



Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor: Andy Oren
Musician: Terryl Dietert
Guitarist: Paul Mayeshiba
Liturgist: Doris Mayeshiba

January 1, 2023

www.uccmke.org
www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview

Welcome to Christ Church!

We are so glad you are here this morning! Whether you are a visitor or a member, please sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew. Please also wear your name tag. If you are a first-time visitor, make your way to the Chapel (across from the Sanctuary) after worship where we have a small gift for you. We begin our worship with five minutes of quiet meditation from 9:25 to 9:30 am. Thanks!

A Thought before Worship – “Next to a circus, there ain’t nothing that packs up and skips town faster than the Christmas spirit!” – Kin Hubbard

A Word from Pastor Andy – That “Thought before Worship” is pretty cynical...or is it? I guess maybe it’s our job to hold onto that Christmas spirit and maybe even to allow it to grow. Wouldn’t that make for a wonderful New Year’s resolution? Wouldn’t that be a great way to move into not only a new year but all the rest of our lives? Why not let it begin today? But first...come, for now is the time for worship!

**Please stand as you are able*

A Quiet Time to Center Ourselves

Prelude

Pastorale

Correll

Words of Welcome

***Opening Hymns**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hymn #185

***Our Call to Worship**

One: It is still Christmas.

All: Joy is still at play in the world.

One: Love is still lodged in our hearts,

All: And peace on earth is still our fervent hope

One: It is still Christmas.

All: Though the presents have all been unwrapped;

One: And the batteries have already run down,

All: And family members have returned home.

One: It is still Christmas,

All: For God begins anew,

One: Giving us a baby to care for,

All: And calling us to live with tender compassion, gentle care and overflowing love. May it always be so. Amen.

***A Prayer of Welcome**

Yes, Christmas day is past, and yet God’s blessings and God’s great gift remains! And so we gather this morning to sing and to pray and to rejoice in all that is good and true. We come also with the knowledge that another year has come and gone and that today begins the year 2023...can you believe it? Today we remember the One who has been “our help in ages past” and is still “our hope for years to come and our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home.” Let us now say goodbye to the old year and welcome in this new one and all that it may hold for us, knowing God will be present in each and every moment. Amen

***The Gloria**

Jacqueline A. Burnette

Glory be to the Christ-Child, God’s strength made weak, has come to light our way.

As the Firstborn of Creation, the Alpha and Omega, wonderful birth,

God has come to earth.

A Gift of Music

No Obvious Angels

Terryl Dietert

Readings for this Day

Isaiah 63:7-9 (MSG) - I'll make a list of God's gracious dealings, all the things God has done that need praising, All the generous bounties of God, his great goodness to the family of Israel...Compassion lavished, love extravagant. He said, "Without question these are my people, children who would never betray me." So he became their Savior. In all their troubles, he was troubled, too. He didn't send someone else to help them. He did it himself, in person. Out of his own love and pity, he redeemed them. He rescued them and carried them along for a long, long time.

Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSV) - Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

Sermon	In Dreams	Andy Oren
*Sermon Response	<i>What Child is This</i>	Hymn #184
Prayer Song	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem (verse 1)</i>	Hymn #180

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Prayers of the People

Hear Our Prayers, O God...

- Pray for **Pam K's brothers (Mike and Jeff)** who are in need of hip replacements. They are each living in much pain until the surgeries can be scheduled.
- And for **Pam K's friend, Diane**, who is in stage 4 cancer and is in need of many prayers.
- Prayers for **Susie & Ken K** would be appreciated as they are both dealing with health concerns.
- Please pray for **Nancy K** as she recovers from Covid.
- Prayers for **Rich T's wife, Jade**, who is recovering from a broken wrist.
- Pray for healing for our sister in the Lord, **Loretta S**, who is undergoing radiation and chemo treatments.
UPDATE: Loretta has completed radiation treatments and her family is celebrating this victory! She will be starting chemo in the beginning of the new year.
- Pray for healing and patience for **Pastor Andy's friend, Dave L**, who is recovering from a broken leg.
- **Danette & Renolle V** ask for healing **for their sister, Rachelle**, as she is struggling with ongoing health issues.
- Pray for **the relatives of Jan N's dear friend: Jafar**, the son-in-law, is having triple bypass surgery soon, and **Ashley**, a granddaughter, had cancer and is paralyzed on one side of her face and needs more surgery.
- Please remember **Ken & Susie's son-in-law, Karl**, who is restarting chemo.
- Please pray for **Judy B's, daughter Chris**, as her cancer is back again. Pray for the upcoming surgeries and radiation. Also for **Judy's brother, Larry**, who is recovering from surgery.

Pastoral Prayer

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering *(our offering plate is located in the rear of the sanctuary)*

For everything there is a season. Always there is occasion for gratitude. One expression of our thanks to God is this time of tangible sharing. We give that God's will may be more fully realized as we dedicate ourselves and our gifts toward meeting others in their time of need.

*Doxology

(Tune: The First Noel)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.**

*Prayer of Dedication

May our hands extend a blessing to friends and strangers who hunger, or thirst, or shiver in the cold. May our presence comfort and inspire persons who are sick or in prison. May our witness help to make it real to those who doubt. Help us all to face the future, trusting you, as we join you in caring for all. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving for New Year's Day

*Communion Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table (verses 1 & 2)

Hymn #695

Prayer of Confession *(invite congregation to join in)*

O God of all Creation, the world of our prayers is so small, and the needs of your people are so great. We know that we often misplace our values and our wrongful priorities have brought us distress and disappointment. We pray that we might enter this new year forgiven and free. Help us, O Lord.

Words of Assurance

We stand in awe before God's creation...a sky full of distant suns, and a tiny planet nurtured by one small star among them. Yet God tells us that each and every one of us is known and valued. Before such a God we bow in humble repentance and in the knowledge that we are loved. Amen

L: May the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Beloved of God, lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the one who knows us and loves us.

L: Beloved of God, let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: Our praise is continually offered to our Hope, our Trust, our God.

L: We give you thanks, O God...and we join with them now and with all people in every time and place to praise your holy name;

C: Holy Lord, God of endless love, heaven and earth are surely full of your glory. The angels sang of it, and we have been lavished with it. Blessed is he who was born that we might have life. Glory to God and on earth peace to all.

Holy God, just as the travelers...and that we may bring joy to the lonely and the hurting. Come now, and be filled!

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Most Gracious God, source of all our blessings, we give you thanks for inviting us to share this meal as your family. Strengthen us now to be a blessing to one another and to all your people glorifying you in everything we do and say, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Hymn #191

*Words for the Journey

One: Go forth now carrying the spirit of Christmas in your hearts,

All: We go remembering that whatever we face this week, this year, be it fun-filled or stressful, we will remember Christ is with us.

One: Go remembering that the true meaning of Christmas cannot be confined to one day, one week or one month.

All: We go remembering the grace and love of God that came down at Christmas now lives in each of us.

One: Go remembering you are the light of the world!

All: We go carrying God's torch of love to quietly and kindly illuminate the darkness Amen.

*Benediction & Sending Forth

Postlude

Gigue on Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Dello Joio

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*We pray that your new year will be filled
with the blessings of love, peace, and joy!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Coffee Hour

Food Collection for BVCC

Snow Shoveling

January 1-7 Dick Gaeth

January 8-14 Chuck Terlinden

BVCC FOOD DONATION

We are resuming our monthly donation of food for the BVCC food pantry on the first Sunday of each month. Please bring your items to church **on the first Sunday of the month**. Donations can be placed in the grocery cart located in the chapel. Thank you for helping provide for those families in our community in need! Any donations are greatly appreciated, or a financial contribution can be made directly to the BVCC.

Needed items: jam/jelly, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, macaroni & cheese, canned tuna/chicken, individually wrapped granola bars, applesauce cups, fruit snacks, crackers, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap. BVCC thanks you for supporting your neighbors!



A sincere thank you to Kathleen Schroeder for her gift to Christ Church in memory of her mother.

Thank you!!!

Thank you to the individuals who helped distribute "Christmas Eve Invitation Flyers" to our church neighbors. It was a chilly day which made us move a little faster.

Please greet any visitors and make them feel welcome.

Joan Gaeth, Membership Committee

Many THANKS to our knitters, crocheters and those who purchased hats, mittens and scarves to donate to Parkside and Humboldt Park schools. We were able to deliver 98 hats, 28 mittens and 13 scarves. Both schools were very grateful to receive our donations.

Thanks, from your Social Concerns Committee

Pastoral Search and Call Committee Weekly Update

The Christ Church Profile has been approved by Rev. Jane Anderson from the Wisconsin Conference! It is now posted online for *all* pastoral candidates for review. It is our sincere hope that we have described our church in the very best manner possible—a manner which presents an accurate and positive depiction of who we are, in order to attract the best possible candidate to lead us into the future.

Thank you for your trust in us.

Malique Bonilla, Dick Gaeth (Moderator), Pam Kothrade, Doris Mayeshiba, Mary Ann Mowery, Jan Naefken & Jim Wick

2023 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are available for members of the congregation to pick-up from the table set up in the hallway near the parlor area.

If you should need pastoral support,
please contact

Andy Oren at **414-698-2387** or

aoren@att.net

or the **Church Office** at

414-481-3530 or **office@uccmke.org**



You can make your offering to Christ Church at **www.uccmke.org/donate**

or by mailing a check to

Christ Church

**915 E Oklahoma Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207**

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–1pm; Wednesday, 10am–2pm

Facebook livestream of worship service: **www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview**