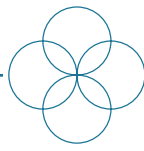


We embrace all as we journey  
**the way of Jesus**



CHRIST  
CHURCH UCC



December 8, 2024

Welcome

Prelude

**"Peace Like a River"**  
Chancel Choir

*Donald Moore*

Call to Worship

Bert Bathiany

One: As we begin this second week of Advent, focused on peace,  
may we remember what the angel said,

**All: "Be not afraid, Glory to God in the highest!"**

One: Born to bring peace, the Spirit of Christ says, "Peace to this house."

**All: Born to bring peace, the Spirit of Christ says, "Blessed are the peacemakers."**

One: In this season of long nights and expectant hearts,  
how do we find this peace?

**All: Peace happens when we treat each other, ourselves, and the world kindly.**

One: Peace emerges when the work of justice is done,  
when all are free to be who God made us to be.

**All: Let us worship in a spirit of peace, proclaiming the coming  
of the Prince of Peace!**

Red Hymnal #73

**"While We Are Waiting, Come"**

*Cloninger/Cason*

Praying Together (*Unison*)

**God of starry skies, into your peaceful presence we bring our whole selves:  
anxieties, concerns, distractions, projects, dreams, and disorders. We know that in  
this unjust and chaotic world, peace is difficult to find and maintain, but we hunger  
for peace today. Reveal the ways we have blocked or prevented your peace within  
us and our communities. Expand our capacity for peace as we remember the  
manger, where peace first began to grow. Help us reimagine systems that would  
make space for more peace. May the peace of Christ fill us in worship today. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Presence

Offertory

**"Glory (Let There be Peace)"**  
Max Gise, guitar; Jacob Priddy, piano; Talia Zoll, vocals

*Matt Maher/Rachel Popadic/Chris Stevens*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Donna and Larry Stinson

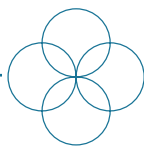
Scriptures

**Luke 2:14 and Luke 10:1-6**

Sermon

**Uncomfortable Peace**

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode



## Song

### “Room for Us All” from *The Many*

Lenora Rand/Hannah Rand

## Affirmation of Peace

One: Let us affirm our commitment to and belief in the Christian discipline of peace.

**All: Jesus taught his disciples, “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’”**

One: Jesus taught his disciples, “If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you.”

**All: We believe peace is expensive. Peace is costly. What will we sacrifice for the sake of peace?**

One: We believe peace is humble. Peace is willing to apologize. What ground will we concede for the sake of peace?

**All: We believe peace is intentional. Peace is slow. What efficiency will we lose for the sake of peace?**

One: We believe peace is brave. Peace has boundaries. What changes will we make for the sake of peace?

**All: We believe those who make sacrifices for the sake of peace will be made whole again, for Jesus makes all things new.**

One: Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.

**All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!**

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

## Song

### “The Peace of the Lord”

Babbie Mason/John Madgett

Congregation join on second and third **Refrain:**

**May the Peace of the Lord go with you**

**The Peace of the Lord go with you**

**May His Spirit rest within you**

**To comfort and befriend you**

**He is right beside you to constantly remind you**

**You're a child of the King.**

**(Repeat)**

## Benediction

## Postlude

### “En Noi De La Mare” (Cancion Popular Catalana)

Miguel Llobet

Max Gise, guitar

## • Offerings

If you would like to make an offering, you can put it in the plate during the service or you can give online using this QR code:





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We embrace all as we journey the way of Jesus

# Announcements

## • Discipleship Opportunities

Each week... All are welcome! No need to sign up.

- **Sundays, 9 a.m., History Room**  
Watching and discussing the series, "The Chosen" which covers Jesus' chosen followers.
- **Thursdays, 12 p.m., History Room**  
A Bible study in December on the prophecies around the coming of Jesus, the Messiah
- **Wednesdays, 3 p.m. (Online)**  
Sharing and reflecting on the spiritual poetry of Wendell Berry in December.  
(Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/ccwednesday>)

## • Christmas Eve "Unplugged"

On **December 24 at 10:00 p.m.**, we will celebrate the birth of Jesus at our Christmas Eve service. It will be a candlelight service with acoustic "unplugged" music. It will be a beautiful celebration of the coming of Jesus into the world! Who will you invite to join you?

## • Brighton Center

We are continuing to collect instant mashed potatoes and gravy packets in December. Thank you for your generosity!

## • Northern Kentucky Youth

**Christmas Party – TODAY!**

**Sunday, Dec. 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**

'Tis the season! Join us for a special Christmas Party! We'll decorate, share in dinner, and take part in a white elephant gift exchange (bring a wrapped gift valued between \$5 - \$10 to take part). We hope you can join us as we celebrate the most joyous time of the year.

## • Birthdays (No Anniversaries)

Julie Mai

Lela Bach

Susan Houben

## • Welcome to Christ Church

**If you'd like information about our church,** you can find our online service, newsletter, and much more on the church's website: [christchurchft.org](http://christchurchft.org).

Visitors are encouraged to fill out our "Friendship Form" by scanning this QR code or going to:

<https://bit.ly/ccucc-welcome>



## • Stewardship 2025

Thank you for being part of Christ Church! If you have already sent in your commitment card, thank you! If you haven't please do so as soon as possible or consider using this

QR code. If you didn't receive your commitment card, please contact the office at (859) 441-2565.



## • Prayer Changes Us

**Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:**

Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

**Prayer Requests:**

Gary Kennedy, the family of Al Rice, Mike and Laura Randall, Stacey Seiter, Susan Snyder, Beth Caby, Naomi Carroll, Stephanie, Robyn Cox, Elsie Loos, Eve Wellborn, Stacey, Jamie & Kelly Greenwalt, Jennifer Flynn, Chris P., John Thomas Flynn, The Flynn Family, the family of Phyllis Clark, the family of Evie and Jack Weber, the family of Rev. David Schwab, the family of Doug Miller, the family of Judy Gadd, Carolyn Tyler, Denise, Makayla, Gregg Frank, Cathy Van Lierop, Gordon Braun, Howard Storm, Sharon Roach, the family of Shane Miller, Steve Jarboe, Bette Ament, the family of Stella Pendery, Mike Bizzarro, Suzanne Jones, the family of Carlie Mc Mahon, the family of Guy Traylor, Susan Gabbard, Dave Jager, Béné, Jim Rehtin Jr., Maggie, Gary Hunter, Audrey Bernhard, Jeff McDonald, Nancy Castleman, Carolyn Watts-Raisor, Brian, Gene, Nathan, Dominic

*(Names underlined indicate request for anonymity)*

**Please contact the office to make changes:**

**(859) 441-2565 or [office@christchurchft.org](mailto:office@christchurchft.org)**