



An Open & Affirming, A2A-Accessible to All
Congregation of the United Church of Christ

1 December 2024 – 10:30 AM
First Sunday of Advent

*indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

PRELUDE *Who Would Think That What Was Needed* Iona Community
Jazz on High • Luke Shepherd, piano & vocals; Chris Charman, bass; Zack Olsen, drums

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE The Carlin Family: Daniel, Danielle, Luca & Lily
The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.' *Jeremiah 33:9-13*

*INTROIT VENI EMMANUEL
**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Child of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*GREETING OF PEACE

WELCOME The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

ANTHEM *Comfort Ye* arr. Dean Witkowski

SCRIPTURE *1 Thessalonians 3:9-13* Suzanne McLean, liturgist

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

SERMON *The Joy We Feel Because of You* Pastor Dave

*HYMN 150 [hymn sheet] *Sing a Different Song* DIFFERENT SONG

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

concluding with this Prayer in the Spirit of Jesus

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:**

May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.

May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.

And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.

Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.

OFFERTORY

Invitation
Offertory Music

www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving
Where Love Is

J. B. Doxey & M. C. Kjar

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Prayers of Consecration

Distribution

Please come forward to receive.

Take bread, dip into the cup, partake immediately, and
return to your seat by a side aisle.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all goodness, we thank you for the nourishment of our faith and the renewal of our lives through this Communion in Christ. So send us now into the world as instruments of your peace. Where there is hate, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O God, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.

(inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1181 to October 3, 1226)

*HYMN 107 [hymn sheet]

Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn

REJOICE, REJOICE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Look to the Rainbow

Burton Lane & Yip Harburg

Today, December 1, is World AIDS Day, part of a global movement to unite people in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Since 1988, communities have stood together on World AIDS Day to show strength and solidarity against HIV stigma and to remember lives lost.

More than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS related illnesses over the past 40 years, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history. Globally, an estimated 38 million people live with the virus. Medical advances have given us the tools to stop HIV transmissions for good and make it possible for people who have HIV and access to treatment to expect a long and healthy life. But HIV continues to be highly stigmatized and misunderstood. Even in the wealthiest nations with the most developed health care, many people experience discrimination because of HIV.

World AIDS Day exists to shine a light on the real experiences of people living with HIV today, while celebrating the strength, resilience and diversity of the communities most affected. It is a moment to inspire the leadership needed to create a future where HIV doesn't stand in the way of anyone's life.