

First Sunday In Advent



November 30, 2008

*Fairgreen Presbyterian Church
3220 Laskey Road
Toledo, Ohio 43613 419-475-4436
Email: fairgreen.church@sbcglobal.net
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"There Is a Mighty Question"

ANGEL' STORY 7.6.7.6 D

There is a mighty question we ask when nations rage:
Just when will be Christ's coming, the ending of the age?
Take care, said Jesus clearly, for many will appear;
They'll claim to be Messiah, yet people should not fear.

For in the days of Noah, the people went along
In eating and in drinking, in merriment and song—
Then suddenly the world changed with great, surprising power;
So too will be Christ's coming, and no one knows the hour.

So keep awake and watchful; salvation is at hand!
Our hope is in Christ Jesus, and by God's grace we stand.
The night is almost over, we wait for God's new day,
And through the Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus' way.

Be ready in your living, for when you feed the poor,
Or give to thirsty children the water they long for,
And when you welcome strangers and help the ones in need,
Christ says: "Receive my kingdom, for you are serving me."

Tune: Arthur Henry Mann, 1881 ("O Jesus, I Have Promised")
Text: Copyright © 1998 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.



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



First Sunday in Advent

SILENT REFLECTION

God of hope, come! Enter into this Advent Season with the grace of joy and laughter. Fill faces with smiles of delight and voices of pleasure. Let this gift come from deep within. Replenish all with the joyful blessings that only your peace can bring. Amen.

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!

A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Geneva Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP Mike Roadruck, Liturgist

This is the season of Advent, a time to get ready!

Just as we would prepare for a splendid feast;

Just as we would prepare for a child joining our family;

Just as we would prepare to give or receive a most precious gift;

So let us prepare our hearts and our minds for the coming of Jesus!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Mike & Barb Roadruck

FIRST READER: Christians around the world begin this day to await the advent of Christ. We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

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 at her cell (419-215-2939).

Deacon's Christmas Baskets ~ The Christmas baskets will be packed on Friday, December 12th beginning at noon to 6pm with basket pickup from 6-7:30pm. Then on Saturday December 13th we will have basket pickup from 9am-12pm. Many volunteers are needed in making up these baskets. If you are able to deliver a basket or two please Contact Carol Yeager or Linda Hoover

Men's Prayer Breakfast ~ Come join us in the lounge on Saturday, December 13th from 8-9am for a Continental Breakfast as we fellowship together and grow in Christ as we study Ephesians. We encourage you to bring your bibles and to invite a friend. If you have any questions call Mike Roadruck at (419-536-1231).

Poinsettia Plants To Decorate Sanctuary ~ Once again you will have the opportunity to purchase poinsettia plant(s) to decorate the church sanctuary. The cost is \$6.50 ea. For a 7 1/2 inch Double stem potted poinsettia plant. **All orders, checks and money need to be either placed in Darlene's mailbox (right outside pastor's office) or turned into Darlene Hughes in the church office by Sunday, November 30th.** Please make your check out to Fairgreen Presbyterian Church and in the Memo write: poinsettia plant and specify the color as to Red, White or Pink. You will find a sign-up sheet located on the Welcome Center. Please fill out your name, dedication, and color.

SCRIP CARD GIVEAWAY: For every \$50 of Scrip cards you buy during the month of November your name will be entered in a drawing for a \$25 gift card from your choice of P.F. Chang's or Texas Roadhouse. The winner's name will be drawn Sunday, December 14th. The more you buy in November the more chances you have to win. See Julie Murray at the Welcome Center on Sundays or Darlene Hughes in the office during the week from 8:30-2pm.

Lectionary Bible Study and Potluck ~ We will resume meeting on Thursday, December 4th with a potluck lunch at noon followed by the Lectionary Bible Study at 12:45pm in the lounge. We will continue meeting on Thursday's December 11 and 18th.

Christmas Joy Offering ~ This year we will receive the offering on December 21 and 24, 2008. There will be special envelopes placed in the bulletins on these two days.

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 7th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:30-12:15AM

FOR ADULTS:

Bible Study.....(Bill Henning is teaching in Jeremiah).....In Lounge
Faith Sharing Class.....In Library

FOR CHILDREN:

Nursery Room (birth – 3 yrs. old) available from 9:45-12:15pm.....Rm.105
Beginners (3, 4, 5 yrs.old and 1st grade).....Rm.104
Grades 2-5Room behind the front of the sanctuary
Junior High (Grades 6-8).....Junior High Room-downstairs
Senior High (Grades 9-12)..... Meet at the Sr. High Round table in the Commons

Join us for Coffee Hour after worship in the Commons.

Information for the Newsletter should be received by Sunday, December 28, 2008.

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 November 23, 2008: 77

TODAY'S USHERS: Bill Henning, Capt./ Mary Beth, Michael and William Henning

TODAY'S GREETERS: Gina Beauregard and Patti Nordhoff

NEXT SUNDAY'S USHERS: Kay Amendola, Capt./ Tim Eichenauer, Fred & Patti Nordhoff

NEXT SUNDAY'S GREETER: Maud Pearson

NEXT SUNDAY ADVENT READERS: The Bandfield Family

NEXT SUNDAY'S LITURGIST: Kelly Bandfield

Special Announcements

Mid-Week Advent Meals & Worship ~ Join us on Wednesday December 3, 10 & 17th at 6:30pm for a meal, followed by a worship service in the sanctuary.

Congregational Meeting Scheduled ~ Join us on Sunday, December 7th after the worship service for our congregational meeting held for the purpose of electing Elders and Deacons and for approving Rev. Pat's 2009 Salary Package.

People: We gather as a people of Hope.

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

People: 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 Promise and the Great Gift, and therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

People: 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.

HYMN OF ADVENT #2

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

CALL TO CONFESSION

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of all time and season, how quickly the year spins by, and we are caught unprepared for your Advent. We are still recovering from Thanksgiving or the latest crisis or the long list of things to do. The demands on our time seem unending, the tasks seem overwhelming, and our energy is draining.

Holy God, sing to us in the stillness of the moment; speak to us in the depths of our hearts. Let there be a space for you in the midst of all the hurry and rush—a holy, inner place that cherishes silence and song, that keeps a candle lit and a manger ready.

God of all time and seasons, create in us a place for your birth. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

"The Gloria Patri" (#579)

THE 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 room 110.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mike Roadruck, Liturgist

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64: 1-9

pg.1161 (OT) in the pew Bible

ANTHEM

"Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates"

Geneva Choir

SECOND READING

Mark 13: 24-37

pg. 1578 (NT) in the pew Bible

SERMON

"God the Potter"

Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO GOD

***HYMN # (see back cover or screen)**

"There Is a Mighty Question"

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD OFFERING

Mike Roadruck

***DOXOLOGY (#592)**

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**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN #2152**

"Change My Heart, O God"

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE— "Sanctuary"**

**Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With Thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.**

Next Week ~ Second Sunday in Advent; Communion will be served and the Choir will sing. There will be a Congregational meeting for the purpose of electing Elder's and Deacons and to approve Rev. Pat's salary package.

Texts: Exodus 32: 1-14; Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4: 1-9; Matthew 22: 1-14

The Advent wreath and candle arrangement that graces the Sanctuary was given by The Memorial Committee, The Deacons in memory of Helen Grace and Mike and Barb Roadruck in loving memory of Barb's parents.

Calendar for the Week of December 1- 7, 2008

**Monday, Dec. 1 ~
Tuesday, Dec. 2 ~**

**Adult Volleyball 7-9pm in Commons
Prayers of Discernment 6:30pm
Mega Mtgs. 7pm in Lounge**

**Wednesday, Dec. 3 ~
Thursday, Dec. 4 ~**

**Advent Mid-Week Meal and Services at 6:30pm
Staff meeting 10:30am in lounge
Potluck lunch at 12:00pm
Lectionary Bible Study at 12:45pm in the lounge**

**Friday, Dec. 5 ~
Saturday, Dec. 6 ~
Sunday, Dec. 7 ~**

**Food Pantry 10-12pm
Commons rented 10:30am-4pm
Second Sunday in Advent; Communion will be served and the Choir will sing; Congregational meeting for the purpose of electing Elder's and Deacon's and to approve Rev. Pat's salary package. Spina Bifida Christmas party in the Commons from 1-4pm**