

**Our H.I.P.P.I.E.S. Pageant** will be during the service today! Instead of going to the Beginner's room, children 3 yrs. old – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are invited to stay for the whole service to see the H.I.P.P.I.E.S. Pageant. If your child would prefer to go to the Beginner's room please let an usher at the back of the church know!

**CONCERT SERIES:** The final concert of 2011 will be, **SING JOY!**, presented by Daniel Doty, Tenor. The concert will be held next Sunday, December 18 at 4:00 in Trinity's sanctuary.

**2012 Offering envelopes** are available in the narthex. Please take yours and those of any family members to prevent having to mail them. If you don't find any and would like to have them, please contact Cheryl in the church office.

**2012 Calendars** are available on the old altar in the narthex.

**As you are enjoying the beautiful seasonal decorations** throughout the church, you can be thankful for the donations and direction that came from Paul Vaughn, member of the Music and Fine Arts Board. We are appreciative of the 250+ hours donated by members of this Board and other volunteers to help make Paul's vision for a beautified church a reality this season. The butterflies on the tree in the front entry are a wonderful representation of Christ's resurrection and the new life Christians have in Him. The fruit, birds, and flowers on the window sills and tree in the Sanctuary are representations of God's beautiful creations. We thank all who helped enhance the beauty of the season this year, and pray that all can feel the love demonstrated in the gifts.

**We invite you and your family** to join us on Christmas Eve at one or both of our candlelight services. At 7:00 p.m. we will have the family service and at 10:00 p.m. we will have our traditional candlelight service.

**The 2012 Flower calendar** has been posted in the narthex. Please sign up for the Sunday you desire as soon as possible as it is first come – first served. The cost is \$20.00 per Sunday.

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 18, 2011  
Luke 1:26-38

**The Christmas Fund**

*"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's servant...the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God's name."  
(Luke 1:46b, 48a-49)*

Mary's jubilant song proclaims a prophetic vision. The Holy One will enter into human history not amid privilege and means, but as the child of a seemingly insignificant young woman whom God has anointed to play a pivotal role in the story of salvation. God's ways confound the conventional wisdom and defy the accepted order: the powerful are humbled and the lowly, exalted. The child growing in Mary's womb will be the embodiment of God's everlasting covenant. The birth of Mary's child – God's son – fulfills the ancient promise: "...to be God to you and to your offspring after you." (Genesis 17:8) Immanu'el – God is with us!

The spirit of Mary's song is embodied in our church, a community of faithful sojourners seeking to live in faithfulness to the radical, transforming call of Jesus Christ in our lives. The United Church of Christ has a long history of ministering in holy and compassionate love to all God's people. Some of those in the greatest need today are women and men who dedicated their lives to the Gospel, often in ministry settings that could not afford to provide them with adequate compensation and benefits that would provide for their economic security.

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund, administered by the Pension Boards on behalf of the United Church of Christ, is one of the four special mission offerings received by our church each year. It helps support ministries to low-income retired clergy and lay employees as well as to active clergy facing unforeseen financial crises.

Your contribution to the Christmas Fund Offering touches the lives of a retired clergy couple whose thank-you gift check at Christmas helps them meet an unanticipated medical expense. It provides an emergency grant to a young pastor and his family who have lost their home in a fire. It offers pension and health premium supplementation to a pastor's widower who served alongside his wife for decades without pay. It is a tangible blessing to the many individuals – lay and ordained – who receive some type of ongoing ministerial assistance.

We invite you to join us, in the name and spirit of Immanu'el, so that we may continue to reach out in love and gratitude to those who have served, and continue to serve, our beloved church.



*Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship*

December 18, 2011

10:30 A.M.

\* Those who are able are invited to stand "Black" New Century Hymnal (NCH)  
"Red" Evangelical & Reformed Hymnal (E & R)

Please wear your nametag in worship.

Please fill-out the pew register (including children!) and pass it down the pew. At the end of the row pass it back and note the names of those who are sharing your pew so that you might greet them after worship.

Please note prayer requests on the cards found in your pew and pass to the center aisle during the first hymn.

A nursery is available during worship for ages 0-2. We also have a beginners' room for ages 3 through 1<sup>st</sup> grade). Please contact an usher for directions if necessary.

*We Enter*

WELCOME /ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob Heimbach

PRELUDE

*"The Shepherd's Carol"*

Chubb

*"Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing."  
(Psalm 89.1)*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Look said the prophet: "A virgin shall conceive and bear a son".

C: **You shall call him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us".**

L: He will be born of the line of David and of his kingdom there will be no end.

C: **You shall call Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.**

\* OPENING HYMN

125 NCH

*"Angels We Have Heard on High", vvs. 1-2*

\* OPENING PRAYER

**Great Loving God, with anticipation and eagerness we gather together once again, seeking to enter into the spirit of this Holy season. The time draws near when the promised birth of Jesus shall once again be fulfilled. The time draws short for us to**

**complete our preparations. Help us to trust you and to believe that in this unfolding time we are held firmly in your hands. Be with us in our watching and our waiting, and help us to know that your purposes will be fulfilled in time as in eternity, In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

\* THE GLORIA 756 NCH

***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!***

#### LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Leader: The prophet Isaiah declares, "A young woman is with child, and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel (which means: God-With-Us). The risen Christ declares, "I am with you always, to the end of the age."

We light this candle as a sign of God's presence in Christ, now and always.

That we may trust that God is with us and live in the light of Christ's coming -

**C: Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.**

Hymn 116, v.7 ***"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"***

### *We Hear the Word*

#### FIRST MEDITATION

*"This Year Will be Different"*

CHIMES (The children may come to the front during the playing of the chimes.)

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US The Puppets  
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM See insert

***Lucy Grace Goodrich, daughter of Bill & Kate Goodrich  
Ian Greer Goodrich, son of Bill & Kate Goodrich  
James (Jamie) Richard Goodrich, son of Bill & Kate Goodrich  
Grandchildren of Jim & Carol McIlvaine***

(Children ages 0-1<sup>st</sup> grade are invited to go to the nursery area after the children's time for faith formation.)

### *We Lift Our Praise and Prayer*

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: God be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**

L: Walking in the light of the coming Savior, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who await God's justice.

***(Brief silence)***

Pour out your Spirit on the church, that its leaders and all the baptized may answer your call to be bearers of the revelation of your love for the world. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Congregational Prayer Response (throughout)

L: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, we pray:

**C: (To the tune: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear)**

**Our Father, God, to you we pray**

**Most holy be Your name.**

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done**

**On earth -- in heav'n the same.**

**Give us this day the food we need;**

**Forgiven may we be;**

**Into temptation do not lead;**

**From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom; blest it be**

**In grateful love we bow;**

**and Yours the pow'r; O God, we see**

**Your mighty presence now.**

**The glory Yours' Your praise be sung**

**by angel host and Men**

**in ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue forevermore! Amen.**

\* HYMN OF PREPARATION 138 NCH

***"Jesus, Our Brother, Strong and Good"*, vvs. 1-3**

### *We Hear the Lesson of the Day*

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

L: Make us to know your ways, O Lord;

**C: teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth,  
and teach us, for you are the God of our  
salvation; for you we wait all day long. Amen.**

\* THE LESSON Matthew 1.18-23 pew Bible, p. 877

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah\* took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of

David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child they shall name him Emmanuel', conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and which means, 'God is with us.'

SECOND MEDITATION *"This Year"*

### **"The Broadcast"**

A drama presented by the HIPPIES

### *We Respond*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"* Haan

\* OFFERTORY RESPONSE 780 NCH

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

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, we thank you for your many gifts to us and our world. Most of all we thank you for your gift of love in and through Jesus Christ. As He offered himself for the world to you - so we ourselves and our gifts to at this time. May your name always be glorified in what we say and do. Amen.**

### *We Go Forth*

\*CLOSING HYMN 138 NCH

***"Jesus, Our Brother, Strong and Good"*, vvs 4-6**

\* BENEDICTION

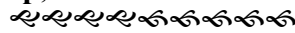
\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

***"I Love You with the Love of the Lord"***  
(Please join hands as we sing)  
***Oh, I love you with the love of the Lord.  
Yes, I love you with the love of the Lord.  
I can see in you the glory of my King,  
and I love you with the love of the Lord.***

\* POSTLUDE *"A Christmas Canon"* Pachelbel

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Today **Sunday School**, 9:15 a.m.  
**Worship**, 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Third Sunday of Advent. Children's Christmas Pageant. Christmas Fund Offering.  
**Creche Walk**, 3:00 p.m.  
**Trinity Concert Series**, 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.  
**Spaghetti Supper**, 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.  
Monday **AA**, 7:30 p.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall.  
Tuesday **NO Wee Twos**  
Wednesday **Knitwits**, 10:00 a.m. in the Library.  
Thursday **NO Wee Twos**  
**Bell Choir Practice**, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.  
**Trinity Choir Practice**, 7:45 p.m. in the Choir Room.  
**AA**, 8:00 p.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall.  
Saturday **Live Nativity, before & after the family service.**  
**Christmas Eve Family Service**, 7:00 p.m.  
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Next Sunday **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
**NO Sunday School**  
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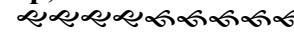


Thank you to:  
**Bob Heimbach** , member of Church & Ministry for bringing the announcements.  
**Bob Park**, our head usher for December.  
**Ford & Martha Weyrick**, for providing today's altar flowers in memory of family.  
**Susie Baxley**, for providing today's bulletins in honor of the birthday of **Bill Baxley, Jr.**  
, today's acolytes.  
**The Beddow family**, our greeters this morning.  
**Julie Vaccaro**, our beginner's volunteer and **Sue Kaufman**, our nursery volunteer today.



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215 High Street, Wadsworth, OH 44281 330-334-2536  
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Director of Music: Ann Hudson  
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Welcome

L: Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

C: **“Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”**

L: And Jesus took them in his arms, blessed them, and laid his hands upon them. The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only for us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

C: **This is the water of baptism. Out of this water, we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

Presentation

L: On behalf of Trinity United Church of Christ, I present to you Lucy Grace, Ian Greer, and Jamie Richard Goodrich for baptism.

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

L: Do you desire to have Lucy, Ian & Jamie baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

F: **We do.**

L: Will you encourage Lucy, Ian & Jamie to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

F: **We will, with the help of God.**

L: Will you teach Lucy, Ian & Jamie that they may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

F: **We will, with the help of God**

L: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

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help them be faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by nurturing Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that they may affirm their baptism?

**F: We do, with the help of God.**

L: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Lucy, Ian & Jamie now before you in your care?

**C: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Lucy, Ian & Jamie with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

L: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Old and New Testament:

The Apostles' Creed 881 NCH

Thanksgiving Over the Water

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray: Eternal God. . . . They may share in his final victory.

**C: Amen.**

Baptism with Laying on of Hands

Commendation and Welcome

L: Members of the household of God, I commend Lucy, Ian and Jamie to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**C: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As affirmed members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

Baptismal Hymn

*Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;  
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.*

help them be faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by nurturing Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that they may affirm their baptism?

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Commendation and Welcome

L: Members of the household of God, I commend Lucy, Ian and Jamie to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**C: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As affirmed members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

Baptismal Hymn

*Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;  
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.*