

## ADVENT WREATH

Our Advent Wreath reminds us of the approaching celebration of Jesus' birth:

- \*the evergreen leaves remind us that God's love is everlasting
- \*the round wreath symbolizes God's eternal love
- \*the light of the candles stands for the light which Jesus brought into a dark world.

The Advent wreath was adapted from a pagan custom of lighting candles in anticipation of the winter solstice, the day on which daylight hours once again begin to lengthen. Because the winter solstice roughly coincides with Christmas, Medieval believers used the Advent wreath as a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as the Nativity approached.

A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays in Advent. The growing light represents the Christian's increasing joy. The candles are colored blue, a color which represents watchfulness and preparation. Some meanings to the candles are Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The Christ candle, a white candle, is lit at midnight on Christmas Eve (or Christmas Day if no Christmas Eve service).



## *First Sunday of Advent*



*November 28, 2010*

*Fairgreen Presbyterian Church  
3220 Laskey Road*

*Toledo, Ohio 43613      419-475-4436*

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

**Webpage: [fairgreenchurch.org](http://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**

**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**

**CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mary Beth Henning, Liturgist

Come let us worship the God who invites us to enter this space we call Advent—a space of mindfulness where the life of the Spirit touches us at the point of deepest meaning and mystery.

**God surrounds all our endeavors and embraces our longings. May we catch the vision: God is coming; truth, justice and compassion are coming into our world. The God of hope is with us now.**

**ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING**

Tim & Michelle Davis

We wait in the darkness, expectantly, longingly, thoughtfully. The darkness can be our friend. In the darkness of the womb we have all been nurtured. In the darkness of the womb the Christ-child was made ready for the journey into light. *(Light the first candle.)*

**A tiny spark takes hold; a flame begins to burn brightly; we are warmed, we are encouraged, we are guided and we are companioned.**

This is the way of the spirit if we would but notice.

**May we take warmth, encouragement and companionship to those we meet. The God of hope is with us now.**

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 21, 2010: 62**

TODAY'S USHERS: Kay Amendola, Capt./ Dick Schroeder, Ken & Nan Bennett

TODAY'S GREETERS: Agnes McKinstry & Chris Roebuck

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING: Tim & Michelle Davis

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: William & Michael Henning

NEXT SUNDAY'S USHERS: Dick Schroeder, Capt./ Marilyn McAfee

NEXT SUNDAY'S GREETER: Maud Pearson

NEXT SUNDAY'S ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING: Tammy O'Dwyer & Marilyn McAfee

NEXT SUNDAY'S LITURGIST: Tammy O'Dwyer

NEXT SUNDAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Tim & Toby Eichenauer

**Special Announcements**

**Scrip Cards ~** The Deacons will hold a Scrip Card Contest from November 14—December 12th, 2010. For each \$20 spent in Scrip cards, your name will be entered in a drawing for choice from several free Scrip cards. The drawing will be held on December 19, 2010. A large variety of cards are in stock. Orders take just a few days and can be picked up from the office or delivered to you at church.

**Mid-Week Advent Worship ~** Join us for our Mid-Week Advent Worship service followed by a Cookie Fellowship starting on Wednesday December 1st. We will meet on the following Wednesdays at 7pm: December 1, 8, 15, and 22. We will explore "Christmas Gift that won't break."

**Congregational Meeting ~** We will be having our Congregational meeting with the election of officers and to approve Pastor Pat's Compensation package on Sunday, December 5th right after the service.

**Lectionary Bible Study and Potluck ~** There will be No Potluck or Lectionary Bible Study on the following Thursdays: December 16 and 30. But join us on Thursday, December 2 & 9 at noon for a potluck lunch and Lectionary Study.

**Sacrament of Baptism ~** This will be celebrated during worship on Sunday, December 12th. If you would like to be baptized or if you would like to present a child to receive the sacrament, please speak to Rev. Pat as soon as possible.

**Calendar for the Week of November 29-December 5, 2010**

Monday, Nov. 29 ~ Adult Co-Ed Volleyball 7-9pm in Commons  
 Wednesday, Dec. 1 ~ Staff Meeting at 10:30am in lounge  
 Mid-Week Advent service & cookie fellowship 7pm  
 Thursday, Dec. 2 ~ Potluck lunch 12:00pm  
 Lectionary Bible Study 12:45pm  
 Youth Group meets from 7:30-9pm  
 Friday, Dec. 3 ~ Food Pantry 10-12pm  
 Food Distribution 12-1pm  
 Saturday, Dec. 4 ~ Men's Prayer Breakfast 8-9am in lounge  
 Audit Committee Mtg. in lounge 9:30am  
 Sunday, Dec. 5 ~ Adult Sunday School at 9am; 2nd Sunday of Advent  
 Worship Service 10:00am; Congregational Meeting  
 with the election of officers and to approve Pastor  
 Pat's Compensation package; Confirmation Class;  
 Tea at the Shalom Tea Room at 2pm

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:30-12:30pm**

**FOR ADULTS:**

Early Bible Study—9 am .....In Lounge  
 Bible Study—11:30.....In Lounge  
 Faith Sharing Class.....In Library

**OR CHILDREN:**

Nursery Room (birth – Preschool).....(available 9:45am-12:30pm).....Rm.105  
 Kindergarten (4yrs. Old).....Rm 104  
 Grades 1-8..... Downstairs  
 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade.....Downstairs Senior High Room

Join us for Coffee Hour after worship in the Commons.

*The flowers that grace the Communion Table are given by Mike & Barb Roadruck as they rejoice in the Lord by giving thanks and praise.*

**\*HYMN OF THE SEASON** ~ "Come, Lord Jesus, We are Waiting" (verse 1) (see screen)

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION** Rev. Pat

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**  
 As the days shorten and the nights deepen, our hearts turn to you,  
 O Lord. We sing of light. We know of darkness. We try to follow  
 your path and lose our way. Forgive us for our lip service, our  
 hypocrisies, our wandering after selfish interests. Cast away the  
 works of darkness from us and clothe us in the armor of your light.  
 Lead us through our days and surround us in our nights by the light  
 of your love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

**\*SILENT CONFESSION**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** ~ (1 John 1:7 adapted) Rev. Pat  
 If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, the blood of Jesus, God's son, cleanses  
 us from all sin. Friends, believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Alleluia! Amen!**

**\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE** "The Gloria Patri" (#579)

**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** Mary Beth Henning

**FIRST READING** Psalm 122 pg. 966(OT) in the pew Bible

**ANTHEM** "Is Your Heart Prepared for a King" Geneva Choir

**SECOND READING** Isaiah 2:1-5 and/or Matthew 24:36-44  
 pg. 1062 (OT) and/or 1539 (NT) in the pew Bible

**SERMON** "Flicker of Hope?" Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

**OUR RESPONSE**

**\*HYMN** ~ "O Hope of Israel" (Sung to the tune of Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!)  
 (see screen or insert)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~**

Let us affirm our hope in Christ, who came, who comes, and who is to come:

When violence reigns, and war seems never-ending, Christ is our hope,

**born among us, crucified and risen.**

When despair lies in wait and life loses meaning, Christ is our hope,

**born among us, crucified and risen.**

When people claim to know what God alone knows, and say the end is near, Christ is our hope,

**born among us, crucified and risen.**

When life on earth is extinguished this year, next year, or in a hundred million years, Christ is our hope,

**born among us, crucified and risen.**

In sorrow and joy, today and tomorrow, in life and in death, Christ is our hope,

**born among us, crucified and risen. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD**

Mary Beth Henning

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*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.**

**THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**INVITATION**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Faithful God, who gives hope and encouragement to your people through your prophets, Jesse and John: Call us to repent, for your kingdom of heaven is near.

**Blessed be the Holy One, who alone does wondrous things.**

The spirit of wisdom and understanding rested on human flesh in Jesus Christ. He is the true vine, rooted in your love, O God. He gave us the fruit of his life and death, as he consecrated the cup of life for us. Grow us as your branches, Holy One, that we may be rooted in Christ and grounded in you.

**Blessed be the Holy One, who alone does wondrous things.**

By the power of your Holy Spirit fill these gifts of bread and cup with joy and peace, that all the world may abound in the deep hope which you alone can give.

**Blessed be the Holy One, who alone does wondrous things.**

Blessed be God's glorious name forever.

**Blessed be the Holy One, who alone does wondrous things.**

May God's glory fill the whole earth, this church, and our lives.

**Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Blessing of the Bread and the Cup**

**The Communion of the People of God**

**The Prayer after Communion**

**We Go Forth into the World**

**\*HYMN OF ANTICIPATION ~ #24**

"Away in a Manger"

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICATION**

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.**

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**Next Week ~ Adult Sunday School at 9am; 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship Service 10:00am; Congregational Meeting with the election of officers and to approve Pastor Pat's Compensation package; Confirmation Class; Tea at the Shalom Tea Room at 2pm**

**Texts: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12**