

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2012

## GATHERING

Prelude: "Lo How a Rose" Gordon Young

Invocation

Announcements

Fourth Sunday of Advent – The Gift of Joy

"Light of Hope" Chancel Choir Joel Raney

*Responsive Litany*

Leader: In a world where we often seek personal happiness, Advent beckons us to a deeper expression of our faith in Christ.

**People: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.**

Leader: Advent beckons us to remember God's unconditional love, even when we stumble.

**People: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.**

Leader: Advent beckons us to remember God's invitation to the human heart to be still in the face of strife.

**People: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.**

Leader: Advent beckons us to remember we always have hope, even when it seems as if our world is caving in around us.

**People: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.**

*Advent Candle Lighting* – Kloepfer family

*Congregational Response* – "Light of Hope" (see insert)

*Prayer*

Children's Sermon

-- Presentation of Bibles and the Blessing of the Cradle Crosses

Passing the Peace of Christ

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book

Offertory: "Christmas Pastoral on 'Stille Nacht'" Roger Wilson

\*Doxology (p. 592)

## Questions and an Answer: An Advent Meditation in Word and Song

### What Is True

Scripture (Job 24:1-4, 12,13 (p. 447); Isaiah 40:1,2,6,7 (p. 627))

Anthem: "Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People" G.F. Handel

Solo – Stephan Englehart

Reflection—Truth and Lies

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Hymn #44 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

### To Be True Before the Light

Scripture (Isaiah 58:6-11) (p. 647)

Anthem: "O Come to Us, Emmanuel" Joseph Martin

Chancel Choir

Reflection—Seeking the Truth

Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

**God of Grace, we know the darkness; the darkness hurts. But in your Son, Jesus Christ, you know the darkness too, for he lived it. And in him is the light that will conquer all darkness. We are to follow that light. Yet too often we follow the false flames of our fears and desires. We believe in the darkness and doubt the light. And then we forget that the only way to push back the dark is to bring the light of gentle love and service, of kindness and forgiveness. Grant us your mercy, oh God. Bring us back to the light of the Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn #56 "The First Nowell"

### The Truth

Scripture (John 1:1,2, 16-18(p. 86); 2 John v. 4-6(p. 228); Isaiah 11:6-9(p. 602))

Anthem: "Christmas Sanctus" Len Degler

Chancel Choir

Reflection—Walking in the Truth

Hymn #31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

\*Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude: "Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come" Raymond Haan

\*Those who wish may stand

The End of Worship  
The Beginning of Service

Rev. Robert W. Birch, Minister  
Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

**VISITORS AND MEMBERS: WELCOME!** During the offertory the Friendship Book will be passed from the end of the pew. Please sign it and indicate other information as appropriate. Pass the book back down the pew and notice the names of the other worshippers. Greet one another warmly after the service.

**WORSHIP HOUR INFORMATION:**

It is an ancient Scottish custom for the pulpit Bible to be brought into the sanctuary and placed by a layperson before the service begins.

9:30 a.m. Edwin Margerum

IN THE NURSERY (babies through 4 yrs.): 9:30 – Tom & Vicki Burkins

**PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:**

PRAYER FAMILY THIS WEEK: Peter & Jessica Brackbill Loomis

Carter, Dawson  
661 Berkley Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46208

**TODAY:**

9:30 a.m. Services of Worship

**MONDAY:**

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service @ Paradise

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service @ Old Leacock

**TUESDAY: Merry Christmas**

**THURSDAY:**

5:30 p.m. Community Meal

**NEXT SUNDAY:**

8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Services of Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for infants through adults

IN THE NURSERY: 8:00 – Taryn Shenk

10:30 – Sean & Maureen Carney

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Last week's offering total was \$4,419.00

Total in Organ Fund is \$66,245.71

**The Community Meal** will be this Thursday, Dec. 27th. Doors will open at 5:15 p.m. Sign-up sheets for helping with the meal are in the Narthex.

Thank you.

Mission Committee

**All women interested** in exploring the current or future status of Presbyterian Women at Leacock Presbyterian Church are to meet Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please call Kris Shirk with any questions you may have 687-8243.

**Please take your offering envelopes.** Please pick up your offering envelopes for 2013 in the Narthex on the table beside the Welcome Center. This would save the church a lot of money so we do not have to mail them. Please take your neighbors or someone you might see in your passings.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS – 2012**

**GIVEN BY:**

Danielle, Kyle & Jayde  
Eugene & Betty Sowers  
Rick & Carol Shearer  
George & Karen Shue  
Ed Margerum  
Eric Huffman  
The Heller family

**IN HONOR OF:**

David & Carol Berkhimer  
(Nanny & Pap Pap)  
Our children, grandchildren &  
great-grandchildren  
Arlene Brackbill  
Jonathan, Melissa & Caroline Heller  
Our children & grandchildren  
My parents, Clarence E. &  
Marjorie W. Margerum  
Jan & Janet Huffman  
Arlene Brackbill  
Rick & Carol Shearer

**GIVEN BY:**

Kevin, Loretta, Matt &  
Lauren McClarigan  
Shirley Harsh  
Millie Young & family  
Shirley & Lori Smith  
Nick & Evie Lopez  
Malcolm & June Stannard  
Gene, Lois & Jeff Harsh  
Harshes & Zwoyers  
Rick & Carol Shearer  
Bob & Johanna Gingher  
Warren H. Brackbill & family  
Mary Beckett

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Grandma Sandra Clark  
My husband Willis & our parents  
C. Everett Young  
husband/father, Russell E. Smith  
Our parents  
Nicole  
Grandma McLaughlin & Dick  
Our son Michael  
Our friend, Lucille Moran  
Herbert & Mary Sheaffer  
Leroy & Agnes Harsh  
Douglas, Connie & Tyler Harsh  
Jacob Brackbill  
Carroll & Rose Marie Shearer  
Our parents  
Aunt Irene & Aunt Helen  
Marilyn D. Brackbill  
Kathleen Beckett  
James (Pete) Beckett

**GIVEN BY**

Glenn, Todd, Steve & Mike  
Virginia Stauffer & family  
Robert & Emily Birch  
George & Karen Shue  
David & Karen Homsher & family  
Eric Huffman  
Shirley Musselman & family  
Phongxaysanith  
Lee Brown & Brown Family

**IN MEMORY OF**

Grandma & Grandpa Funk  
Grandpa Hable  
Harlan Stauffer  
Ruth Williams & Robert Morris Birch  
Our father, Veryl Shue  
Our sister, Melinda Albright  
Janice M. Homsher  
Granny & Pa  
Nana & Pappy  
Beth M. Neff  
Fred Musselman  
Janice Homsher  
Doris Brown

