

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

139 N. 4th Street  
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

December 4, 2011  
*Holy Communion*  
*PEACE*

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**8:00 and 10:30 AM**

***The People of God Gather For Worship***

Thought for Meditation: *“Any deep relationship to another human being requires watchfulness and nourishment; otherwise it is taken from us and we cannot recapture it. This is a form of having and not having that is the root of innumerable tragedies.”*

- Paul Tillich

Prelude: Variations on *“Come, O Long-Expected Jesus”*

arr. Weber/Smith

*...All May Stand...*

Processional Hymn: *“All Earth is Waiting”*

#139

*...Please Be Seated...*

Welcome and Announcements

*...All May Stand...*

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

**Pastor:** You come to us, alive and present in that Word clothed in human flesh,

**People:** **so we might hear those songs about forgiveness, echoing with joy.**

**Pastor:** You come to us, Shepherd of God’s people, feeding us with your peace,

**People:** **so we might go out and offer the bread of hope to all the lost.**

**Pastor:** You come to us, Spirit of comfort, welcoming us into the kingdom,

**People:** **where righteousness is our best friend, where justice lives right next door.**

Act of Confession:

**Pastor:** Let us confess our sins to God.

**All:** **God of glory, you call on us to prepare the way for Jesus’ birth. Forgive us if we put our time and energy into making all sorts of material preparations for Christmas; buying gifts, ordering food, baking cakes, writing cards – all important, but preparations which give temporary pleasure compared to the lasting peace which Christ gives. You call on us to prepare the way for Jesus’ birth by helping to make smooth the rough places in people’s lives, by seeking to reduce the mountainous problems some people experience. Forgive us when we fail to become involved with the pain of other people by pleading seasonal busyness. You call on us to prepare the way for Jesus’ birth by being agents of comfort and mercy. Forgive us for all the times we put our own personal comfort before that of others; for confusing being comfortable with being comforting. We confess that all too often we do spend more time on making preparations for our own pleasure than preparing for Jesus to be born anew in our hearts and lives – in our families, our communities, our nation. Help us to prepare ourselves faithfully to receive the Christ-child. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

**Pastor:** Listen to what God promises: salvation happens when love and faithfulness meet together, when righteousness and peace kiss. This is surely the gospel of Jesus Christ. In him we experience salvation. Thanks be to God.

Sung Response: "Gloria Patri"

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*...Please Be Seated...*

Advent Wreath Candlelighting:

William and Jackie Knappenberger (8:00)

Terry and Carolyn Oswald (10:30)

"One Light" Leanna Brezak and Rachel Knappenberger (8:00)

Annika Herbine (10:30)

### ***The People of God Share the Word of God***

A Time to Pass Our Faith Onto Our Children

The Holy Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11 Page 581

Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-15a Page 988

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:1-8 Page 812

*If you would like to follow the readings, the Bibles are under the hymnal rack.*

Sermon: "Wireless Advent" Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger

### ***The People of God Pray***

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

### ***Sharing our Tithes and Offerings***

Offering Invitation

The Offering

The Offertory: "The King Shall Come" (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: "Advent Meditation" Liebergen (10:30)

*...All May Stand...*

The Offertory Response: "Doxology"

#46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication and Commitment

### ***We Share the Lord's Supper***

Great Thanksgiving

*Pastor:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And with Thy Spirit.**

*Pastor:* Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Pastor:* Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

Communion Prayer

Seraphic Hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty  
of Thy glory;  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord;  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

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 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, forever. Amen.**

*...Please Be Seated...*

The Agnus Dei:

*Pastor:* O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world.

**People: Have mercy upon us.**

*Pastor:* O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world.

**People: Have mercy upon us.**

*Pastor:* O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world.

**People: Grant us thy peace. Amen.**

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Blessing

*...All May Stand...*

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

**All: Almighty and everlasting God, we give thee most hearty thanks for the great goodness thou hast shown toward us at this time in vouchsafing to feed us, through these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby, that we are very members incorporate in the mystical Body of thy Son, and heirs through hope of thine everlasting kingdom. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

### *The People of God Go Forth In Mission*

Commission

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: *“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”* #124

Silent Moment

Postlude: *“O Blessed Emmanuel”* Bach

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### **Welcome**

As a shepherd leads his flock, the Lord has led us here. God has tender words for us. Welcome into his loving presence.

### **Preparation for Worship**

A voice cries out, “Prepare the way of the Lord!” Help us, O God, prepare our hearts to welcome and worship you.

Today’s order of Holy Communion is from the E & R Hymnal of 1941. This is the hymnal used here for many years.

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger, Senior Pastor,  
[pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org](mailto:pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org)

Rev. Curt Sandroek, Assisting Pastor

Patrice DiCarne, Minister of Music

Colleen Bernini, Administrative Secretary

Diane Ritter, Financial Secretary, [dedemarit@juno.com](mailto:dedemarit@juno.com)

Pat Dillman, Director of Christian Education

Kayli Freeman, Seminarian

Cheryl Clauser, Sexton

Church Office Hours: 8:30 to 11:30 & 12:30 to 3:30

Phone Number: 610.965.9158.....Fax Number: 610.967.5380

Email: [office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org](mailto:office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org)

Website: [www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org](http://www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org)

## TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

### 8:00 AM

*Acolytes:* Olivia DeLong, Renee Martin  
*Greeters:* Bill Knappenberger, Adele Schaffer  
*Lay Reader:* Jackie Knappenberger  
*Ushers:* Mike Ackerman, Jackie Knappenberger, Tom Gable,  
Jim Beers, Marty Beers, Barry Miller  
*Sound System:* Jim Schaffer

### 10:30 AM

*Acolytes:* Emily Drabick, Alexis Hanna  
*Greeters:* Amber Koehler, Shania Koehler, Les Schoenberger  
*Lay Reader:* Beryl Snyder  
*Ushers:* Russell Drabick, John Hill, Don Keck, Dave Davis,  
Larry Delhagen, Christine Hanna, Wendy Moyer-  
Drabick  
*Sound System:* Darren Labenberg  
*Nursery:* Joan Keiser, Alyssa Delhagen  
*Tape Ministry:* Harold Huber  
*Flower Delivery:* Marty Beers  
*Hospitality:* Donna Wert

## ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

### Sunday, December 4

8:00 am Worship/Holy Communion  
9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages  
10:30 am Worship/Holy Communion

### Monday, December 5

7:00 pm Board of Christian Education

### Tuesday, December 6

9:00 am Quilts for Kids  
6:30 pm Girl Scout Troop #6640  
7:00 pm Advent Bible Study (Youth Lounge)

### Wednesday, December 7

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #25  
6:30 pm Bell Choir  
7:45 pm Senior Choir

### Thursday, December 8

10:15 am Women's Bible Study  
6:30 pm Girl Scout Troop #6123  
6:30 pm Cadettes  
6:30 pm All Dens

### Saturday, December 10

8:30 am AA  
8:30 am Al Anon

### Sunday, December 11

8:00 am Worship  
8:50 am Children's Choir  
9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages  
10:30 am Worship

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### ***Church Announcements for Sunday, December 4, 2011***

#### **December Missions:**

**Veterans of the Cross** – Amid the depressed economic condition your gifts are needed more than ever to help the growing number of clergy retirees who struggle to meet increasing costs of living and high medical costs. Many retired pastors did not receive adequate salaries and benefits to see them through their retirement years. Please give, as you are able to this ministry of compassion and care. **Please designate your offering as “Veterans of the Cross.”**

#### **Baby Gifts for Jesus/ Sunday Undies/Cozy Pajamas**

All of the gifts are given to the 6<sup>th</sup> St. Shelter for single parents and families who are temporarily housed at the shelter until they can get “back on their feet” and into permanent housing.

**Baby Gifts for Jesus:** These gifts include infant clothing, disposable diapers, wipes, small hats, and mittens, non-perishable baby food, (**please no formula**) and anything else appropriate for infants and toddlers. At the 6:30 Christmas Eve service these gifts are brought forward by the children, their families, or anyone else who wishes to give and placed under the two Christmas trees located at the front of the church.

**Sunday Undies and Pajamas:** Older children who temporarily live with their parent(s) at the shelter, ages 4-teenagers, are in need of new socks, underwear, undershirts and pajamas. Anytime during the month of December you may place these gifts on the Christmas trees and pajama ladder located in the narthex.

All of the above gifts will be given to the 6<sup>th</sup> St. Shelter. Thank you for making a special effort for these children and their families.

#### **Harvest Home Thank You**

The mission committee thanks everyone who supported Harvest Home – Mission 1. The goal of 111 food items was surpassed with over 400 non-perishable items being donated. Food donations were divided between families in need and the Emmaus Food Bank. Thank you to Carl Weider for making the delivery to the food bank. Thank you to all who contributed to Phoebe. Over \$600 will be sent to Phoebe to help continue their ministry for older adults.

#### **Communion**

We invite to the Lord’s Table “all baptized members of the Christian Church, who look to the Lord Jesus for righteousness and salvation, and who desire to possess His Spirit and walk in His ways.” People of any age are welcome to receive communion. When the communion trays are distributed, you will see the cups in the center have white grape juice. The other cups have wine. You may choose whichever one you prefer. It is our custom for members to wait until all have been served, and then the pastor will invite all to commune. Please remember to complete a communion card today.

#### **Loud Offering**

**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE...**Deposit your loose change (bills are welcome, too) in the cans during the **Loud Offering Collection**. Just by saving a little each and every day, we can make a BIG difference. If you have spare change on other Sundays, the cans will be in the narthex.

### **Gently Used Handbag Sale & Mother's Day Tea**

The Mission Committee is planning a gently used handbag sale and tea in conjunction with Mother's Day 2012. All proceeds will go to the Garden Committee for their use in purchasing perennials/shrubs/trees for the church gardens. Details will be forthcoming. Please save your clean gently used purses and tote bags for the 2012 Mother's Day Celebration!

### **Poinsettia Sale**

A representative for the Altar Guild will be available after both services each Sunday through December 11<sup>th</sup> to take your order. Final orders must be received in the Church Office by Monday morning, December 12<sup>th</sup>. You can order poinsettia plants for \$10.00 each or give a donation of at least \$10.00. Please complete a form with the appropriate information along with payment to the representative seated in the Narthex or place a form and payment in any envelope in the pew rack and mark it "Poinsettia Sale" and place it in the collection plate. Thank you for your support.

### **Operation Christmas Ball**

Holiday ornaments for the sanctuary Christmas tree may be purchased December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> after the 8:00 AM service and before and after the 10:30 AM service.

### **Blood Pressure Screening**

Next Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, representatives of the Health Ministry Task Force at St. John's will be doing blood pressure screening. You are invited to stop by the Health Room after the 8:00 AM service and before and after the 10:30 AM service.

### **Confidentiality**

It is important that we honor the rights to privacy of medical information for our St. John's members. If someone in the congregation shares a prayer concern, a medical issue, or hospitalization information with you, **please ask their permission** before sharing that information with the pastors, Undershepherd Ministry, Prayer Tree or church office, or for announcement in worship. If you are hospitalized or are sharing any prayer concerns, the pastors will ask your permission before disclosing information to anyone beyond the pastoral staff.

### **Church Hospital Code Number is 466!**

The pastors visit our hospitalized members. If you, or a member of your family enters the hospital, please ask the hospital to place the patient's name on church code #466, St. John's UCC, Emmaus or call the church office to inform us at 610-965-9158.

### **Greeting Cards**

The Undershepherd Ministries give us the opportunity to sign greeting cards for folks on our Home Visitation List, for members of the congregation who need a lift, or just to say "hello". All cards are in the Narthex. Please take a minute to sign the cards and send these folks our Christian greetings. Today we are signing cards for:

**Edith Wehr, Gabby Gorman, Eddie Samolot**

**The Altar Flowers** are sponsored by the Fenstermacher Family in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather, Rev. William C. Fenstermacher.

**Church Attendance** – November 27, 2011: **8:00 AM** – 56    **10:30 AM** – 124

### **Income Report for Sunday, November 27, 2011:**

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$4,848.00  
General Fund - \$2,574.50