

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our mission is to be an open-hearted, open-minded Christian

community sharing a ministry of faith, hope, and love.

THE 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 27, 2011 9:30 A.M.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

Greeting & Announcements (L = Leader / P = People / A = All)

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Prelude

Peggy Pillers

(As the waters of the Spirit pour forth into our lives, we recognize God's presence)

Call to Worship and Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Willow Swinbank & Peggy Pillers

Reader: Wake up people of God! Be watchful, for our Salvation is *near!*

People: We have been asleep and did not know it. Christ comes to awaken our potential.

Reader: We seek to know the ways of God and walk in the light where Jesus leads!

P: Let us enter this season of watching and waiting, expecting to be changed as we worship and serve.

A: We join with the joyous and hopeful throng of people who light the first Advent Candle in anticipation of the coming grace and presence of our Lord Jesus!

* Reading, Lighting the Advent Candle and Prayer

* Opening Carol

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

p. 9

* Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

L: Let us prepare for God's coming in a form we can only begin to understand.

P: Powerful and determined God, we have wandered far from you. You have trusted us, but we have mistrusted you. We have acted as if you never called our names or blessed us. Is there a place for us in your plans in spite of our weakness and failings? We want to take hold of your goodness and find a new direction for our lives.

(A time for silent confession)

* **Words of Assurance**

L: God is our creator and redeemer, the source of all our unused spiritual gifts. With God, new life comes forward like the shining dawn of a new day. Look for the Light of Jesus, draw near to his word and behold the gift of his grace.

P: Thanks be to God!

* **We Give Glory to God**

"I Exalt Thee"

(Sing together)

For Thou, O lord, art high above all the earth.
Thou art exalted far above all gods. (Repeat)
I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, O Lord.
I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, O Lord

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

A Reading from Psalms

Psalms 80: 1-7, 17-19

p. 540

The Children Tell the Story

Denise

Choir Anthem

"Advent Prayer" arr. by Patrick M. Liebergen

Willow Swinbank, Flute

Reading from the Gospel

Luke 1: 67-80

p. 58

L: The Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Advent: Keeping Watch"

Pastor Teresa

(A Glimpse of Advent in Our World)

Hymn # 50

"Rise Up Shepherd and Follow"

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

We Share Our Joys and Concerns

L: God in your mercy

P: Hear our prayer

Congregational Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

(Spoken together)

A: 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

* **Doxology**

"Give Thanks"

(Sing together)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.**

* **Prayer of Dedication**

A: For all your good gifts we give our humble thanks, O Lord. Please use our gifts to multiply your love, fill the hungry with good food, and carry the lambs to safety. Amen.

* **Hymn # 59**

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

(vs. 1-3)

* **Benediction**

Congregational Response Hymn #59 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"
(vs. 4)

Postlude

Worship Notes:

- *All those who are able, please stand where you see an asterisk**
- *Bolded words are spoken or sung together by the people.*

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Teresa Roberts
Liturgists: Darlene Lucas

Pianist: Laurie Priniski
Choir Director: Denise Swinbank

To borrow an audiotape of today's service, please contact Louis Bouchard.



Community Presbyterian Church
3705 55th Street NW
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 280-9291
www.cpcroch.org



9:30 a.m. Worship Service/1st Sunday of Advent

Worship Assistants	Greeter	Nursery Attendant(s)	Library Attendant
Jake DeGuise Amy Ward Peggy McCarty	Lois Nicholson	Elizabeth Deeds Tabitha Harland	Judy Kereakos

10:30 a.m. Refreshments and fellowship time provided by Nancy Massaro.

10:45 a.m. **Sunday School.** All children ages 2-11 will meet in their assigned rooms when they hear the Sunday School bell. Sunday School dismisses at 11:45 am. All are welcome to attend.

Class	Room	Lesson
Ages 2 - Grade 5	Purple Room	
Youth Grades 6-12	Black Room	
Adult Education	Library	Lesson: Holy Land Revealed

(Questions about Sunday School? Contact Denise Swinbank 753-2420)

THIS WEEK AT CPC:

Monday	7:30 p.m.	Aikido
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Deacon/Elder Training
Wednesday	6:30 a.m.	Prayer Group at Madonna Towers
.....	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study "The Beatitudes"
.....	5:30 p.m.	Food backpacks
.....	6:15 p.m.	Jubellation Hand Bell practice
.....	7:15 p.m.	Choir practice
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Aikido
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Aikido
.....	2-10 p.m.	Great Room in use
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Jubellation Handbell practice
.....	9:30a.m.	Worship/2 nd Sunday of Advent/Communion
.....	Book Group

COMING UP AT CPC

December 10	39 Forever Christmas Luncheon
December 11	Ordination and installation of Elders and Deacons
December 17	Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Advent and Christmas Services:

November 27th—1st Sunday of Advent
 Children's Christmas Program Sunday
 Dec 18th at 9:30 am
 The Longest Night Service, Thursday
 Dec 22nd at 7 pm
 Christmas Eve Service, Saturday,
 Dec 24th at 6 pm
 Christmas Morning Service, Sunday,
 Dec 25th, at 9 am

Welcome to worship on this Lord's Day.

We are blessed by your presence and hope that you will experience the love of God reflected in the life of this community of faith. Nursery care is provided from 9:15-11:45 a.m. for ages three and under, though we love to have children of all ages remain with us in worship. Please complete the friendship pad in your row during the announcements and pass it back so that you are able to greet your neighbors by name.

Community garden tilled...We are partnering our land with the families served by Channel One. Thanks to the collective hours of service efforts of 4 members, we received a community grant from IBM of \$1000 which goes towards the preparation of 15 vegetable gardens in our front yard!

Operation Christmas child...We gave 69 boxes as gifts to children last Sunday! We will be notified of the country they will be sent to. Remember to keep sending your prayers!

The Longest Night: ...A service of comfort and hope. Care enough to invite someone !!! This quiet evening worship service is for people who struggle with the holidays because of grief, illness, job loss – any calamity will do. It's a humane idea, to set aside a special time for mourners during the heart of bustling Christmas preparations. If you know someone who is struggling this Christmas, invite them to

join you. Or perhaps you just need a quiet space to pray and be with God- then you will want to be there for "The Longest Night."

Mini Coat Drive...United Way of Olmsted County along with the Kahler Hotel in Rochester, MN is holding a mini coat drive in support of Rochester Public Schools. This is a one-day event. They will pick-up, sort, and deliver coats on Monday, December 5. Please see their website for more information: <http://www.uwolmsted.org>.

Jubellation Handbell Choir... Rehearsals will be held on November 30 at 6:15 p.m. and December 4 at 8:45 a.m.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers...The sign-up sheet for ringing bells at Hy-Vee Crossroads for December 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. is on the board in the Narthex.

The Mission Committee...is coordinating the collection of gifts for the Adopt-a-Family, "Christmas Family." Please pick up your gift suggestion for the Christmas Family in the Narthex after church. Gifts of cash will be used to purchase gift cards or to purchase gifts that might be more expensive. Please help the Christmas Family.

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A GLIMPSE OF ADVENT IN OUR WORLD: WEEK ONE THOUGHTS

CHECK OUT EMMANUEL'S GIFT ON YOUTUBE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=bvg2dKH6Pug>

Or rent the documentary: "Emmanuel's Gift" by Lookalike Productions

- (1) Watch for signs that God is near. Record what you have seen or heard this week:
- (2) What surprised you?
- (3) How did it change you?
- (4) Can you give an example of where God is present with us (Emmanuel).
- (5) Who did you share this with?
- (6) How are you keeping watch for someone else?



INVOCATION

O EXPECTANCY,
BORN OF FERTILE WONDER,
BELABORED BY NARROWED HOPE;
CRANING CURIOUS LIVES FORWARD,
DRAWING IN THE LONELY AND LONGING.
YOU ARE IMAGINATION'S SISTER
AND THE BROTHER OF HOLY SURPRISE.
COME STARTLE AWAKE
OUR DOZING APATHY, OUR COMPLACENT DREAMS,
THAT WE MAY BEHOLD YOUR BORNING ADVENT CRY.
AMEN.

BENEDICTION

MAY GOD'S GRACIOUS PRESENCE WRAP AROUND
AND PROTECT YOU.
MAY THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY CHRIST CHILD
FOREVER REST IN THE CURVE OF YOUR LIFE.
MAY THE SWEET, FEARLESS SONG OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
SING YOU TO SLEEP
AND WAKEN YOU IN THE ADVENT DAWNS.
MAY YOU, AND THOSE YOU LOVE AND SERVE,
EXPECT THE GOOD NEWS ,
IMMANUEL, GOD-WITH-US.
AMEN