

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 2:13-14

MESSAGE

Series: Why Christmas?
Why Music at Christmas?

Pastor Chris

In the Bleak Midwinter #221, Vs. 1 - Choir, Vs. 4 - all
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing #240, vs. 1-3
Joy to the World #246, vs. 1 & 4

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE

CHORAL BENEDICTION

A Christmas Lullaby

D. Hustad

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Adeste Fidelis"

arr. Page C. Long

You may be seated to enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in Peace.

Jesus, the Light of the World
Congregational Part

ELDERKIN
GEORGE D. ELDERKIN

(Sing twice)

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti - ful
light, come, where the dew-drops of mer-cy shine
bright, O, shine all a-round us by day and by
night, Je - sus, the light of the world.

© 2020 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188
www.hopepublishing.com 800-323-1049
All rights reserved. International copyright secured.

The Publisher grants permission to reproduce this page for the congregation.

10:45am

December 19, 2021

Why Christmas.....

Why Music at Christmas?



Suddenly, a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those
on whom his favor rests.”*

Luke 2:13-14

WELCOME

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:45AM
DECEMBER 19, 2021

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Embracing, equipping & empowering persons to evangelize through Jesus.

CONTACT US

We are so glad you have joined us today! We want you to feel at home here. You can find out what is happening around here on our website: www.vanwertfirst.net and check out our Facebook Page for inspiration and information.

Of course, we do have a telephone: 419-238-0631

And the post office finds us at 113 W. Central Avenue, Van Wert, OH 45891

KID'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT 10:45

Nursery Ministry (infant to age 2) is located near the Jefferson Street entrance. You may drop your child off at any time during the service. There are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary for your use.

AWE our Alternative Worship Experience is for children, age Kindergarten through grade 5. Children will be dismissed from the service. Children may be picked up at the Scheidt Room (Kindergarten through Grade 5). Preschool Movin & Groovin in Faith (ages 3-5 years) will be upstairs in room 203 and can be picked up there after worship.

GIVING:

In the wooden boxes around the sanctuary.

On line @ vanwertfirst.net

Text: 419.963.3557
Thank you for your faithfulness.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lead Pastor

Liturgist

Organist

Choir Director

Sound Engineer

Videographer

Projectionist

Usher/Greeter Coordinator

Acolytes

Chris Farmer

Dillon Staas

Scott Turner

Paul Hoverman

Ron Allison

Dave Thompson

Grace Dowler

Neil Shaffer

Elora Kramer &

Ashlynn Shaffer

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

OFFERING STATEMENT

VOLUNTARY

Christmas Fantasy arr. Charles Callahan
Gloria Wendel & Scott Turner, Organ Duet

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Stars Were Gleaming Polish Carol - Lezy/Turner
Mary Ann Falk, Sheila Chilcote-Collins, Melinda Farmer Jody Lichtenberger, Kristina Welker

***CALL TO WORSHIP** We gather to hear what the Lord God has to say. He comes and speaks for peace. Peace for all people and for God's friends. His peace is for all those who turn to Him in their hearts. His peace comes to those who join in the heavenly chorus, singing: "Glory to God in the highest. And peace to God's people on earth."

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Gospel from Children's Christmas Musical
The King and Me by Ron Howard

Children dismissed to AWE

*OPENING CAROL

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear #218, Vs. 1 & 4

JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

J. Raney

Chancel Choir

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Jeremy, Ella, Anna, Evan & Braden Stoller

Leader: Advent is a time to praise.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.

Leader: Advent is a time to remember God's faithfulness.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.

Leader: Advent is a time to remember God's blessings.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.

Leader: Advent is a time to remember God's promises.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.

Leader: Advent is a time to celebrate the end of darkness.

People: Prepare for Jesus, the Light of the World.

Reader: This morning we light four candles. The fourth candle reminds us that Advent is a time to give praise for what God has done, for what God is doing, and for what God will bring to completion. As the light of Advent grows brighter, it reminds us that we move closer to receiving the gift of a Savior - Jesus, the Light of the World.

ALL SING

Jesus, the Light of the World

J. Raney

Congregation may join choir as directed. Words on the back of bulletin.

All: Father in heaven, we look to you from a distance; from a world filled with darkness. Help us seek the light of your truth, as we remember your promises and offer our praise for your amazing gifts to us. Amen

*SONG

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

#213, vs. 1 & 3

- ◆ All 2021 donations need to be in the office by Thursday, December 30 if you want 2021 tax credit. If you want to know your current giving, please call the office. 419-238-0631
- ◆ There will be no food pantry or Bread and Bowl the week of December 27, 2021
- ◆ The church office will be closed December 24 & December 27.

- ◆ All 2021 donations need to be in the office by Thursday, December 30 if you want 2021 tax credit. If you want to know your current giving, please call the office. 419-238-0631
- ◆ There will be no food pantry or Bread and Bowl the week of December 27, 2021
- ◆ The church office will be closed December 24 & December 27.

Friday
December 24
 Family Christmas Eve service
 5:00pm
 Holy Communion
 in Krout Memorial
 5:45-6:45pm and 8:15-9:00pm
 Music Prelude 9:30pm
 Candlelight Christmas Eve
 at First Church 10:00pm

Sunday
December 26
 One service - 10:30am
 No Sunday School

TONIGHT

Children's Christmas Musical
 Make plans to attend
DECEMBER 19 @6:30PM
The Children have been working hard on this performance!





The Christmas Offering will go to the following funds:

- Agape Fund
- Preschool
- Haven of Hope

You may designate which fund if you like or the money will be divided among the three.

Friday
December 24
 Family Christmas Eve service
 5:00pm
 Holy Communion
 in Krout Memorial
 5:45-6:45pm and 8:15-9:00pm
 Music Prelude 9:30pm
 Candlelight Christmas Eve
 at First Church 10:00pm

Sunday
December 26
 One service - 10:30am
 No Sunday School

TONIGHT

Children's Christmas Musical
 Make plans to attend
DECEMBER 19 @6:30PM
The Children have been working hard on this performance!





The Christmas Offering will go to the following funds:

- Agape Fund
- Preschool
- Haven of Hope

You may designate which fund if you like or the money will be divided among the three.