



Moving with Mary's Song

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)

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

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15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-662-2762 • www.erucc.org

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

December 19, 2021

Fourth 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 *The First Nowell*

-- arr. L.Lawson

Mary Huegel, oboe; Fran Davis, flute

Were You There on That Christmas Night?

-- Natalie Sleeth

ERUCC Ringers

Christmas Angels

-- arr. L.Lawson

Mary Huegel, oboe; Fran Davis, flute

Threshold Moment We Open the Door

Love Waits for Us at Advent

Amanda Udis-Kessler

Choir Sings:

Love waits for us at Advent

Love waits for us to care.

**Love waits for our compassion
freely offered, freely shared.**

In this time of preparation

for the work of co-creation,

for the birthing of a world

where faith shapes all we do.

Love is born in us anew!

Lighting of the Candle of Love

All sing:

Love waits for us at Advent...

The Peace

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

FIRST LESSON: The prophet Isaiah foresees the coming of the Lord

Isaiah 60: 1-3, Isaiah 9: 2-7

Ethan Kline

***Processional Carol** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here; disperse
the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strike and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

SECOND LESSON: The peace that Christ will bring is fore-shown

Jeremiah 23: 5-6; Isaiah 11: 1-2, 4, 6-9

Maureen Hueting

Carol *Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old*

#108, stanzas 1, 2

**Isaiah the prophet has written of old
how God's new creation shall come.
Instead of the thorn tree, the fir tree shall grow;
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb, the lamb,
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.**

**The mountain and hills shall break forth into song,
the peoples be led forth in peace;
The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of God
as the waters cover the sea, the sea,
As the waters cover the sea.**

THIRD LESSON: John the Baptist heralds the coming of the Messiah

Matthew 3: 1-6, 11-12

Fran Davis

***Carol** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

WINCHESTER NEW

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings!**

**Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a Guest!
Yea, let us each the heart prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.**

**For Thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Once more upon Thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine. Amen.**

FOURTH LESSON: The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

Ben Mercier

Anthem *My Soul Glorifies the Lord (Mary's Magnificat)*

-- D. Foley

FIFTH LESSON: The evangelists tell of the birth of Jesus

Matthew 1: 19-23; Luke 2:1, 3-7

Colleen Hueting

Carol *Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear*

#105

- 15th Century German carol

[Women sing] **“Gentle Joseph, Joseph dear,
Stay with me, for the baby's near;
God will surely your goodness hear,
as you will love this new-born child,” says Mary.**

[Men sing] **“Gladly Mary, Mary mine,
I will cradle the child divine;
Here will heaven and earth combine,
For you will bear God's child, O dearest Mary.”**

[All sing] **“Peace to all and God’s good-will,”**
Heaven and earth with this song will fill;
Soon will God, in the evening still,
Be born in Bethlehem, the child of Mary.

SIXTH LESSON: The shepherds go to the manger

Luke 2: 8-16

Aiden Baldree

***Carol** *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

Angels, from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story,
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o’er your flocks by night,
God on earth is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Anthem *The Holly and the Ivy*

-- arr. V.W. Stephenson
ERUCC Ringers

Meditation

Anthem *Ave Maria*

-- Bach-- Gounod
Mary Huegel, oboe; Fran Davis, flute

SEVENTH LESSON: The wise men are led by the star to Jesus

Matthew 2: 1-11

Ben Mercier

***Carol** *The First Noel*

THE FIRST NOWELL

And by the light of the same star,
Three Wise Men came from a country afar
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

**This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay. (Refrain)**

**Then entered in those Wise Men three
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. (Refrain)**

EIGHTH LESSON: St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

John 1: 1-14

Carol Of the Parent's Heart Forgotten

Aiden Baldree

#118, stanzas 1,3,4

- DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Of the Parent's heart begotten when the worlds were yet to be,
One there was with no beginning, One who is eternally
Source and Ending of all things that have been,
and all things that are to be, forever and forever.**

**Blessed dawning of salvation as the Word is breathed in grace
Into earthly flesh receiving God incarnate taking place;
Now the light of God revealed
through the Child of human face, forever and forever.**

**Now behold the One whom prophets have foretold for ages long
On the faithful page of scripture, seers and sages in their song;
Now the Promised One shines forth!
Let all earth its praise prolong forever and forever.**

Offering: A Story of Innkeeping

***Prayer of Dedication**

Bless now these gifts, God. Help them to become instruments of your grace that help us to fill the hungry with good things, to lift up the lowly, to help all your servants show mercy so that we will all remember your promise that this world is about to turn. Amen.

Closing Hymn *Angels, We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their brave delight.**

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear? (Refrain)**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)**

***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*) *Noel Fanfare*

-- C. Callhan

Worship Notes: Design, leader parts, liturgy © Marcia McFee, www.worshipdesignstudio.com.

The flowers on the altar are given by Andy and Kathy Johnston in honor of their seven grandchildren: Hannah, Emma, Mady, Cole, Hayden, Zoe, and Ryder.

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.

Attendance Last Sunday: 12 at 8:30 a.m. 156 at 10:30 a.m. and 73 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: December 19, 2021

Next Week: December 26, 2021

Liturgist: College Students

Deacons: Joe Adkins, Matt Davis

Elders: Marc Kline

Greeters: Rachel and Tom Ford,
Linda Coyle

Welcome: Holly Davis

Sound: Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Schaeberle,
Jack Day

Chimers: Saturday: Dick Williams
Sunday: Trish Coffey

Betsy Selby, Andrew Beadle

Marc Kline

Rob Peters, Felecia Bishop, jo Ann Fritz

Pat Condo

Ethan Kline, Jeff Schaeberle, Jack Day

Trish Coffey

Worship Next Week: December 26, 2021 First Sunday after Christmas

Luke 2: 41-52 tells the story of Jesus' family pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover and is the only story of Jesus' childhood. Colossians 3: 12-17 describes spiritual growth in terms of how Christians live in relationship with others.

The service will conclude with the "Letting Go and Letting God" ceremony. This is a time when the congregation will be invited to write down on a piece of paper those things which each person wants to let go of from the old year of 2021, receive God's grace and move into the new year with divine blessing and hope. The dissolving pieces of paper will be placed in a bowl of water at the front of the chancel. We will also share in healing prayers. 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: Ken Hoffmann, Tina Baker, Paige Coffey, Al Peden, Barbara Prescott, Patti Patterson, Ginny Peters, Terry Logee, 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)



Thank you for your Acts of Love! We are happy to report that as of December 12, ERUCC has received **109 pledges totaling \$424,486.00**. Your love shines through in your generous contributions. They enable our church to continue its spiritual, communal, and social justice programs and mission in Frederick and beyond.

If you have not yet pledged, it is not too late. Every pledge is welcome - no pledge is too small and pledge amounts can easily be adjusted up or down if your circumstances change by contacting the Treasurer. Together we are the church!

From the Stewardship and Generosity Committee

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SPIRITUAL GIFTS STUDY with Jeanelle Kallevang
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. "GOD GIFTS YOU" SMALL GROUP SESSIONS: The Stewardship and Generosity Committee is hosting a course on Spiritual Gifts for 6 weeks starting on Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Participants will meet at the church to explore and discuss each person's unique calling and design. Look at examples of call in Scripture, explore your motivations and interests, review your gifts and breathe new life into your commitments in the workplace, the community, the church, your family, and the world. We will follow the format provided in God's Gifts. You. by Shirley Giles Davis. A workbook and videos will guide our exploration. If you are interested in being part of the group, please contact Jeanelle Kallevang. Jeanelle can be reached at geegirl@hotmail.com or 301-919-2057.



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!

EMBRACING JOY: AN IN-PERSON, ONE DAY RETREAT FOR ADULTS
Saturday, February 5 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ~ Community Room

Join us for a day of rest and renewal, of reflection and revitalization, as we celebrate the Divine gift of joy. We will explore what joy really is, how we experience it in our lives, strategies for times when it is hard to find, and ways that we can express our joy and be a source of it for others. Because we will need an accurate headcount for supplies, materials, and refreshments, pre-registration is necessary. Please sign-up by January 23 by either contacting the church office at 301-662-2762 or following to share your information. A donation of \$15.00 is requested to cover the costs of lunch and materials. If you may need any special accommodations to access the retreat experience, be they mobility or sensory related, please let us know and we will be in touch about how best to serve you. Questions? Contact Michelle Beadle at pastorbeadle@gmail.com or Linda Coyle at lkcoyle@yahoo.com.

December 19, 2021

Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Moving with Mary's Song *Christmas Fund Offering*

Today, many churches will receive the Christmas Fund, which The Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ uses to help church pastors and their families in times of need.

Listen to this story from Rev. Cathy Barker, who was 14 years old when her father, a local church pastor, passed away in November 1968. As she describes in a video on the Pension Boards website (pbucc.org), the Christmas Fund brought hope in that difficult first Christmas. She shares: "Mom and I had a conversation about how Christmas was going to be very humble. So, we were facing a very lonely time. Then, in the mail, came a check from the United Church of Christ... That check meant so much to us, that the wider church remembered us.

We didn't know who we were anymore in the church. We weren't the minister's family. We were so adrift. But the national church knew about us, and knew that we had a sad Christmas before us. So that check meant the world to us, and it was a much better Christmas than we had thought it might be; it was because of the Christmas Fund entirely because of that experience of being known and remembered by the national church, I felt even more connected to the denomination and to our local church.

When the pandemic hit and the world screeched to a halt for a while in March of 2020, and churches were thrown into total disarray, pretty early on I received a letter asking for additional contributions to the emergency fund... As you might imagine, I got out my checkbook and wrote a check right away. I know what it's like to feel lost and abandoned and confused. And I know what it feels like to receive a gift that makes a huge difference and I want to be a part of that.

It had such a powerful effect on my mom and me, especially that very first year, I want to be part of that feeling and that graciousness for others... it's one of the ways the world goes 'round, isn't it, and one of the ways the Holy Spirit moves among us, that we multiply grace upon grace and help each other out? I want to be part of that."

You can be a part of the Christmas Fund, too, by designating a gift to your local church, or giving online at pbucc.org.



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

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