

**Look**FORWARD



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

**F**or 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.



**H**ymn 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. Members of the welcome team 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.

**W**e 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.

**T**here is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: [www.erucc.org](http://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](mailto:bkdaniel@erucc.org))

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus ([faw500@msn.com](mailto:faw500@msn.com))

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

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

Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

Office Administrator ([erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org)) • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator

*15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-662-2762 • [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)*

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

December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand

**Housing the Holy**  
**How Much Is Enough? (Joy)**

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

**Greetings and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**Threshold Moment**          We Open the Door

*Joy Waits for Us at Advent*

Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Choir sings:**

**Joy waits for us at Advent**  
**Joy waits for us to sing.**  
**Joy waits for our amazement**  
**at the grace in everything.**  
**In this time of preparation**  
**for the work of co-creation,**  
**for the birthing of a world**  
**where wonder is restored.**  
**Joy is born in us once more!**

**Lighting of the Candle of Joy**

All sing:

**Joy waits for us at Advent...**

**The Peace**

The Joy of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you!**

**Children's Music and Movement**

*Away in a Manger*

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**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.**

**The Scriptures**

Isaiah 12: 2-6

OT 641-2

Luke 3: 7-18

NT 60

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

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Meditation**

**Reception of New Members**

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**Offering: A Story of Innkeeping**

**Cantata** **Selections from "Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin."** -- Lloyd Larson  
Senior Choir

Overture

O Come, Little Children

Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin'

The Promise

Manger Songs

Rise Up, Shepherd, Rise Up!

Led by a Star

Children, Go Tell It!

**\*Hymn** *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

#107

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sevenfold Amen**

-- No. 814

**Postlude** (*remain seated*)

**Worship Notes:** Design, leader parts, liturgy © Marcia McFee, www.worshipdesignstudio.com. Used with permission. The Prayer of Dedication is from @Sanctified Art, "Close to Home."

**Today we welcome the following persons into church membership:**

Larry and Sedonia Martin  
3030 Mill Island Parkway, #403  
Frederick, MD 21701

Rob and Donna Smith  
206 Wellesley Ct.  
Walkersville, MD 21703

Karen Justice  
3030 Mill Island Parkway, #301  
Frederick, MD 21701

Robin Cooney  
6020 Rockridge Road  
New Market, MD 21774

*The flowers on the altar* are given by W. Dan Smith and Austin Byrd in loving memory of their parents.

*The yellow rose bud* on the stand is placed by Peter Brehm.

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

\*\*\*We are looking for someone to sponsor the altar flowers on January 30. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Attendance Last Sunday: 13 at 8:30 a.m. 99 at 10:30 a.m. and 84 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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w)

You can get to the link on our homepage at [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)



**Today: December 12, 2021**

**Next Week: December 19, 2021**

Liturgist: Dan Smith  
Deacons: Chuck Baldree, Matt Pomeroy  
Elders: Tyler York  
Greeters: Cathie Duncan,  
Bob and Nancy Manthey  
Welcome: Jeanellen Kallavang  
Sound: Rodney Martin, Jeff Baker,  
Tadd Clarkson  
Chimers: Saturday: Suzanne Morris  
Sunday: Robin and David Cooney

College Students  
Joe Adkins, Matt Davis  
Marc Kline  
Rachel and Tom Ford,  
Linda Coyle  
Holly Davis  
Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Schaeberle,  
Jack Day  
Dick Williams  
Trish Coffey

**Worship Next Week: December 19, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent: Lessons and Carols**  
“ Room With a View” (Love)

As the Advent season draws to a close, we celebrate our annual lessons and carols service with our college students reading the scriptures. Special music will be shared by the ERUCC Ringers and the Senior Choir.

**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: Paige Coffey, Tina Baker, David Howard, Starr Schaerberle, Al Peden, Barbara Prescott, Ginny Peters, Bob York (grandfather of Tyler York), Michael Rhoads (son of Barbara Rhoads), 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 – TODAY, 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. We need and welcome your participation.



### Longest Night Service Thursday, December 16 7:30 p.m. Trinity Chapel

The holiday season can be filled with excitement and anticipation. As the days grow shorter and the nights longer, we await the birth of the Christ Child within us. However, the holidays can also be a time of sadness, stress, and busy-ness that leave little room for praise

and thanksgiving. The death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, recovery from addiction, illness, and financial struggles all mirror the lengthening of the nights at this time of the year.

ERUCC will offer our annual Longest Night Service, Thursday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m. in Trinity Chapel. There will be gentle music, readings, and a time for quiet reflection. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one, as a sign of hope. A time of refreshment and fellowship will follow the service.



### Christmas Fund Offering ERUCC will receive this offering in December (Please use the envelopes in your envelope packet or the envelopes in the pews.)

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

Luke 3:7-18

### Look Forward

*A prayer inspired by Luke 3:7-18*

**Holy One,**

In this sacred season of the year, blinded as we are by the lights and the parties, deafened as we are by the songs and celebrations, we pause for a moment to look and to listen. We see the muddy prophet, crying on the riverbank. We hear, as John's listeners did long ago, the crackling fire of truth and repentance. And we ask, as they did, "what should we do now?"

**Holy One,**

In this sacred season, we stop and breathe as we look and listen. Too often, we put our belief in the past, too often we ally ourselves with a tradition that is dead and gone. In all times, but in Advent especially, you desire for us to embrace the new life being born, to look toward the future with hope, and to be co-creators with you of that future.

**Holy One,**

In this sacred season, may all we do be a prayer. We prepare gifts for those we love. Let that preparation be a prayer that propels us to be your generous people to all who are in need of opportunities to give and to receive. We celebrate with special food and drink. Let those celebrations be a prayer that helps us to live fully the wisdom of moderation. We repose in relative comfort. Let us have open eyes to see how much of what seems like safety is purchased at the terrible cost in violence and oppression.

**Holy One,**

In this sacred season, we stand on tiptoes and peek into the manger, hoping for a glimpse of the baby, sweet and small. When we see and hear you as you really are, roaring truth and demanding justice, grant us the wisdom and the courage to welcome you into our churches, into our celebrations, into our lives.

Amen.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

