

Everlasting Light

An Advent Meditation by Sandy Dixon

Do you remember a time, maybe when you were a child, when you were so excited that you could hardly wait for something to happen? It was hard to sleep at night because you were so excited. Did you ever wait for someone special to come to see you, and you stood or sat at a window to watch for them to pull into the driveway? You weren't exactly sure what time they would come, but you wanted to be ready?

Advent is about waiting and being ready. We are waiting for the Christ to come. Again! We have had many Advents and Christmases. Yet the waiting is no less significant. The waiting gives us time to get ready. We must be always alert, awake, and excited. We must watch in our daily lives this Advent, as during the whole year, for ways that Christ enters our lives. As we wait for God, we can know that God works in our lives. And we know that we are God's people and can wait in Hope. We can wait and we can find hope in Light!

First Sunday of Advent



November 27, 2011

Fairgreen Presbyterian Church
3220 Laskey Road
Toledo, Ohio 43613 419-475-4436
Email: fairgreen.church@sbcglobal.net
Webpage: fairgreenchurch.org

10:00 AM

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 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 service, and added to the Prayer Chain.

A PERSONAL SOUND SYSTEM FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED IS AVAILABLE. WORSHIP BULLETINS FOR

CHILDREN are available. Contact an usher for assistance.

SUNDAY SERMON

TAPES are available by contacting the church office.

If you are in need of **Pastoral Care** or know someone who is, please call Rev. Pat at the church (419-475-4436) or home (419-534-3739) or her cell (419-215-2939).



Welcome to worship with the Fairgreen family! The * symbol means, "All who are able, please stand."



First Sunday of Advent

SILENT REFLECTION Dag Hammarskjold (1905-1961)

Great and good God, give us pure hearts that we may see you,
humble hearts that we may hear you,
hearts of love that we may serve you,
hearts of faith that we may live in you,
reverent hearts that we may worship you,
here and in the world out there, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign fellowship book found in pews.

GREETINGS

This is the day that the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**OPENING SET~ "Here I Am to Worship"
"Revival Fire, Fall"**

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

HYMN OF RESPONSE ~ "Change My Heart, O God"

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING ~

Denise Burtch & Isabel Bosley-Smith

First Reader: Christians around the world begin this day to await the advent of Christ. We join with others as we light Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

All: We gather as a people of Hope.

Mid-Week Advent Worship ~ Join us for our Mid-Week Advent Worship service followed by a Cookie Fellowship starting on Wednesday November 30th. We will meet on the following Wednesdays at 7pm: December 7, 14, and 21.

Combined Elder/Deacon Meeting ~ Attention Elders and Deacons we will be having a combined meeting on Tuesday, December 6th at 7pm in the Commons.

It's Tea Time Ladies! ~ We are taking reservations for a high tea at the Casey-Pomeroy House in downtown Toledo on North Huron Street for December 11th at 12:30pm. The cost of is \$25.00. This is the annual fund raiser for the Historic Vistula Foundation. After the tea we will be taking a tour to view the renovations to this historic house. It is important that you get your reservations in right away. Please give Kay Amendola your money with your reservations. See you there!

Congregational Meeting Scheduled ~ Join us on Sunday, December 11th after the worship service for our congregational meeting held for the purpose of electing Elders and Deacons and for approving Rev. Pat's 2012 Salary Package.

Sing with The Masterworks Chorale ~ Come, sing Messiah with us on Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 4pm at Olivet Lutheran Church on Sylvania Ave.. This event is free, no tickets are necessary and we will be singing for a great cause. Sing with Masterworks Chorale in an unrehearsed reading of Handel's Messiah, played and sung for pure musical pleasure, or just come and listen. Please bring your score (or purchase one at the door for a nominal fee) and, if you are so moved, a canned good donation for the Olivet Lutheran Church Food Pantry would be much appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:30am-12:30pm

FOR ADULTS:
Faith Sharing Class.....In Library

FOR CHILDREN:
Nursery Room (birth – 3 yrs. old).....(available 9:45am-12:30pm).....Rm.105

Join us for Coffee Hour after worship in the Commons.

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 Darlene in the church office at 419-475-4436 or Woody Cole at 419-833-1394 or indicate that you have a request for the Prayer Chain on your Prayer card.

Number who worshiped with us on November 20, 2011: 78

TODAY'S USHERS: Co-Captains: Bill Henning & Michael Henning, William Henning,
Judy Baker

TODAY'S GREETER: Patty Reiter

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING & Liturgists: Members of the Confirmation Class

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Dick Schroeder & Bonnie Buehrer

NEXT SUNDAY'S USHERS: Co-Captains: Dan Yeager & John MacPherson, Jesse Murray,
Cindy Bosley-Smith

NEXT SUNDAY'S GREETER: Linda Hoover

NEXT SUNDAY'S ADVENT WREAT LIGHTING: Lucas & Zachary Ott

NEXT SUNDAY'S LITURGIST: Dick Schroeder

NEXT SUNDAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Marilyn McAfee & Judy Stuart

Special Announcements

Lectionary Bible Study and Potluck ~ There will be No Potluck or Lectionary Bible Study on the following Thursdays: December 15, 22 and 29. But join us on Thursday, December 1 & 8 at noon for a potluck lunch followed by the Lectionary Bible Study at 12:45pm.

The Angel Tree ~Don't forget to stop by the Angel Tree and help by fulfilling a Christmas wish for a family in need. Choose an angel with an item listed, purchase it, wrap it and return it to the church with the angel attached. Let's see all those gifts piled under the Angel Tree by December 4th.

Second Reader: Christian people around the world stand today in anticipation of a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years, yet that astounds us anew each year.

All: Our hope springs anew, from an ancient vision.

First Reader: As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope based not on wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we have received the Promises and the Great Gift, and therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

All: We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we have heard that a special Child is to come, that God is to be among us, and that soon we will see a new creation on earth. We are a people of hope.
(the lighting of the candle of Hope)

***HYMN OF THE SEASON ~ #2093**

"O Laughing Light"

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Rev. Pat

KID'S FOR CHRIST ~ The children that are in Preschool through second grade are dismissed to go with their teacher to their class which will be held in blue room #104.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

A Selection of Psalms

ANTHEM

"Revelation"

The Praise Band

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 and/or Matthew 13:24-37

pg.1771 & 1518 (NT) in the pew Bible

SERMON

"Hope in the Light"

Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

OUR RESPONSE

***HYMN #9**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from the east and west, and from the north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and a good thing to give thanks to you, Source of Light and Life. We are the work of your hands; we are all your people.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

You, O God, are faithful and have given us grace and light through Jesus Christ. But we turned away; we sinned before you.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Meet us, Holy One, in this meal that we may be restored to right relationship with you. Join us together as the body of your beloved son, Jesus Christ. Keep us wide-eyed for the day of your coming, that we may know your salvation. Shine through us, Light of the World. Send the flame of your Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and cup. Transform us into a people of hope, love, and justice for your world.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

To you we pray, Source of Light and Life, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, in the light of your Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Blessing of the Bread and the Cup

The Communion of the People of God

(You are invited to come forward using the center aisle; place your gifts to God in the Offering Plate; step to the left or the right and take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup to receive the gifts of God; return using the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward stay where you are and we will come to you.)

The Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen.

We Go Forth into the World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Pat

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ~ "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me:

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, children all are we

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Next Week ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship Service 10:00am; Geneva Choir to sing

Texts: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Calendar for the Week of November 28-December 4, 2011

Monday, Nov. 28 ~

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball 7-9pm in Commons

Wednesday, Nov. 30 ~

Staff Meeting at 10:30am in lounge

Mid-Week Advent service & cookie fellowship 7pm

Thursday, Dec. 1 ~

Potluck lunch 12:00pm

Lectionary Bible Study 12:45pm

Choir practice at 6:30pm

Friday, Dec. 2 ~

Food Pantry 10-12pm

Saturday, Dec. 3 ~

Confirmation Class 7pm

Youth Lock-In 8pm

Sunday, Dec. 4 ~

2nd Sunday of Advent Worship Service 10:00am; Geneva Choir to sing.