



Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 15, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

The Third Sunday in the Season of Advent

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

If you are visiting, please join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you.

Announcements

Prelude

Carol Duebber

“Ringing Joy for Baby Jesus”

Cherub Choir; Beth Zych, director

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Jewrett and Jalen Bailey

Leader: The poet Mary Oliver, wrote:

“If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don’t hesitate. Give into it... life has some possibility left... Joy is not made to be a crumb.”

People: It seemed impossible, but the Israelites returned to their home from exile in Babylon.

Leader: The prophet Isaiah offered a song of celebration. Come and rejoice! Eat and drink! Get your priorities in order! Can’t you see that God is close by?

People: The people rejoiced, amazed to have a second chance. The end of the story has yet to be written.

Leader: When we light the candle of joy, we celebrate the one who has come, is coming and will come again.

People: Whatever we face in life, God will make joy possible.

Carol No. 140

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Stanza 1: Alex Shaner, soloist

Stanza 2: choir

Organ interlude

*** Stanzas 3 and 4: All stand and sing**

Lesson 1: “When the Time Was Right”

John Bell

Read by Edie Duncan, Grant Heinemen, Nora Duncan
and Joey Nicoletti

Carol: “Advent Lullaby”

John Bell

Lesson 2: Luke 1: 26-38

read by Charity McDonald

Carol: “The Seven Joys of Mary”

English traditional

Descant Choir

Lesson 3: Luke 2: 8-20

read by Kate Monaghan

Carol: “Carol of the Bells”

Mykola Leontyvych

Sine Nomine Choir

Lesson 4: “The Lamb”

William Blake

Read by Rowan Trammell

Carol No. 145

“What Child Is This”

*During the singing of the hymn, the children may come forward
for the Jesse Tree meditation*

Pathways children will be dismissed following the meditation

Lesson 5: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

Read by Derry Stauffer

Carol: “Alleluya, a New Work Is Come on Hand”

Peter Wishart

Lesson 6: “When the World Was Dark”

Iona Community

Read by Jim Manista

Carol: “He Came Down”

Cameroon song, arr. John Bell

Lesson 7: John 1: 1-5, 9-14

read by Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Offertory Carol: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" (Hymn No. 127)

George D. Elderkin; arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

Soloists: Laura Minder and Michael Nicoletti

* Benediction

Caitlin Desjardins

Leader: On the eve of Christmas hatred will vanish;
On the eve of Christmas the earth will flourish;
On the eve of Christmas war will be gone;
On the eve of Christmas love will be born.
When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When in my heart I no longer want to stay apart,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When I am buried in the being of God,

All: It is Christmas.

* Carol No. 113

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

* Commission and Blessing

* Passing of the Peace

* Postlude

L. Daquin

"Noel No. 10"



* *Please stand if able*

Many thanks to the Lessons and Carols brass quartet:

Ahren Stock, Scott Lafferty, Nancy Lyons-Stadler, trumpets;
Jim Roosa, trombone

Welcome Visitors!

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Welcome bags are available throughout the building. Take one home with you!

■ ■ ■ *Congregational Notes*

Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Chessie Bleick, Dick Bloomquist, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Debbie Ungemach, Anne Taylor.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Ruth and Arthur Brickel, Bill Currie, Pat Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Elizabeth Kosnik, Emelia McGuire, Merdine T. Morris, Joyce Peters, Elaine Tapié.

We invite you to write prayer requests on a slip of paper from the envelope rack and pass it to an usher during the singing of the middle hymn, to be included in the prayers later in the service. Lists of ongoing prayer concerns are in each month's **TOWER**.

This Month's Ushers

Scott Peters, Lead Usher; Tish Van Beers-Klein, assistant lead; 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.

Attendance last week (including Pathways children): 285

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

TODAY

Ten Thousand Villages Shop

Ten Thousand Villages Shop returns to FHC TODAY from 9:30 – 1:30. Plan your Christmas shopping to include this wonderful opportunity to purchase beautiful Fair Trade gifts in the comfort of Fellowship Hall.

Advent Workshop Thank You

Thank you all who helped with this year's Advent Workshop. This annual intergenerational event cannot happen without the many volunteers who helped cut, glue, weave, paint, and organize. Thank you to Kara Schellenberg, Laurie Logan, Wendy Brock, Christina Hidek, Carol Leslie, Mary Hill, Jenny Himmelman, Sue Lafferty, Shawn Bittner and Cathy Ghiandoni.

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels

Bible and Bagels meets Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 am in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The lesson this week is **Isaiah 7: 10-16, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25.** (*no class on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1*)

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education in Advent, 9:30 in South Hall (Dec. 1, 8, 15)

Three important biblical characters present us with the idea of waiting and preparing for the Messiah--our work for Advent: Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Mary, the mother of Jesus. The three-session study will focus on our own journeys toward hope, preparation, courage and receiving

blessings. Please join in Adult Ed for Advent as a way to prepare yourself for the coming of the Christ at Christmas.

Facilitators: Kermit Lind, John Lentz and Elspeth Peterjohn

Four Sundays in Advent: Reading the Prophet Isaiah

Kermit Lind will lead a special 4-week series in December – Reading the Prophet Isaiah: Studying Isaiah’s Vision of God’s Indictments, Judgment, Redemption and Hope, Then and Now. The class will meet from 12:20 – 1:45 pm on Sundays, December 8, 15 and 22 in South Hall. Please bring a bag lunch.

LOOKING AHEAD

Area Services of Interest

Blue Christmas / Service of Memories:

Remembering those we miss at Christmas

Monday, Dec. 16, 7 pm – Disciples Church, 3663 Mayfield Rd

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7 pm – Plymouth Church, 2860 Coventry Rd

A Service of Commemoration: Remembering Those Lost to Gun Violence

Sunday, Dec. 15, 4 pm – Church of the Covenant, 11205 Euclid Ave

Christmas Eve Cookies

We need cookies for the cookies-and-milk reception after the late Christmas Eve service. If you can bake a few extra dozen, please do so, mark them ***Christmas Eve – DO NOT TOUCH (THIS MEANS YOU)*** and leave them in the church kitchen.

Care Group

The Deacons are responsible for meeting members' needs during December. 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 this month's Care Group are:

Joan Bacon	Carol Hopkins-Lutz	Richard Peterjohn
Barb Cloud	Carol Leslie	Ahren Stock
Cathy Ghiandoni	Mary McMillan	Julie Waring
Carol Gifford	Pat Musick	

This week's volunteers: Joan Bacon, continental breakfast; Barb Cloud, coffee hour; Cathy Ghiandoni, greeting cards; Mary McMillan and Ahren Stock, greeters.

Social Groups and Circles

Iris Circle (all women of the church)

Iris Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday, December 17 at 5:30 pm for a potluck and a program about the recent Haiti mission trip. Please contact Barb Hansen (bjhansen47@gmail.com or 440-255-5514) for more information.

Pacesetters (40 – 60)

Pacesetters' crazy white elephant party!! – SATURDAY, December 21
7:00 PM Lentz house - 1619 Compton Rd., Cleveland Heights

Please bring your beverage of choice plus an hors d'oeuvre or dessert
CRAZY GIFTS (wrapped for the White Elephant gift exchange) expected!

■ ■ ■ *Youth News*

Today: Mid and Sr High classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

Next Sunday: Isaiah 7: 10-16, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25. 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.

■ ■ ■ *Advent and Christmas at Forest Hill Church, 2013*

Adult Education

Haiti Mission Trip: Multimedia program

(Dec. 22, 9:30 am)

“Reading the Prophet Isaiah”

(Dec. 22; 12:20 – 1:45 pm)

TODAY 9:30 am – 1:30 pm: Ten Thousand Villages shop

TODAY 11 am: Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 24 (12 pm) - 27: Office closed

December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

5 pm Family Worship

10:45 Musical Prelude

11 pm Traditional Candlelight Worship

Followed by the annual milk and cookies reception

December 29, 11 am: Worship in Fellowship Hall

December 30, 9 am: Abundance Pantry Breakfast

December 31 - January 1, 2014: Office closed

The poinsettias are given by

Doris Allen, in memory of Wendell Allen

Betsy and Joe Andrews, in honor of Cooper and Cameron Andrews

Mary Ball, in thanksgiving for grandchildren Keara, Caiden and Mykelti Ball

Chris and Dave Bell, in thanksgiving for family and friends

Joanne Bielek, in memory of Robert Bielek

Jennifer Blakeney and Maurius Juodisius, in thanksgiving for their parents

Nancy Burcham, in memory of loved ones and in thanksgiving for our dedicated staff

The Cameron family, in loving memory of Dr. Donald B. Cameron, Mary Margaret Cameron and Alan Scott Cameron

Mark Chupp and Sharon Shumaker, in memory of Ralph Stoltzfus

Don and Betty Clark, in memory of their parents

Cathy and Don Ghiandoni, in honor of their grandchildren

Albert and Iris Gilbert, in honor of Albert C. Gilbert IV at Harvard University, in memory of Charles and Walda Ann Gilbert, and in thanksgiving for 63 years of marriage

Don and Nancy Grube, in honor of Anne Wilson and the Chancel Choir

Barbara Hansen, in memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet

David and Anne Hunter, in memory of loved ones

Joan Kandare, in honor of loved ones

Cliff and Jane Kowall, in memory of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson and Paul and Dorothy Kowall

Scott and Sue Lafferty, in thanksgiving for the Forest Hill community

The Lentz family, in honor of Deanne's mom and those who have lost their stories

The Leslie/Richards/Strachan families, in memory of Hugh, Lois and Barbara Leslie

Clyde and Karen Loughridge, in memory of loved ones
Jeanette Nemcek, in thanksgiving for Bob and Anne
Marjorie Ravas, in memory of her parents
Sondra Schultz, in honor of her grandchildren
Stephen Sedam and Virginia Weiss, in honor of their beloved siblings
Kathy, Rebecca, David and Feather; and in memory of Nelson and
Ann Weiss and Herbert and Ruth Sedam
Jim and Pat Seeders, in honor of their mothers June Rice and Mable
Seeders
Dan and Joanne Shaner, in honor of their parents Randy and Sara Shaner
and Dave and Peggy Gamble
Jeff and Anne Smith, in thanksgiving for Camille, Aiden, Nikolas, Sophie,
Chloe, Andrew, Norah
Anona Stack, in honor of children and grandchildren
The Stadler family, in honor of Miva Lyon, in memory of Claire Lyon and
in thanksgiving for Ben and Drew
Kathy and Derry Stauffer, in honor of Margie and Dwight Stauffer
The Trammell family, in memory of Rebecca Fiddler (Alicia's mother) and
Fred Trammell (Mark's grandfather)
Dorothy Turick, in memory of Frank and Ida Turick
The Winters family, in memory of Roy and Barbara Henning, Andrew
Celeri, and Max Scarborough
The Wollaeger and Olson families, in memory of Bill and Nancy Olson
Diana Woodbridge, in memory of Ted
Bob and Ginny Young, in memory of loved ones
Dene Young, in memory of loved ones

*The wreaths on the front doors are a gift from
the Hilltop Garden Club*

■ ■ ■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

Program Staff

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Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian

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

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Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor

Rev. Clover Reuter Beal, Assoc. Pastor

Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.

Anne Wilson, Ministry of Music

Liz Wollaeger, Dir. Of Chr. Education

Caitlin Michelle Desjardins, Dir. of Youth Ministries

■■■Calendar: December 15-22, 2013

Sunday, December 15 8:15 Nominating Committee mtg 9:00 Ten Thousand Villages Shop opens 9:15 Child care begins 9:30 Descant Choir rehearsal Adult Education Youth Education; Confirmation 10:15 Descant Choir activity time 10:30 Chancel Choir rehearsal Continental Breakfast Cherub Choir rehearsal 11:00 WORSHIP: Festival of Lessons and Carols Children in Worship 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land 12:15 Coffee Hour Blood pressure check Youth Ensemble rehearsal 12:30 Christmas pageant rehearsal 12:45 Isaiah Bible study 5:00 Faith Leader	3 Advent	Wednesday, December 18 7:30 am Bible and Bagels 8:45 am Tai Chi class 10:00 am TOWER collators 7:00 pm Session meeting 7:30 pm Confirmation Bible study Thursday, December 19 8:45 am Tai Chi class 1:00 pm Abundance Pantry open 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Friday, December 20 9:30 am Al Anon Saturday, December 21 8:00 am Men's Group 7:00 pm Pacesetters: Christmas party at Lentzes' Sunday, December 22 9:15 Child care begins 9:30 Descant Choir rehearsal Adult Education Youth Education; Confirmation 10:15 Descant Choir activity time 10:30 Chancel Choir rehearsal Continental Breakfast Youth Ensemble rehearsal 11:00 WORSHIP Children in Worship 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land 12:15 Coffee Hour 12:30 Christmas pageant rehearsal 12:45 Isaiah Bible study 5:00 Faith Leader 5:40 Labre Project
Monday, December 16 8:45 am Tai Chi class 9:00 am Abundance Pantry food distribution 6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA) 7:00 pm Al Anon 7:30 pm AA: Borton Boy Scout Troup #403		4 Advent
Tuesday, December 17 8:45 am Tai Chi class 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class 5:30 pm Iris Circle: Potluck and program		