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SAINT PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Fleetwood, Pennsylvania
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017

GATHERING PRAYER

Almighty God, by the power of your Holy Spirit open our eyes, ears, hearts and our very lives to your presence this day. As we worship you this day, may our lives be a healing remembrance of your love to all the lives of those we touch. Amen

INTROIT

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN *"We Hail You God's Anointed"* NCH 104

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

People: *(Singing) Amen!*

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.
(The congregation may be seated.)

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING

PRELUDE: Cantata Overture

The Second Sunday in Advent

Reader (8:55)

(10:25) The Folks

Leader: The season of Advent continues. Four thousand years of waiting for the Messiah, commemorated by the lighting of four candles. These four Advent candles are symbols of our faith and signs of God's love. We are a people of Hope. Last Sunday the frail light of a single candle dared to pierce through the darkness of desolation and sin. Hope lives in us and will abide with us.

Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. This light, too, must brave great darkness. In an age when people so seldom find peace within themselves, and when all the earth stands under threat of total annihilation, we light a fire called peace.

Advent Scripture- Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Leader: As we light the first Advent candle, let us remember that we are a people of hope.
(Light the first candle.)

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As we light the second Advent candle, let it stand for peace, peace that is not merely the absence of war and conflict, but peace that is the fullness of blessing for all—that is the peace for which we dare to hope. In the name of that Child born so long ago, we light the candle of peace.
(Light the second candle.)

Congregational Response

"Christmas Hallelujah"

-Cohen

Leader:

Let us pray:

Gracious God, help us to prepare not only our homes but also our hearts and lives for the coming of Emmanuel. Let us make our way straight, that Christ may come to us in the fullness of time and bring us the gift of peace. Amen.

GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION**THE OFFERTORY**

*“Angels From the Realms of Glory”
(The Congregation stands)*

Henry Smart

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

All (singing):

OFFERTORY PRAYER**PASTORAL PRAYER****LORDS PRAYER****WORD****CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

“RISE UP !” *By Lloyd Larson and Pamela Martin*

Soloists: Francois Blessing and Samantha Wolf

Narrators: Heidi Pierce and Gary Reinert

O Come Little Children

Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin’

The Promise

Manger Songs. (Congregation is invited to sing along)

Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;

There He lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.

Such a babe in such a place, can this be the Savior?

Asked the saved of every race- who have found His favor.

Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;

He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.

Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;

Praise His name in all the Earth, hail the King of Glory!

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

the Little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,

The Little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cradle stall;

Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging angels singing, Noel’s ringing,

Tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Rise Up, Shepherd, Rise Up!

Led By A Star

Children, Go Tell It!

THE BENEDICTION**CHORAL SENDING****CHIMES**

THE POSTLUDE *“The Snow Lay on the Ground”*

Traditional

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MISSION STATEMENT

As Followers of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves to:

- Enthusiastically proclaim and teach God’s love through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Share God’s love with neighbors near and far.
- Live as a Christian community of hope, acceptance, and encouragement in a rapidly changing world.

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL’S

- If you are visiting and would like to know more about St. Paul’s please fill out the visitor’s card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. One of our pastors will contact you.
- There are assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired available at the sound board in the rear of the church.
- **Adult Sunday school is held at 9 a.m. - Generations Class in the Lounge off the Narthex. Also, Adult Bible Study is held Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings. See Announcement sheets in the bulletin for details.**
- Children are always welcome in our worship space (as are the joyful noises that they sometimes add). For those moments when it might be needed, we do have a nursery room in the rear of the church that anyone with younger children is welcome to use. The room is equipped with a speaker that will allow you to continue enjoying the service. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.
- Activity bags for children can be found on a rack in the Narthex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(For the week of December 10, 2017)

The **Altar Flowers** are sponsored by Walter and Caroline Christ in memory of Caroline’s mother, Mrs. Kathryn Trexler.

The **Bulletins** are sponsored by Guy and Sue Landis in loving memory of Sue's dad, Dalton Bleiler.

The **Upper Room Publication** for this month is sponsored by Anna Mae Weiss in memory of her sisters, Jean George and Erma Gift.

Coffee Time Sponsor: Leona and Jim Wright

Ushers: 8:55 a.m. – Cindy Rothenberger, Mary Hayes, Mike Werner, Steve Wentz

10:25 a.m. – Donna Rader, Paul Moll, David Balmer, Jack Creswell

Readers: 8:55 a.m. – Christmas Cantata **10:25 a.m.** – Christmas Cantata

Acolytes: 8:55 a.m. – Parker Milyo and Nicholas Hill

10:25 a.m. – Herbert Dunkelberger and Alex Scheffler

Attendance:	December 3, 2017	8:55 a.m. – 154	10:25 a.m. – 107
October	Income	Expense	Difference
General Acct	\$36,235.85	\$37,757.11	-\$ 1,521.26
Other Accts	\$15,922.27	\$39,572.63*	-\$23,650.36
Year to date			
General Acct	\$331,660.15	\$404,989.79	-\$73,329.64



C H R I S T M  S
 Cantata