

November 29, 2015
First Sunday of Advent



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Catharine A. Cummings, Pastor
Interim Music Director, Pam Kukucka

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the world.*

Order of Worship

Prelude
Welcome of our Guests & Members
Praise and Worship

Pam Kukucka
Dot Lambert

****Opening Hymn "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"**

UMH # 203

****Call to Worship:** Based on Psalm 148

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

**Many: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him,
you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

One: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God commanded and they were
created. God established them forever and ever. God fixed their bounds, which
cannot be passed.

**Many: Praise the Lord from the earth, rulers and all peoples, young men and
women alike, old and young together!**

One: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted. God's
glory is above earth and heaven.

**ALL: God has raised up a horn for God's people and praise for all faithful. Let
everything that has breath - Praise the Lord!**

LIGHTING A LIGHT; THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

READING AND LIGHTING Holly Rogers and Jonathan

Hymn: FWS # 2090 (1st verse)

Opening Prayer

Congregational Hymn "People Look East"

Dot Lambert

UMH # 202

Prayers of the People

Dr. Valerie Bridgeman

Call to Confession & Pardon

**TOGETHER: Holy One, we dare to call you Lord, but yield to you only fragments
of our lives. You had nowhere to lay your head, but we surround ourselves
with comfort. We expect to serve you with what remains after we have
indulged our desires.**

**Forgive our greed, our lack of trust, our desire to pick the times and places we
will respond to our call. In your abundant mercy teach us what it means to
follow, even at the cost of our lives. Amen.**

Pastor: beloved of God, the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting - it cannot be contained, but must be poured out. Believe this good news: in Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven. Live as a people set free. Amen

Response: *In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. GLORY TO GOD. AMEN.*

****Passing the Peace**

One: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Many: "And also with you."

Prayer of Illumination

"Lead Me Lord"

UMH # 473

(sing 3 times)

Scripture Readings

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Pew Bible Page: Old Testament Page 701

2nd Reading: 1Thessalonians 3: 9 - 13 Pew Bible Page: New Testament Page 207

****Response:**

"Glory be to the Father"

UMH #71

"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."

Preparatory

Sermon

Dr. Valerie Bridgeman

Ministry of Giving

****Response: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

UMH #94

***"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"***

Announcements

****Closing Hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"**

UMH # 211

Benediction

Postlude

*****Please stand if able***

Bold print-Congregational participation

Christmas Poinsettias: Be sure to complete the order form (white insert) and give to Virginia Ahart or mail to CUMC, POBox 701, Northampton, MA 01061. Check should be made out to CUMC. Deadline date is Sunday, Dec. 6th.

Pledge Cards: Be sure to fill out a 2016 Pledge Form during this morning's service and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. (Green insert)

In Memoriam: George Scheel, a long time church member passed away on Monday, November 21st. Wake for George will be tonight, Sunday, November 29th at Mitchell's Funeral Home in Easthampton from 4 - 7pm. The funeral will be held on Monday, November 30th.

In Memoriam: Ruth Parsons, also a long time church member passed away on Thursday, November 26th. The wake will be Friday, December 4th (TTBD) with a church service at Christ United Methodist Church at 2pm on Saturday, December 5th.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

271 Rocky Hill Road (Rt. 66)
P.O. Box 701
Northampton, Massachusetts 01061

Telephone: (413) 584-5935
Email: ChristNorthampton@gmail.com
Web: ChristUMCNorthampton.org
Facebook: Christ Northampton