Fourth Sunday of Advent
Worship for the Lord’s Day
December 18, 2022
9:30 am

Prelude
The Wexford Carol
arr. Mark Hayes

Words of Welcome
Rev. Susan Tindall

*Opening Words
Michele Vickery

One: We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.
All: That sign is in the One to come—the One that God is sending.
One: Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!
All: Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior. Let us worship God!

Lighting of the Advent Candles
Nancy, Emily, Shelley Jaycox

*Hymn 143
Angels, from the Realms of Glory
REGENT SQUARE

Call to Confession
Michele

One: Into confusion and fear, God brings peace and hope. Into strife and stress, God brings comfort and soothes us. We turn towards God who truly loves us and brings us new life as we join our voices together in prayer.

Prayer of Confession
Lord, we confess that we are rushing headlong into Christmas. It’s only a week away and we still have so much to do. Our preparations feel far from complete, and we are exhausted. You have poured upon us blessing after blessing, daily reminding us of your love and presence. Give us patience. Slow us down. Remind us of the ways in which you are present with us—not in the wrapped packages, the abundance of food, but in the love and compassion that is brought to all. Forgive us, we pray. Make us truly ready to receive your love and the gift of the Christ Child. Amen.
Assurance of God’s Grace

One: The light of God’s love shines upon each of us in the gift of God’s love, Jesus Christ.  
All: Rejoice! We are forgiven and loved by God, now and forever. Amen.

*Sung Response 583  
Glory to God  
GLORIA (Taizé)

*Sharing the Peace of Christ  
Rev. Beth Freese Dammers 
One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another, let us share the peace with one another. The Peace of Christ be with you! 
All: And also with you!

*Sung Response  
God Incarnate, We Are Waiting  

A Time with Youngest Children 
Kristin Duy 
Following our time together, all kids are encouraged to go with our Sunday School volunteers to Rm LL6 on the lower level for faith formation. Please pick-up your child there immediately after worship.

Prayer for Inspiration  
Michele

Scripture Reading  
Psalm 80:1-7  
One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! This is the Word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Reading  
Matthew 1:18-25  
Rev. Susan Tindall  
One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! This is the Word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon  
Spoiler Alert

*Hymn 82  
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus  
HYFRYDOL
Offering Our Gifts to God
Invitation to Offering
Offertory The Celtic Rose (Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming) Michele
Chancel Choir
*Doxology words 607, tune 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH
Prayer of Dedication

Church Tidings Beth

Joys & Concerns

God's People Pray
One: We lift our prayers to God.
All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Lord’s Prayer (using “sins”) 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn 133 v. 1 & 3 O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES

*Charge and Blessing Susann

*Postlude Hark! the Herald Angels Sing arr. Phillip Keveren

* Please rise in spirit or body All speak emboldened type

USHERS: Ann Jaltuch, Erin James
LITURGIST: Michele Vickery
ADDITIONAL MUSICIANS: Clarion Bells
ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Nancy, Emily and Shelley Jaycox
ONLINE WORSHIP HOST: Wendy Cook
Next Sunday in Worship, December 25
Christmas Morning Worship
9:30 am

Shepherd School
Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 2:1-20

COVID PROTOCOL UPDATE
Those at high risk for getting very sick are encouraged to consider participating in the worship service or meetings remotely or wearing a well-fitting mask if attending in person. The normal CDC guidance of vaccination, ventilation, and vigilance continue.

WELCOME NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: DR. CHRISTOPHER COCK

The search committee is thrilled to introduce Christopher Cock as our new Director of Music Ministry. He will begin his ministry with CPC on Jan 3.

Dr. Christopher M. Cock, Senior Research Professor, was the Director of Choral and Vocal Activities at Valparaiso University for 27 years, where he held the inaugural Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg Chair in Lutheran Music and was the founding director of the Bach Institute.

Through his activities as a choral music educator and as a distinguished solo artist, Christopher has forged a unique career path, combining the roles of conductor and performer. He has conducted All-State Choirs in Minnesota, Georgia and Ohio and the Collegiate Honor Choir in Pennsylvania. He has appeared at Carnegie Hall as guest conductor of the New England Symphonic Ensemble – making appearances as both conductor and soloist at this legendary venue.

At Valparaiso, Christopher founded the Bach Institute in 2004. He established important professional relationships with the Thomanerchor, the Bach Archive, Leipzig and the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, and led the Valparaiso University Chorale as the only international choir to be invited to the 500th anniversary celebration of the Reformation in Wittenberg, Germany.

As a solo artist, Christopher has enjoyed a career spanning 40 years, specializing in concert and song literature. He studied at the University of Southern California and completed his undergraduate study at Pacific Lutheran University. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Arizona (Tucson), where he was a student of Maurice Skones.
CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS
We would like to thank the following people for their generous donation of poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary for the holiday season & donations for our Share the Love program.

Richard Bennett in memory of Carol Bennett
Beth Freese Dammers & Sam Dammers in honor of CPC's amazing staff
Kristin & Bill Duy in memory of Skippy, Elfrieda & Kathy
Donna and Glenn Gabanski in memory of their loved ones
Erin & Doug James in honor of the dedicated staff of Kids’ Academy
Cathy Kappos
Kristin Konar
Liz and Ken Monson
Linda Murphy
Joanna Petersen
Nancy & Wayne Pritzel in memory of their parents
The Rush Family
Tracy Sims
Ruth & Derek White in memory of Martin Ohrenberg, Alvin & Nina Ohrenberg and Harold & Lois White
Wendy Wilhelm
This week at CPC:

Sunday, December 18
Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:15 am — Clarion Bells warm-up; chancel
8:45 am — Chancel Choir warm-up; chancel
9:30 am — Worship
9:45 — Sunday School; LL room 6
10:45 am — Adult Education; Chapel/Hybrid

Monday, December 19
7:00 pm — Communications; zoom

Tuesday, December 20
1:30 pm — Staff Meeting; Chapel / Hybrid

Wednesday, December 21
No Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 22
No Clarion Bell Rehearsal

Friday, December 23
Church Office Closes at Noon

Saturday, December 24
3:30 pm — Worship
7:00 pm — Worship
9:00 pm — Worship

Sunday, December 25
9:30 am — Worship

Monday, December 26
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 27
Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 28
Church Office Open

NURSERY CARE
The Nursery will be staffed the first Sunday of the month. Families can drop off their little ones to be cared for by our volunteers. We use a pager system in case a parent is needed. The Nursery is located across from the church office on the main floor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
*kids 3 yrs - 5th grade
During worship, students can pick up a kids’ bulletin or coloring page from the Narthex. Following “A Time with Youngest Children,” all kids will be invited to go with our volunteers to Rm 6 on the lower level for faith formation. Please pick up your child there immediately following worship service.

This week our focus is on Matthew 1:18-25. The children will talk about the important role Joseph played in the story of Jesus’s birth.

BIBLE GIFT
3rd, 4th & 5th Graders!
Bible Gift Sunday; January 8 @ 9:30 AM / Bible Class; January 15, 22, 29 & February 5 @ 9:45 AM
All 3rd - 5th graders are invited to participate in this 4 week Bible class that, when completed, will give them the tools to confidently read their Bible! The CEB Deep Blue Bible uses Common English Bible text throughout with words and phrases that sound natural and conversational for today's reader. With this edition, children will read a Bible that sounds more like how we talk! Email Kristin at kduy@chcpc.org to RSVP for Bible Gift Sunday.

CPC YOUTH ARE ON CHRISTMAS BREAK!

We wish all of our youth ministry students, leaders, and families a happy and healthy holiday break! We look forward to seeing you in 2023! CPC Youth Activities resume on January 8th. If you would like to be connected to youth ministry, please contact Pastor Susan.
News of THE AMOS GROUP

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amos 5:24

Advent thoughts
Jesus’ family was poor. They had no steady home at first, so they were refugees. Mary’s pregnancy was a potential source of stigma, like unwed mothers of our day. As we wait for the re-birth of Jesus into our hearts, let us consider those in our communities who lack financial stability, housing stability, and social stability. Are we called to do something different on their behalf?

For example, imagine the difficulty that refugees from the southern hemisphere must be having as they arrive in winter in a strange country. You could get involved with Exodus World Service, a local agency working to help them get settled.

Please send your ideas and your comments to Gregg Morton.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed
Advent Series: Holy Disruption
10:45-11:45 AM
The CE-A committee concludes the Advent series today. Tracy Daub’s book titled Holy Disruption: Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark presents a fresh understanding of the holiness of Christmas grounded not in a conventional, cozy message but through Mark’s disquieting gospel. We are invited to experience God’s disruptive but transformative love for us and our world. Cyndi Frost leads our final session.

After a holiday break, Adult Ed classes will resume on January 8, when we will start a series led by Dr. Malka Simkovich. Join us in the chapel or online via Zoom.

Thank you for completing your 2022 Pledge
Year End Gifts Appreciated

Churches and nonprofits depend on year-end giving to meet their financial goals. CPC is no different. Thankfully, our big-hearted congregation has given generously at year-end in the past.

In gratitude for all that God has provided us, we hope that you will prayerfully consider making an incremental holiday gift to CPC during this Christmas season. Your extra gift will help ensure CPC’s overall financial health and support our many important CPC ministries in the coming year. You may make your CPC Christmas Offering on Realm (https://onrealm.org/cpc/give/now) or with the Christmas Offering envelope that was mailed to your home in early December.

As we approach the end of 2022, we also ask all who are able to pay any remaining balances on your 2022 pledge by year end. This will help close our remaining 2022 budget gaps. These payments can also be made on Realm (https://onrealm.org/cpc/give/now) or by contacting our Financial Administrator, Laurie Scola, at http://Laurie.Scola@chcpc.org.

Thank you in advance for recognizing God’s abundant blessings in our lives and responding with gratitude during this season of great joy.

To ensure your donations are credited to your 2022 giving please:

- Mail donations with a postmark no later than December 31
- Give on-line by December 29 at https://onrealm.org/cpc/-form/give/now
- Bring your donation to church office by noon, Friday Dec 30
- NOTE: Office closed Mon Dec 26, Tues Dec 27
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
Save these dates

Sat Dec 24: Christmas Eve Worship at 3:30, 7:00 and 9:00,
communion at all worship services
Sun Dec 25: Christmas Day worship at 9:30 am with Communion

On Sunday, January 29, we will welcome CHAI Collaborative Ensemble,
a Chicago-based collective engaging with communities through
performances of mixed vocal and instrumental chamber music.
The ensemble offers beloved classics in the chamber music canon
alongside underperformed works from the past and present.
Expect to be inspired by the experience!

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The Ministers: All the Members

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