



*Discovering God's call, celebrating the Spirit's presence,
Witnessing to Christ's transformative power!*

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Service of Worship
December 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

Welcome

The Call to Worship

Evan Tuttle

Leader: We meet to worship God,

People: and to give thanks for the birth of Jesus,

Leader: who lived, and died, and rose from death

People: to show that God loves us,

Leader: that God calls us,

People: and that God is with us.

Leader: Bring mind and body, heart and voice: Our Savior comes. Rejoice! Rejoice!
Let us pray:

**All: Living Christ, come to us today. Bring us together and touch our hearts,
that we may know you, love you, and follow you, today, tomorrow and
always. We ask it in your name. Amen.**

*** Hymn No. 28**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

A Litany for Christmas

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

Leader: O Christ, splendor of God's eternal glory, the mighty Word, sustaining the
universe: renew our lives by your presence.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time for the liberation of all
creation: Release all into your promised freedom.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a stable in
Bethlehem: May your church be a sign of hope and joy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in fulfillment of their
expectations: Fulfill our desires in you.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, born of Mary, child of wonder and splendor, mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace: May the whole world live in peace and justice.

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

*Gloria M. Shaw

The Scripture Lesson Luke 2:41-52

After the reading

Leader: Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem arr. Carr

“Here We Come A-Wassailing”

Sharing the Word of God Dr. John Lentz

“What if God Were One of Us: Where Do You See the Incarnation?”

* Hymn No. 30

“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”

The Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer please use debts, debtors

The Ritual of Friendship all are asked to sign the tablets as a record of attendance

The Offertory D. Willcocks

“Ding Dong Merrily on High”

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

* The Closing Hymn No. 29

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

* The Commission and Blessing

* The Passing of the Peace



■ ■ ■ *Parish Notes*

Prayer Concerns this Week

Polly Cohen	Jason Himmelsteib	Debbie Ungemach
Marian Frederick	Mary Jean Kent	Dennis Wedding
Barney Fuller	Mary Lewis	Marcie Weissner
David Gury	Connie May	Doug, Marcie and Lucy Harvey
Dorothy Hales	Marilyn Oviatt	Jerry & Loretta Lassarella

This Month’s Ushers

Scott Peters, Lead Usher; Tish Van Beers-Klein, assistant lead; Amy Davis, Chris Davis, Scott Duncan, Jean Duncan, Brian Klein, Jim Roosa, Ayodele Solaru. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

Nursery care for babies and young children is available on the second floor of the Monticello Wing.

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

TODAY

Thanks to Musicians

Many thanks to our musical leaders today: Dave Bell, guitar; Barry Hartz, flute; Melody Obery, Linn Obery, Beth Zych, Carl Jenks, Jaired Birks and Laura Minder, singers.

Welcome Visitors!

Please stop by the Visitor Information table in the Courtyard Foyer following worship. We’re looking forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Visitor welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex.

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels

Bible and Bagels will not meet this Wednesday (December 30). We will resume the regular schedule on Wednesday, January 6 at 7:30 a.m. The scripture for that day is **Acts 8: 14-17.**

Home for the Holidays?

Home from college for the holidays?

Have a night off from that new job?

Between the ages of 18-23?

Deanne and John Lentz are hosting a post-high school reunion on

Wed. Dec. 30th from 6-9 p.m.

Deanne will make her wonderful soups and bread.

Come when you can, leave when you have to.

See old friends, make some new ones. Share experiences, just relax!

The Lentzes: 1619 Compton, Cleveland Hts.; RSVP to 216-371-8470

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education: 9:30 in South Hall

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| Jan. 3 | No class | |
| Jan. 10 | Christians in the Middle East | |
| | Dr. Peter Makari, Executive Dir. Global Ministries, Middle East and Europe, | |
| | UCC and Disciples Churches | |
| Jan. 17 | How Then Shall We Live? | |
| | Spiritual Disciplines as a way to grow in your faith | Rev. Clover Beal |
| Jan. 24 | How Do I Pray? | Tom Zych and Clover Beal |
| Jan. 31 | Praying for Your Life | |

Sunday Classes

Classes and Descant Choir will not meet next Sunday. The regular schedule will resume on January 10.

LOOKING AHEAD

Social Groups and Circles

The Group (singles and couples 60s – 70s) On January 9, 2010 we will meet in the lobby of the Cleveland Museum of Art at 3:15 p.m. for a tour of the new East Wing with our favorite docent, Anne Wilson. The tour will last 1½ hours. The museum is free but there is a fee for parking in the garage. After the tour, we'll go to Nighttown on Cedar Rd. in Cleveland Hts. for dinner. RSVP to Bob or Pat Jeffreys (219-381-2120 or bobpatj@aol.com) by December 28.

Care Group

The Mt. Sinai Care Group will be responsible for meeting members' needs during January. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the Care group leaders.

✦ Members of the January Care group are:

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Janet Kickel, Deacon and leader | Nina Klein |
| Allen Ball | Mary Lewis |
| Scott & Amy Bell and family | Julie & Gary Lustic |
| Bob & Joanne Bielek | Brooke Marcy and family |
| Guy Cameron and family | The McCumber family |
| Betty & Don Clark | Dave & Jane Olson and family |
| Sue Conant | Joyce Peters |
| Ralph & Molly Dise | Graham & Roz Peters |
| Jane Frederick & family | Jim Picht & Rebecca Martin and family |
| Donna Frey | Matt & Katie Russo and family |
| Sue Gifford & family | Sara & Randy Shaner |
| Don & Nancy Grube | Anona Stack |
| Barb Hansen | Lorian, Ralph & Fran Thomas |
| Jason & Christine Hidek and family | Ann & Peter Williams |
| Chuck & Jane Ishler | Betty Woodruff |
| Callie Janor | Warren & Lois Young |

■■■ *FHC Youth*

All MOB: Let's go tobogganing at the Metroparks Chalet in Strongsville on Saturday, January 2! Meet at FHC at 6 p.m. The cost is \$8 plus a little snack money. Dress for the weather, and you MUST have gloves or mittens and you MUST RSVP to the church office by Tuesday Dec. 29 (so we can line up drivers). For more information (and a video of a ride) go to <http://www.clemetparks.com/recreation/tobogganing>

■■■ *The Lessons*

Next Sunday: Jeremiah 31: 7-14; Psalm 147: 12-20; Ephesians 1: 3-14; John 1: 1-18. As part of your daily devotions, read the lessons. What image or word catches your attention? How do they settle or challenge you? Keep notes of your observations in a journal. Set aside part of each day for prayer and study. The lectionary readings for each Sunday are included in the "Sundays in January" page of the **TOWER**.

■ ■ ■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

Program Staff

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Calendar: December 27, 2009 – January 3, 2010

Sunday, December 27: 1 Christmas
10:30 Child care begins
10:30 Continental Breakfast
11:00 WORSHIP in Fellowship Hall
12:15 Coffee Hour

Monday, December 28
7:00 p.m. Al Anon
7:30 p.m. Borton Group (AA)

Thursday, December 31
Office is closed



Friday, January 1: New Year's Day
Office is closed

Saturday, January 2
6:00 p.m. MOB: meet at the church to go tobogganing at The Chalet.

Sunday, January 3: 2 Christmas Celebration of 3 Kings Day
9:00 Finance committee
10:15 Teacher Training
10:30 Child care begins
Chancel Choir
10:30 Continental Breakfast
11:00 WORSHIP:
Communion and Baptism
12:15 Coffee Hour
5:00 Faith Leader

Luke 2:41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.