



# Advent

Second Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 9, 2018  
10 am  
Sanctuary, South Campus

## Welcome to First Community Church

We are a Christian church, affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ denominations. We welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith, and those who are searching.

Christian worship has been offered by First Community Church, Columbus, Ohio, for over 108 years. By worshipping with us today, you become a part of that living tradition. Our regular worshippers and church members, supported by members of the staff and a large number of volunteers, make up our church community. We are committed to diversity, equal opportunities and personal and spiritual development of all who work and worship here, because, as our church's belief statement says, "we strive to follow the path of Jesus Christ while recognizing other pathways to the divine."

Thank you for being with us for worship today. If you desire a pastoral call, please indicate this on the welcome pad. If you are in need of prayer, please fill out a prayer card located in the Welcome pad booklet and place it in the offering plate. Our prayers go with you as you return to your home.

*(The paper we use for the order of service is recycled. You are welcome to take it away with you, but, if you would like us to recycle it for you, please place it in one of the bins at an exit, as we are also committed to our environment, God's Creation.)*

---

# The Service of the Word and Sacrament

ADVENT II



*For outlandish creatures like us, on our way to a heart, a brain, and courage,  
Bethlehem is not the end of our journey but only the beginning - not home but  
the place through which we must pass if ever we are to reach home at last.*

—Frederick Buechner (b 1926)

---

### THE CALL TO CONTEMPLATION

*For the time during the prelude, we invite you to be in prayer. As you  
leave the service of worship, join in rejoicing with your neighbor.*

### THE ORGAN PRELUDE

*Chorale Prelude*

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen, Op. 122, No. 8*

(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Our God approaches; may our worship today prepare the way to  
welcome the Christ Child.

**All: For this Child will become the one who reveals the glory of  
God for all people.**

Leader: Let us find the places of fear and wilderness in ourselves and in the world, and in those places let us make a pathway for God to enter in,

**All: For the good tidings resound for every one of us – let us sing and pray in thanksgiving!**

†THE ADVENT PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 116, VS, 1, 2, 6, and 7

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Veni Emmanuel*

†THE CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: In this Advent season, we each play a part in the unfolding drama of Jesus' birth. We are more likely to be found as harried, tense innkeepers than adoring shepherds at Jesus' side. Let us acknowledge that which distances us from the love and worship of God, and at times leaves us unable to be present to others.

†THE PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

**People: God in whom all hearts find welcome, we confess that we have not yet made as much room in our hearts for the Christ child as we want to.**

Leader: Like the innkeeper, we often relegate Christ to some out-of-the-way corner of our lives, without really intending to.

**People: Like Bethlehem at census time, we have little room for anything we haven't planned for.**

Leader: God, in whom all hearts find shelter, hear our prayer.

**All: Help us, in the midst of our busy, sometimes burdened lives, to welcome the One who always has time for us.**

†THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our Savior says, "Let not your heart be troubled. In my Father's house are many rooms... I go to prepare a place for you...that where I am you may be also." Friends, the love of God is roomy, full of welcome. Know that you are forgiven; receive the welcome of God, where you will always find shelter.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

†THE RESPONSE *(The people singing)*

*In dulci jubilo*

**Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;  
Now give heed to what we say; Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain His everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

THE WELCOME

*(During the Welcome, the children in K-3 may leave for their Sunday school classes to continue their worship and study.)*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE: The Bethlehem Candle

The First Prophecy Reading: Isaiah 11:1-4a, 5-7, 9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of God shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom  
and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might,  
and the spirit of knowledge.

His delight shall be in honoring God.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

They will not hurt or destroy on my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

Leader: Here ends the reading from the prophet Isaiah.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.**

## THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

The Receiving of the People's Gifts

The Anthem

*E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from Him Who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.

Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was and is and is to come; sing Holy, Holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell there in,

Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,

For Christ is coming soon!  
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

—Words from Revelation 22

## THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

†THE HYMN NO. 345, vs. 1 and 2  
*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

*Picardy*

## †THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**People: Loving God, who made this world a place for Jesus Christ and before he was born, promised his coming in the words of the prophets, we thank You for this holy supper, which is for us a sign of his returning to claim his lands and people. Amen.**

*(The people may be seated.)*

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Celebrant: *(The Words of Institution for the Bread)*  
In his brokenness we find our healing.

**People: In our brokenness Christ promises to be present.**

Celebrant: *(The Words of Institution for the Cup)*

Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.

**People: Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the Christ in our midst and in each other. Amen.**

Celebrant: Come and eat. All is ready. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## THE GIVING OF THE BREAD\* AND CUP

*Each person will be invited to come to a communion station to receive the bread and cup. You will receive the bread from the server. Each person may then dip the bread in the chalice held by the other server. An appropriate response to the server's words is "Amen." After receiving communion each person should return to his or her chair by the side aisle. Anyone who is unable to come forward should indicate this to an usher and communion will be brought to him or her.*

*(\*Non-alcoholic grape juice is served for everyone and gluten free bread is available on each bread plate in a separate cup.)*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: We thank You, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received Christ's gifts.

People: **Strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another.  
Give us, as You have given Yourself, to the world in love.  
Amen.**

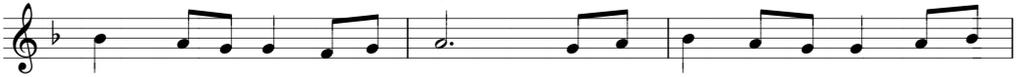
## †THE ADVENT HYMN

*like a child* <sup>(1)</sup>

*like a child*



1. like a child love would send to re - veal and to mend, like a  
2. like a child we will meet, rag - ged clothes, dirt - y feet, like a  
3. like a child born to pray and to show us the way, like a



child and a friend, Je - sus comes. like a child we may find claim - ing  
child on the street, Je - sus comes. like a child we once knew com - ing  
child here to stay, Je - sus comes. like a child we re - ceive all that



heart soul and mind, like a child strong and kind, Je - sus comes.  
back in - to view, like a child born a - new, Je - sus comes.  
love can con - ceive, like a child we be - lieve Je - sus comes.

## †THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:39-45 NRSV

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## THE SERMON

*like a child and a friend*

## THE ADVENT HYMN NO. 131, VS. 1 AND 4

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

*Carol*

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, great news of joy we bring."  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
And all the world send back the song which now the angels sing.

†THE BENEDICTION

†THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Herr Christ, der einge Gottes Sohn*  
(Lord Christ, the Only Son of God)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

---

~ *The End of Worship, the Beginning of Service* ~

---

† *All rise in body or spirit*

### PARTICIPANTS

**Preacher:** The Reverend Dr. R. Glen Miles  
*Senior Minister*

**Liturgist:** The Reverend James M. Long  
*Minister of Pastoral Care*

**Lighting the Advent Candle:** Jane and Brad Briggs

**Ushers:** Group C–Mike Zook

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Ronald J. Jenkins, *Minister of Music and Liturgy*

Robert A. Griffith, *Organist*

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

<sup>(1)</sup> *like a child*. Words, Music: © 1993 by Hope Publishing Co. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

### THIS AFTERNOON AT 4 PM

#### Carols for Christmas

Sanctuary, South Campus

This is our 45th annual Candlelight Christmas Concert

presented by our

Chancel Choir and Chamber Singers and Chamber Orchestra

conducted by Ronald Jenkins.

Freewill offering

---

**Next Sunday, December 16 at 9 and 11 am**

The New World Singers (Columbus Children's Choir)

with the First Community Church Chancel Choir

## TODAY AT FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

### North Campus

**9 am Worship:** Grace Hall  
Crib to 5 years: Rose Wing  
K-3rd grades: Begin in worship, then  
excused to classes in the Rose Wing.  
4th-5th grades: In worship.

**11 am Worship:** Grace Hall  
Crib to 5 years: Rose Wing  
K-3rd grades: Begin in worship, then  
excused to classes in the Rose Wing.  
4th - 8th grades: In worship.

### South Campus

**10 am Worship:** Sanctuary  
Crib to 5 years: Rooms 221 & 209  
K-3rd grades: Begin in worship, then  
excused to Lincoln Road Chapel.  
4th - 5th grades: In worship.

Grades 6-12 Crossroads 7 pm, North Campus.

- **Welcome visitors!** Stop by our Welcome Center for information on programs and activities and pick up a copy of our newspaper.
- **Church Membership:** Please contact Kristy Glaser at (614) 488-0681 ext. 161 or [kglaser@FCchurch.com](mailto:kglaser@FCchurch.com) if you are interested in becoming a member.
- **Baptisms:** Our next Baptism Sunday will be January 14. For more information go to [FCchurch.com/baptisms](http://FCchurch.com/baptisms). To schedule a baptism, contact Paula Russell at (614) 488-0681 ext. 228 or [prussell@FCchurch.com](mailto:prussell@FCchurch.com)
- Watch the 10 am South Campus service live on Facebook and [FCchurch.tv](http://FCchurch.tv)
- Watch *First Edition* on WWHO-TV, The CW, Sunday mornings at 8:30 am.
- If you need to step out during worship – restless child, coughing spell, etc. – the service can be heard in Unity Lounge.
- Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher.

# FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

## Mission Statement

First Community Church is called to embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and the eternal love of God, honoring and expanding our heritage of innovative ministry with a commitment to growth.

To that end, we will provide:

- a center for worship, celebration, study, fellowship, and sanctuary;
- resources for support for new forms of ministry;
- opportunities for learning and spiritual growth through all the seasons of life;
- motivation and resources for empowering service to each other and to the world;
- an inclusive Christian community respecting pluralism, agreeing to differ, resolving to love and uniting to serve.

## Vision Statement

A diverse community of individuals, each actively seeking to make Christ's example of God's love for every person real in our world through service, study, worship and giving:

- celebrating life in groupings of families and individuals,
- risking with innovation while honoring tradition,
- encouraging search and empowering belief,
- standing with those who suffer,
- loving unconditionally.

## Belief Statement

First Community Church is "the church of the infinite quest." This is the description of our church given by the Reverend M. H. Lichliter in 1924.

Remaining true to that spirit, our church believes:

- All people are included in God's unconditional love and grace.
- In Jesus Christ whose life revealed God's love at work in the human family.
- In the Holy Spirit as the power by which we are brought into closer harmony with our Creator.

Therefore we:

- Strive to follow the path of Jesus Christ, while recognizing other pathways to the Divine.
- Encourage each person's spiritual journey, embracing a variety of spiritual disciplines.
- Understand that the words we use to express our faith are to be lived out by loving and compassionate action.
- Take the Bible seriously, not literally; finding more grace in the search for meaning than in absolute certainty.
- Agree to disagree, resolve to love and unite to serve.

Our Pastoral Care staff is available if you desire a visit or call during an illness, hospitalization or time of need. Please send notifications of weddings, births, hospitalizations or deaths to [prussell@FCchurch.com](mailto:prussell@FCchurch.com) or call (614) 488-0681 ext 228

## Parish Register

As of 12/5/18

### Births

Georgia Greene Rego 11/8/18  
*Daughters of Emily & Jake Rego*  
*Granddaughter of Bill & Jane Mead*  
*Great-granddaughter of Priscilla Mead*

### Memorial Services

Tom Shutt (11/19/18)  
Friday, December 14, 2018  
3 pm/Schoedinger Northwest/  
Rev. Jim Long/ Reception following

### Recently Hospitalized

Bert Kram  
Bill Porterfield

David Young (12/3/18)  
Friday, December 7, 2018  
7-9 pm/Schoedinger Northwest

### Deaths

David Young 12/3/18  
Elsie McCall 12/4/18

*Visit [FCchurch.com/parish-register](http://FCchurch.com/parish-register) to view listings of upcoming Memorial Services.*

## THE PROGRAM STAFF OF FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

R. Glen Miles, *Senior Minister*

David S. Hett, *Minister of Religious Life and Learning*

Ronald J. Jenkins, *Minister of Music and Liturgy*

James M. Long, *Minister of Pastoral Care*

Katherine H. Shaner, *Minister of Mission*

Paul Anderson, *Executive Director of Operations*

Sally Beske, *Associate Organist/Director of Youth Choirs*

Leigh Anne Easterling, *Director of Early Childhood Ministries*

& *Mary Evans Child Development Center*

Pam Jameson, *Director of Facilities Ministry*

Bobbi Mueller, *Director of North Campus Administration/Akita Operations*

Morgan Mulgrew, *Director of Communications*

Scot Nicoll, *Executive Director of Camp Akita*

Missy Obergefell, *Director of Older Adult Ministry*

Julie Richards, *Director of K-12 Ministry*

Paula Russell, *Director of Congregational Care*

Linda Silva, *Director of Stewardship*

[FCchurch.com](http://FCchurch.com)

[info@FCchurch.com](mailto:info@FCchurch.com)

Affiliated with the United Church of Christ and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)