



SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

For Children: We have trained nursery staff (paid nursery attendant as well as adult volunteers) for ages 0-4. The nursery is located on the first floor outside of the Community Room. (Accessible by the stairs from the Church Street Entrance or via the elevator). Children ages 5 and above are invited to stay and worship with their families. Children's programs, books, and crayons are located in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table.



Hymn selections can be found in the black hymnals in the pew racks or printed in the bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk in the downstairs lobby please stop by after the service they would love to meet you or, please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift towards the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us. At this time we are taking offering at the end of the service. Plates for offering will be placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary. Thank you.

We ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Rest rooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the first floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

There is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org.

Donate online by scanning this code:
or download the **GivePlus Church** application and
make your donation via the app. Thank you.



Ministers - All the People of Evangelical Reformed Church

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Senior Pastor (bkdaniel@erucc.org)

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus (faw500@msn.com)

Kim Sexton, Associate for Children's Ministry (ksexton@erucc.org)

Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

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EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH
United Church of Christ
- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m.

*All who are able may stand

Housing the Holy
Making Room (Hope)

Chimes Concert at 10:00 a.m. from Trinity Chapel's steeple

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

Threshold Moment We Open the Door

Hope Waits for Us at Advent

Amanda Udis-Kessler

Choir Sings:

Hope waits for us at Advent
Hope waits for us to trust.
Hope waits for our commitment
to a land that's kind and just.
In this time of preparation
for the work of co-creation,
for the birthing of a world
that heals the ones in pain.
Hope is born in us again!

Lighting of the Candle of Hope

All sing:

Hope waits for us at Advent...

The Peace

The Hope of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

***Prayer of Confession**

We find ourselves with two options every day— to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win. Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel? Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?

Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world.

Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

***Words of Forgiveness**

Thought for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed by 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, for ever. Amen.

***Hymn** *Keep Awake, Be Always Ready*

#112

The Scriptures

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

OT 738

Psalms 25: 4-5

OT 502

Luke 21: 25-36

NT 85-86

Reader: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Make of My Heart a Stable

-- Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Make of my heart a stable,
a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place
for hope to live and grow.**

Offering: A Story of Innkeeping

Offertory *The Yearning*

--C. Courtney
Senior Choir

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy God, we are homesick.

We long for the day that you spoke of when swords will be beaten into plowshares, the lion will lie down with the lamb, and justice will roll like waters. Until that holy day comes, take these gifts and use them to build that world here. We are hopeful. Amen.

***Hymn** *Come, O Long Expected Jesus*

#122

***Benediction**

May God's door of welcome
swing open in your heart and in your life.
May Christ's humble first dwelling
remind you of the plenty you already know.
And may the Spirit lead you into
more possibility and hospitality than you can imagine,
making room in The Inn for all.
May it be so for you.
May it be so for us.
May it be so for this church. **Amen.**

***Sevenfold Amen**

-- No. 814

Postlude *(remain seated)*

Worship Notes: Design, leader parts, liturgy and words for communion © Marcia McFee, www.worshipdesignstudio.com. Used with permission. The Prayer of Confession, Assurance, and Prayer of Dedication are from @Sanctified Art, “Close to Home.”

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

The yellow rose bud on the stand is placed by Tom and Evie Frazier in memory of Cpt. Alan B. Harriman, USAF – KIA in Vietnam on August 15, 1964.

If you are interested in sponsoring the yellow rose, please contact the church office.

Attendance Last Sunday: 14 at 8:30 a.m. 117 at 10:30 a.m. and 62 online.



Every Sunday at 10:30

<https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC>

Want to listen to the sermon again? Visit our Youtube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w

You can get to the link on our homepage at www.erucc.org



Today: Nov. 28, 2021

Liturgist: Pam Shepp
Deacons: Betsy Selby, Andrew Beadle
Elders: Laura Rhoderick
Greeters: Rob Peters, Felecia Bishop,
Sue Pinner
Welcome: Pat Condo
Sound: Tadd Clarkson, Jeff Baker,
Jeff Schaeberle
Chimers: Saturday: Tricia Coffey
Sunday: Robin and David Cooney

Next Week: December 5, 2021

Rev. John Shillingburg
Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick
Starr Schaeberle
Anne Hoffman

Ave Barr
Jeff Schaeberle, Amanda Spencer,
Ethan Kline
Dick Williams
Kelly Esslinger

Worship Next Week: December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent

“A Place at the Table (Peace)”

Make ready! John the Baptizer, in

Luke 3: 1-6, implores those gathered at the banks of the Jordan River – and those gathered in churches this Sunday – to remove any obstacles that are hindering openness to the renewed ways of peace and justice that God has promised to reveal through the Child to come. In Philippians 1: 9-11, Paul gives thanks for the Christians in Philippi. Paul is grateful to God, who began this “good work.”

God’s prophets call us to prepare the way – in our lives and in our communities – for the gift of God’s saving love in Jesus the Christ. This morning communion will be served to you as you are seated in the pews. The Senior Choir will be singing.

Hospital and Prayer List – Your pastor wants to be available when members of ERUCC are in the hospital. Please let us know so that we can visit with you and your family and provide support. We always ask permission before adding a name to be included in the prayer list or in the verbal announcements on a Sunday morning. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.

Prayer List - Please remember the following people in your prayers: Al Peden, Barbara Prescott, Patti Patterson, Ginny Peters, Terry Logee, Bob York (grandfather of Tyler York), Michael Rhoads (son of Barbara Rhoads), Katharine Alley, Westin (great nephew of Sandy Gray & Danielle Carbone, Peggy Githerman, Jeannette Johnson, Emogene Wyand, Fran Wenner, Neremiah Castillo (niece of Andrew Beadle) Bonnie Devilbiss, Maria Csiba (mother of Tamara Tamas), Trish Carey, Betsy Fisher, James “Jimmy” Sutphin (friend of Dan Smith), Danielle Hankey (friend of Ben Mercier), The McCarty family, Nikki Keller, Barbara Lee (sister of Milt Crutchley), Tina Prescott (daughter in law of Barbara and Bill Prescott), Mary Remsberg, Susan Matesa (friend of Dan Smith & Austin Byrd), Susan McCauley (niece of Jack Stush), Heleen (sister of Karin Mens), Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Terry Smiley (uncle of Scott Smiley), Shawn Smiley (cousin of Scott Smiley), Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield), Ann and Cal Theiss (parents of Katharine Alley), Frank Tymczyszyn (brother in law of Nancy Jones), Debra Reedy (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Jess Pautz (friend of Sean Sexton)



Congregational Meeting



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Sunday, December 12th following the 10:30 service.

The Consistory hopes that you will be present for the annual meeting at which time the annual budget will be shared. **YOU ARE THE CHURCH** and we need your participation!!

Looking for some soup makers for our congregational meeting on December 12th following our 10:30 service. If you're able to share your warm gift of soup, please contact Starr Schaeberle at (301)662-6902 or starr.schaeberle@comcast.net

November 28, 2021

Luke 21:25-36

Sign of Things to Come
United Black Christians Anniversary

Til Love Comes is the first single on Tracy Howe's album, "Things That Grow", available at tracyhowemusic.com. On this first Sunday of Advent, these inspiring words are a prophetic reminder of the universe-transforming power of the incarnation, the coming of the Christ Child. You can find more of Tracy's music, including a link to a video of this song, at tracyhowemusic.com.

We will march on, will fight on
Til love comes

If you cut into beauty
and try to make it bleed
you only find a deeper hope
and what makes a person free
the depths of love
come from where we've been
redeemed

So put down your guns
and unlock the prison doors
You can keep all your money;
give yourselves to the poor
learn to love
Building a world of grace

We will march on, will fight on
Til love comes

You might make your words a weapon
and build power out of fear
But it's your own self breaking and
fading away in the mirror

Because love
Is writing the song

And the mystery of suffering is the life
that comes from pain
And the hope we share holds it -
gives it a name
All in love

We carry on

We will march on, will fight on
Til love comes

We gave our lives to this fight,
we gave our lives
If we fall it will be alright,
if we fall it will be alright
Our bodies wrapped in dust,
will tell the tale of both of us
I who heard your cry for help,
and you who lived for someone else

We will march on, will fight on
Til love comes

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