Walters, by Darles Vernon

Carlos and Dena Vernon, by Darles Vernon

Rebecca Eichelberger, by Amy Howard

Papa Wayne Howard,
by Amelia and Grady Howard

Cletus & Geneva Kueffer
by Rhonda & Duane Huhmann,
Amy & Tom Huhmann

Herman & Juanita, Gail L. & Carol Wolfrum
by Betty Swillum & Beth Peeper and Families

Morris Burger,
By Burger Family

**E.M. & Natalia Burger and
Margaret Bueker,
by Burger Family**

**Richard Thompson,
By Brittney & Jess Medlin & Family**

Robert S. "Bob" Bruce, by Patty Bruce & Family

Danny Rohrbach, by the Family

Juanita Meisenheimer, by Carl Meisenheimer

**Kevin E. Bird, by Family
Jerry McCarty, by Family
Herbert and Ruby Kusgen, by Family**

**Our Loved Ones,
By Jack and Carole Cobb**

Billy Schlup, by the Schlup Family

William F. Schlup, by the Schlup Family

**Carl A. & Alice Meisenheimer
by the Meisenheimer Family**

**Rollie and Mary Lee Brizendine
by the Meisenheimer Family**

Richard Meisenheimer, by the Meisenheimer Family

Ed & Ella Kueffer, by the Bob Kueffer Family

Bill Burger

by Judy, Jeremy, and Andy Burger & Families

Bradley Kueffer, by Family

Wayne Howard & Jack and Carole Beth Bowlin

by Kent, Gerri and Caleb Howard

Justin Trimble,

by Amanda, Macie and Chase Trimble

**ORNAMENTS ON THE MEMORY TREE HAVE
BEEN PLACED IN MEMORY OF . . .**

"Papa" Wayne Howard, by Caleb, Gerri and Kent Howard

Maw Maw (Carole Beth Bowlin), by Caleb, Gerri and Kent
Howard

Gene, Daryl, & David Ash

by Judy Ash

Herman & Juanita, Gail L. & Carol Wolfrum

by Betty Swillum & Beth Peeper and Families

Justin Trimble,

by Amanda, Macie and Chase Trimble

Martin, Florence and Bob Burger
by Mary Burger

Irvin, Vernie, Fred, Ralph & Ruth Stegner
by Mary Burger

Bill, Fred & Lucy Burger
Donald & Eva Mae Switzer
by Judy, Jeremy, Andy and families

Bradley Kueffer
by the Family

A **Nursery** is available in the upstairs hallway, just outside the sanctuary. The nursery attendant is **Reagan Cain**. There are activity bags at the back of the sanctuary for children that stay in the worship service.

Need some help with hearing? See an usher at the back of the sanctuary to check out a hearing assisted unit for your personal use in the sanctuary and in the Friendship Hall. We have new units available.

Notice the “Connection Cards” in the pews. They are for our guests or anyone that has a prayer request or needs more information about the church. Please place it in the offering plate.

Rev. Cobb: rev.cobb@calmo-ucc.org; 573-489-7891 (cell phone)

Church office 573-796-4885 / Website: www.calmo-ucc.org

rhonda@calmo-ucc.org

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That
 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With
 3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load Whose
 4. For, lo, the days are has - t'ning on, By

glo - rious song of old, From an - gels bend - ing
 peace - ful wings un - furled, And still their heav'n - ly
 forms are bend - ing low, Who toil a - long the
 proph - et bards fore - told, When with the ev - er -

near the earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace
 mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world: A -
 climb - ing way, With pain - ful steps and slow, Look
 cir - cling years Comes round the age of gold; When

on the earth, good will to all From
 bove its sad and low - ly plains They
 now, for glad and gold - en hours Come
 peace shall o - ver all the earth Its

heav'n's all gra - cious King"; The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - 'ring wing, And ev - er o'er its
 swift - ly on the wing; O rest be - side the
 an - cient splen - dors fling, And all the world send

still - ness lay, To hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
 wea - ry road, And hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song Which now the an - gels sing. A - men.

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm,
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep-herds quake.
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are aligned with the notes.

all is bright Round you Vir - gin Moth - er and Child,
at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face,

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes.

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
Heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy

The third system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes.

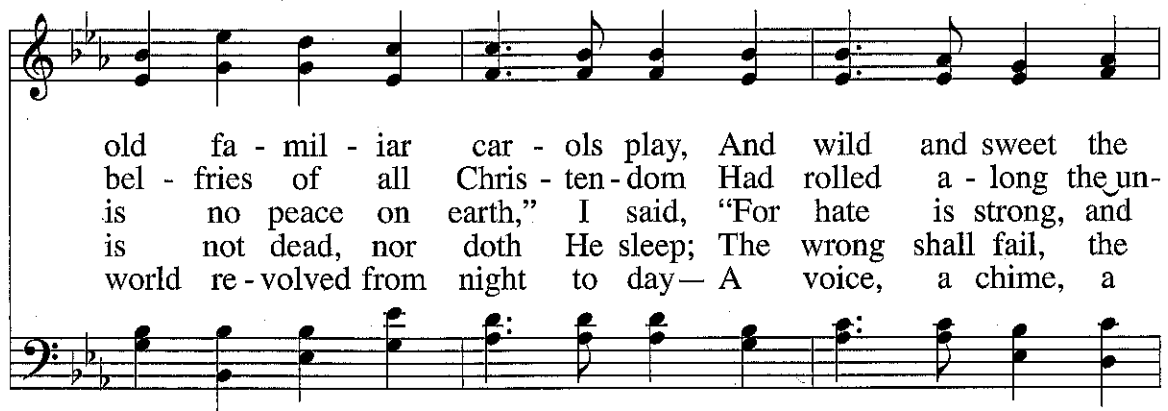
peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

The fourth system concludes the piece with the final melody and bass line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes.

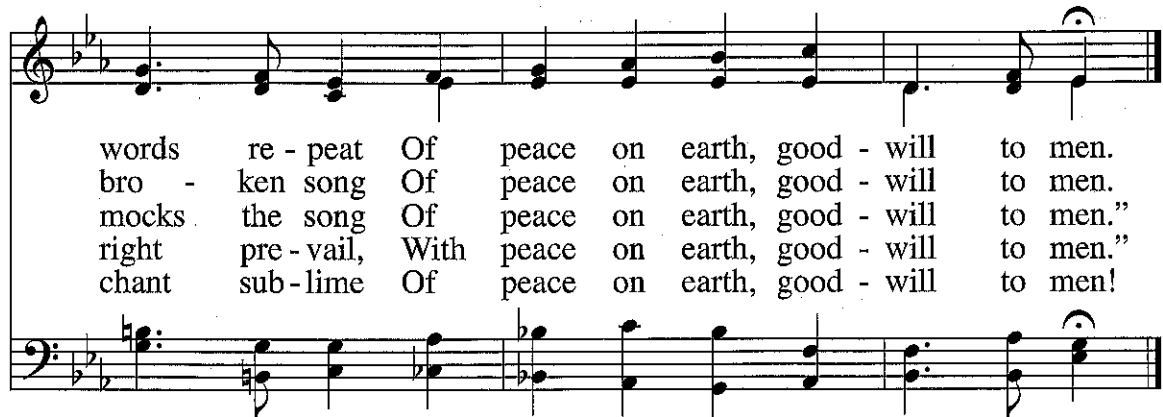
I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day



1. I heard the bells on Christ - mas day, Their
2. I thought how, as the day had come, The
3. And in de - spair I bowed my head: "There
4. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God
5. Then ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, The



old fa - mil - iar car - ols play, And wild and sweet the
bel - fries of all Chris - ten - dom Had rolled a - long the un -
is no peace on earth," I said, "For hate is strong, and
is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the
world re - volved from night to day— A voice, a chime, a



words re - peat Of peace on earth, good - will to men.
bro - ken song Of peace on earth, good - will to men.
mocks the song Of peace on earth, good - will to men."
right pre - vail, With peace on earth, good - will to men."
chant sub - lime Of peace on earth, good - will to men!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son,
our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,
and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he arose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the one
Holy universal Christian Church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the
life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

THE 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 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 for ever. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings
flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

KYRIE

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Minister: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Congregation: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.