

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE GIVING AND RECEIVING OF GIFTS

AND THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*(As you come forward to receive the gifts of God place your offering in the Offering Plate)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Sanctuary (sing it through twice)

(Those who are able, join hands, forming lines across the aisle to symbolize a growing commitment to unity.)

Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you. CCLI#1025014

Next week's texts: Micah 5:2-5a; Hebrews 10: 5-10; Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)  
Isaiah 9: 2-7; Luke 2: 1-14; Psalm 134

#### **Fourth Sunday in Advent and Christmas Eve Services**

As the time until Christmas grows shorter and as you make your plans for next Sunday which is both the Fourth Sunday in Advent and Christmas Eve Day, we want to remind you of the opportunities that we have for worshipping the Lord.

**Sunday December 24 ~ 9:15am**

Do You Believe?

**Sunday, December 24 ~ 11:30am**

Are You Prepared?

We will invite all our young people (and the not so young people) to help us tell the old, old story as we reflect upon being prepared for Christmas. The children will prepare for this service during their Sunday School time. Communion will be served.

**Sunday, December 24 ~ 7:30pm**

Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Theme: A Christmas Journey Then & Now.

Geneva Choir, Praise Band and Candle Lighting

**Thursday, December 28 ~ 7:00pm**

Praise Band Practice with a twist.

Come and bring your family for a time of practice (we want the service to really be a rapping service!), fellowship and, of course, good food!

**Sunday, December 31 ~ 9:15am**

A service of Lessons and Carols

**Sunday, December 31 ~ 11:30am**

A Rapping Christmas



#### **WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are delighted to have you in our service this morning! Every Sunday, we are privileged to have people attending our church for the first time and we want you to feel welcome among us. **Please stop by the Welcome Center right after service. We have a special gift for you.**

**PLEASE SIGN THE FELLOWSHIP BOOK** found in the pews. We would like to know of your presence this morning. **PLEASE SHARE PRAYER JOYS/CONCERNS** on the Prayer card; they will be included in the Prayers of the People during the 9:15 service, and added to the Prayer Chain if submitted at the 11:30 service.

**A PERSONAL SOUND SYSTEM FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED IS AVAILABLE. WORSHIP BULLETINS FOR CHILDREN** are available. Contact an usher for assistance.

**TAPES OF THIS SUNDAY'S SERMON** are available. Contact the church office or Art Sattler.

If you are in need of **Pastoral Care** or know someone who is, please call Rev. Pat at the church (419-475-4436) or at her home (419-841-7954).

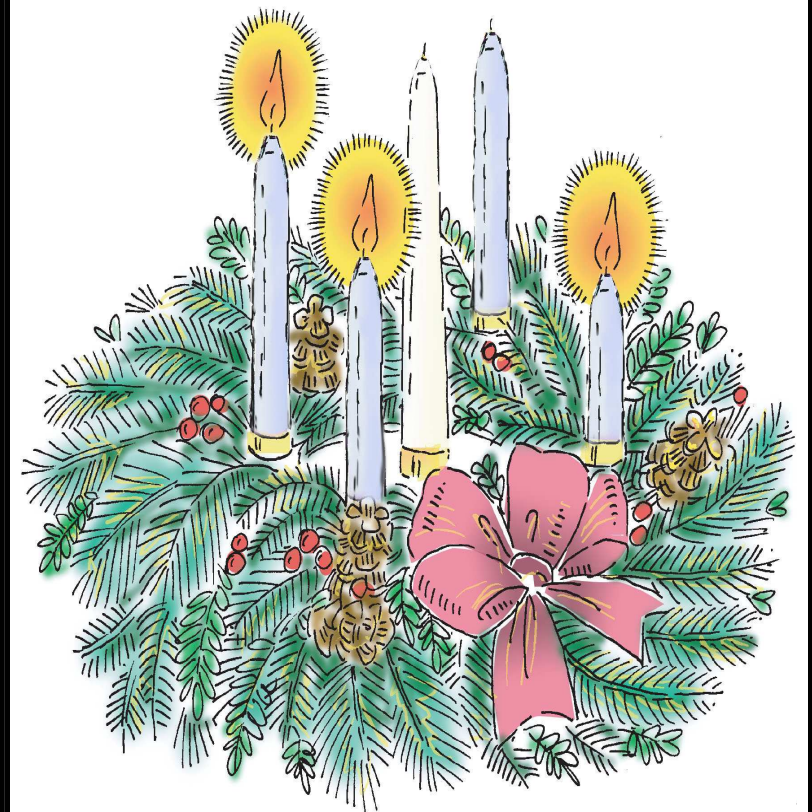
## **Fairgreen Presbyterian Church**

**3220 Laskey Road  
Toledo, Ohio 43613  
419-475-4436**

Email: [fairgreen.church@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fairgreen.church@sbcglobal.net)

**December 17, 2006**

*Third Sunday of Advent*





9:15 AM

Welcome to worship with the Fairgreen family! The \* symbol means, "All who are able, please stand." † indicates when latecomers may be seated.



Third Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE Shannon Smith

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Please sign fellowship book found in pews.

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

SILENT REFLECTION

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHORAL INTROIT "People Look East" Geneva Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP ~ The Candle Lighting Liturgy Anne Rubley, Gina Beauregard Kendy Edinger, Liturgist

Reader I: This is the third Sunday in Advent, the time of preparation for the coming of Christ our Savior. Today our word is witness. We do more than wait for our Savior or prepare ourselves. We are also called to witness. We should not keep news to ourselves, but rather share it with others. When the news is good news, our hearts overflow to tell others about the love we have found.

Liturgist: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 12: 2-6

Reader I: We relight\* our first Advent candle, which reminds us to wait on Christ. We also relight\* last week's candle, remembering that we prepare as we wait. Now we light\* today's candle, which reminds us to witness to the light that is coming into our world.

\* denotes lighting of the Advent Candles

11:30 AM

"Celebrate Jesus!" Worship Of Word And Sacrament

GATHERING MUSIC ~ "Prepare Ye the Way" Praise Band

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please sign fellowship book in pews and place 11:30 after your name.)

OPENING SET ~ Rise Up and Praise Him; The Lord is My Light; Shout to the Lord; You Are Mine; Salvation Belongs to Our God

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

RESPONSE ~ Awesome in Power

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ~ The Candle of Joy

As we come to winter with its starker landscape and fallow fields, encourage us, Holy One, to be like the seed which dwells deep in the protective darkness of the soil.

Encourage us, O God, to seek the deep places of our soul, to dwell there without rushing or worry.

As we light the candle of joy, grow your peace in us, that we may bloom beautifully among your people and be a joy to your world. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING Psalm 133 ~ A Psalm of Ascent p.970(OT) in the pew Bible

ANTHEM "Love Came Down at Christmas" Praise Band

SECOND READING Zephaniah 3: 14-20 and/or Philippians 4:4-7 pg.1466, 1830(OT &NT)

THIRD READING Luke 3: 17-18 pg. 1594 (NT) in the pew Bible

REFLECTING UPON THE WORD Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (sins) During the prayer, speak out loud the name of one who needs prayer and then say, "Lord, in your mercy. All then respond, "...Hear Our Prayers."

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Van Can Ministry** ~ Next Sunday is designated as “Van Go” Sunday. By your contributions each month it helps in defraying the cost for gasoline for the van. Many people benefit from this church transportation-- Youth, Children, and Adults. Please help us to make the “Van Go”. Look for the Van Can next Sunday on the Welcome Center.

**January Newsletter Deadline** ~ Today is the deadline for the newsletter articles. Please drop them off in Darlene Hughes mailbox, which is located outside the pastor’s office.

**Give Kroger Gift Cards for Christmas and support IHN** ~ Kroger’s will donate 5% of your purchases to Interfaith Hospitality Network each time you refill a gift card. Please see Jan Anderson to purchase a \$10 gift card that can be refilled using cash, check, or credit card at customer service or at any cashier.

**Deacons Basket Packing** ~ If you could give a couple of hours to help pack baskets on Thursday, December 21 from Noon-?, and hand out from 5-6pm and then on Friday, December 22 will be pick up at noon, please see or contact Carol Yeager at 734-856-4496.

**Christmas Holiday Office Hours** ~ The church office will be closed on Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26, 2006. The office will reopen on Wednesday, December 27 at 8:30am and will be open from 8:30-1pm from Wednesday through Friday. The office will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2007 and will then have regular office hours (8:30-1pm) from Tuesday through Friday.

**Elders/Deacons Orientation Class** ~ This has been rescheduled to Tuesday, January 2, 2007 at 7pm in the Commons. All newly elected elder’s and deacons should attend.

**Session Retreat** ~ This retreat is for all Session members incoming, outgoing and those still serving their term of office. The dates are Friday, January 5 (7pm) through Saturday, January 6 (5pm) at the Lial Center in Whitehouse, Ohio. All those planning on attending will need to call the church office to confirm by Wednesday, December 27, 2006. The cost is \$25 per person.

**Adult Volleyball** ~ There will be no adult volleyball on Monday December 18, 25 & January 1st. We will resume volleyball on Monday, January 8, 2007 from 7-9pm.

**Offering Envelopes** ~ You can pick up your offering envelopes today at the close of the service. They will be located on the table in the Narthex.

**Caring Cupboard Carry-out**~ This is scheduled for Wednesday, December 20 at 4:30pm.

**Rocket Basketball Community Church Night** ~ Is scheduled for Saturday, January 13th at 7:00pm. The cost is \$2 youth (ages 18 and under) and \$3 Adults. There is a sign up sheet located on the Welcome Center. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, December 31st.

**Reader 2:** Let us pray. Holy God, we find it difficult to tell the good news, and yet the world is yearning to hear it. Help us witness to the truth of our Savior, that others may come to the light and also be saved by grace. Let these candles remind us to wait, to prepare and to witness to Christ’s coming. Amen.

\*HYMN # 464 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

\*CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Pat.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, you kept your promise to bring light into the world and to guide our steps into the paths of peace. You sent us Jesus and from him we receive salvation. Yet we confess to being less than faithful in our response. We have been tentative and cautious rather than bold and generous; we have feared what people will think rather than speak a prophetic word like Isaiah; we have packed our calendars with busyness and neglected your gift of overwhelming joy and peace as we watch and wait.**

**Redeeming God, may your coming once again reorder our priorities, renew our commitments and refashion our witness. During this season of hope, enter in and fill us with your joy. Amen.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Rev. Pat  
“The Gloria Patri” (#579)

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Children second grade and younger may leave afterward for Kids for Christ.

Rev. Pat

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

**Psalm 133 ~ A Psalm of Ascent** pg.970 (OT) in the pew bible

Kendy Edinger

ANTHEM

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”**

Geneva Choir

SECOND READING **Zephaniah 3: 14-20 and/or Philippians 4:4-7** pg.1466, 1830(OT &NT)

THIRD READING

**Luke 3: 17-18** pg. 1594 (NT)

SERMON

**“It’s the Vipers Again!”** Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

**OUR RESPONSE**

\*HYMN #241 "Behold the Goodness of Our Lord"

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD OFFERING Kendy Edinger

\*DOXOLOGY Old Hundredth  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Kendy Edinger  
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts) pg.16 in the hymnal (traditional)

\*HYMN # 38 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

POSTLUDE Shannon Smith

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE—"May the Lord"

May the Lord, mighty God,  
bless and keep you forever.  
Grant you peace, perfect peace,  
courage in every endeavor.

Lift up your eyes and see God's face,  
full of grace forever;  
May the Lord, mighty God,  
bless and keep you forever.

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18-24, 2006**

- Monday, December 18 - Alpha Omega Circle 7:00pm in lounge; NO Adult Volleyball
- Tuesday, December 19 - Preschool Christmas program in the Commons
- Wednesday, December 20 - Staff meeting 10:00am in lounge; Preschool Christmas program in the Commons; Basket packing set-up after 4pm
- Thursday, December 21 - No Lectionary Bible Study or Potluck; Deacons Basket packing at noon; Choir 6pm; Praise Band practice 7:30pm

Friday, December 22 - Food Pantry 10-12pm; Basket pick-up; Youth Holiday Dinner (meet at the church parking lot at 5:30pm)  
Sunday, December 24 - Services 9:15am & 11:30am with Communion at the second service; Fourth Sunday in Advent/Christmas Eve; Christmas Joy Offering; Evening service at 7:30pm with Candle Light

**CHURCH SCHOOL — 10:30 - 11:20 SUNDAY**

- Beginners Sunday School Class (3, 4, & 5 yr. olds & 1st grade).....Rm. 104
- Grades 2,3, 4, 5.....Rm. 106
- Junior High (grades, 6, 7, 8).....Junior High Room (downstairs)
- Senior High (grades 9-12).....Senior High Room (downstairs)
- FOR ADULTS:**
- Bible Study.....Lounge
- Faith Sharing Class.....Library Room 102
- Nursery Room Available.....Rm.105
- Kids for Christ—after Time With The Younger Church during 9:15am worship (3years old through 2nd grade)..... Rm. 110

There will be **Coffee Hour and Fellowship** in the **Commons** at **10:30am**.

*Information for the Newsletter should be received by the 3rd Sunday of each month.*

Visit **THE CARD TABLE** in the narthex to sign or request cards to remember members of the Fairgreen family.

Are you in need of prayer? The **FAIRGREEN PRAYER CHAIN** is here for you. Call Leone Sattler at 419-474-1723 or Darlene in the church office at 419-475-4436 or indicate that you have a request for the Prayer Chain on your Prayer card.

- Number who worshiped with us on December 10, 2006: 114
- TODAY'S GREETERS & WELL WISHERS 9:15: Tim & David Eichenauer
- TODAY'S USHERS: Dan Yeager, Capt./ Joe Murray, Marilyn McAfee, Sharon Durrant
- NEXT SUNDAY'S USHERS: Bill Henning, Capt., William & Michael Henning, Bob Martz
- NEXT SUNDAY'S GREETERS: Kay Amendola