

Grace United Church of Christ

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Worship & Communion



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Worship & Communion**

We Gather

Prelude	Watchman, Tell Us of the Night", Joseph Parry (1903), arr. Mark Hayes	Jonas Dawson
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Intro Video

Welcome

Ring of the Bell

Preparing of our Hearts

Call to Worship

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming King?

P: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our
Savior?

**P: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion,
death, and resurrection.**

L: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the
Christ?

**P: By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold
the saving work of God.**

L: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn
the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

All: Glory to God in the Highest!

Opening Hymn	"There's a Voice in the Wilderness"	NCH # 120 (insert)
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There's a Voice in the Wilderness

J. Lewis Milligan, 1925; alt.

Isa. 40:3-11; Ps. 103:12-17

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Zi - on, who of - fers good tid - ings, to the
 3 But the word of our God is for - ev - er, our De -

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 height of the moun - tains dare! Lift your voice to the cit - ies of
 fend - er's will is strong; God stands in the midst of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The
 Ju - dah: "Be - hold your God!" de - clare. Like the
 na - tions, to ren - der right the wrong. Then

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the loft - y hills brought
 flowers of the field we per - ish, our hu - man works de -
 God shall be as a shep-herd, the lambs gath-ered to God's

low: make straight all the crook - ed pla - ces
 cay, the power and pomp of na - tions
 breast; and pas - tures of peace shall greet them,

where Em - man - u - el may go!
 shall pass like a dream a - way.
 to give to the wea - ry rest.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our shortcomings, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lighting the Advent Candle:

Spoken Response: **Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Reflection Video Advent

We Listen

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Special Music

"Of a Father's Love Begotten"
11th-century plainsong, arr. Mark Hayes

Jonas Dawson

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Children's Message

Sermon

Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayers

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Holy Communion

We are Sent

Announcements

Closing Blessing

Closing Hymn

“Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn ”

NCH # 107 (insert)

1 Awake! Awake and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
sing out your joy, for Jesus is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
to open wide the heavenly door,
and lives now inside us forever.

2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
whose humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing.
Music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of loving kindness,
the thunder of the anthems roll
to shatter all hate and injustice.

3 In deepest night Christ's coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
One without voice breaks forth in song,
a lame one leaps in wonder,
the weak are raised above the strong,
and weapons are broken asunder.

4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though cold the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless;
Love be our song and love our prayer,
and love, our endless story,
may God fill every day we share,
and bring us at last into glory.

Dismissal

Ring of the bell

Postlude

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming", Jonas Dawson
Traditional, harm. by Michael Praetorius (1621), arr. Mark Hayes

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# Advent Book Study

*Making Room by Ed Robb*

Thursdays @ 7 PM via Zoom

(see below)

Dec 3rd, 10th, and 17th

This four-week study explores the warmth of welcome at Christmas following interactions with the Holy Family, The Shepherds, and the Magi. Learn how to make room in your heart for God and neighbor this Christmas.

The book can be found at [cokesbury.com](https://www.cokesbury.com) or on Google Playbooks

Join us and invite a friend!

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Here is the zoom invite

Rob Apgar-Taylor is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Making Room Advent Study

Time: Dec 3, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thu, 3 occurrence(s)

Dec 3, 2020 07:00 PM

Dec 10, 2020 07:00 PM

Dec 17, 2020 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

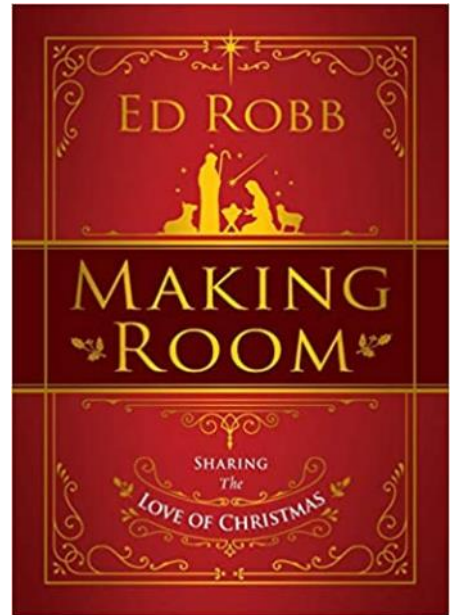
Weekly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZErdOmqrDkoG9R8ajphDIJZ4Uepo7nZ_WMm/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGtqDggGNaXshiHRpwMBIjCc-rzpnBjfpvxvB7vEyh3SynMYtdHlr0oHuLv](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZErdOmqrDkoG9R8ajphDIJZ4Uepo7nZ_WMm/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGtqDggGNaXshiHRpwMBIjCc-rzpnBjfpvxvB7vEyh3SynMYtdHlr0oHuLv)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8563022210?pwd=UHHJaR1pOMjMxUjF2aGVrSEJZa3VlQk9>

Meeting ID: 856 3022 2210

Passcode: 968920





Order and dedicate a
Poinsettia for Advent or
Make a donation to the
Frederick Food Bank

As we look to the advent and Christmas season, we normally look to poinsettias in memory or honor of a loved one. This year has been a different year so we are doing things a bit differently. We will have a limited number of poinsettias in the chancel (probably 12 or so); but, with restrictions the way they are, it seems silly to order 40 poinsettias for a nearly empty church with no Church tour and frankly no way to deliver them to shut-ins afterward. If you would like a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, you are welcome to have that be one of our 12.

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**To ORDER and DEDICATE a POINSETTIA**

Email [admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com) to place your order and dedicate your poinsettia. First come first serve for the 12 poinsettias.

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POINSETTIAS are ordered through The Dutch Plan Farm

6.5" Pot Single Plant/Multi-Bloom Poinsettia - \$11.00

(Red, White, Pink, Marble, Burgundy, Monet, Red Glitter)

or MAIL THIS PAGE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR CHECK

Name: _____ email: _____ ph# _____

How many? _____ 6.5" pot(s) at \$11 each = \$ _____ TOTAL

Dedicated to: _____

(The church office will place the order and the plants will be delivered to the church and on display during the Advent and Christmas season)

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*BUT..... this year has caused great hardship for people in our community. What I am recommending is that instead of poinsettias, you donate the cost (or more) of the poinsettia to the church and we will make a donation in that amount to the Frederick Food Bank.*

(see next page)

# Frederick Food Bank

<https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/462/Food-Bank-Program>



## To PLEDGE your DONATION to the Frederick Food Bank

Email [admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com) to pledge a donation to the Frederick Food Bank and dedicate your donation. Or make your **donation by check and mail** to the church office or go to <http://www.grucc.com/giving.html> and use the **PayPal** button.

## or MAIL THIS PAGE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR CHECK

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_ ph# \_\_\_\_\_

Frederick Food Bank Donation amount:     \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Dedicated to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

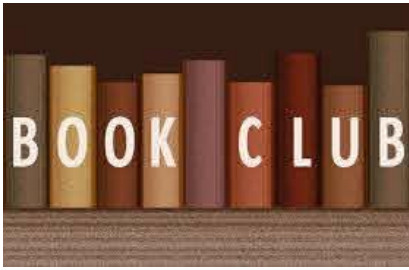
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Flowers are lovely, but we can easily give \$400 to help feed people this way. And this year there is such need.

So if you'd like a poinsettia, by all means!

But, if you really don't care about a poinsettia and you'd like to still donate, we will gladly make the donation in memory or honor of your loved one.

Thanks! Pastor Rob



Grace UCC (Virtual) Book Club

Wednesdays @ 7PM

Join us if you'd like to socialize, stretch your mind, or just leave the daily grind of life behind for a bit.

We start a new book at the beginning of December.

**beginning
Wednesday, December 2nd**

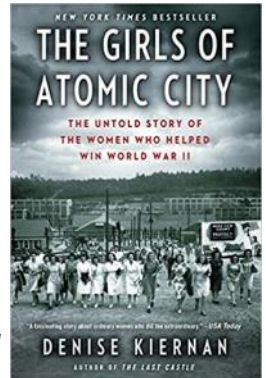
Book title:

The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kiernan

(Read the first 4 chapters for discussion on that date)

An incredible true story of the top-secret World War II town of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and the young women brought there unknowingly to help build the atomic bomb.

At the height of World War II, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was home to 75,000 residents, and consumed more electricity than New York City, yet it was shrouded in such secrecy that it did not appear on any map. Thousands of civilians, many of them young women from small towns across the U.S., were recruited to this secret city, enticed by the promise of solid wages and war-ending work. What were they actually doing there? Very few knew. The purpose of this mysterious government project was kept a secret from the outside world and from the majority of the residents themselves.



Drawing from the voices and experiences of the women who lived and worked in Oak Ridge, The Girls of Atomic City rescues a remarkable, forgotten chapter of World War II from obscurity. Denise Kiernan captures the spirit of the times through these women: their pluck, their desire to contribute, and their enduring courage

Please Email the church office at admin@grucc.com to be added to the list for email notices.

Look for your all church email or check the church website for zoom link.

Questions? Contact Missy Moxley at: nehoneybee@gmail.com
or Doris Moxley at: Dorismoxley@gmail.com



Grace United Church of Christ

November 12, 2020

Dear friends,

These past few weeks have been so wonderful to have some of us able to come together again to worship. But as you are aware, the Governor has put more restrictions in place effective yesterday, due to the severe rise in Covid-19 infections in our area.

For this reason, we have decided to suspend in-person worship for the time being. We hope that it will only be for a few weeks, unlike the last time. We have been blessed with a superior AV system that allows for high-quality worship participation from home. Yes, it's important to be together. Yes, it's rough thinking about starting advent apart. But none of that is worth losing anyone because we were careless with each other.

So please, let's make this as short a time as possible. Wear your masks, stay home when you can, and above all else, stay safe.

If you are in need of something, please reach out and let us know and we will do our best to get it to you.

Blessings in this crazy time.

Pastor Rob +



Sunday, December 6, 2020: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-1; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Monday, December 7, 2020: Psalm 27; Isaiah 26:7-15; Acts 2:37-42

Tuesday, December 8, 2020: Psalm 27; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 11:1-18

Wednesday, December 9, 2020: Psalm 27; Malachi 2:10-3:1; Luke 1:5-17

Thursday, December 10, 2020: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 2:1-5; Philippians 3:7-11

Friday, December 11, 2020: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:2-6; Philippians 3:12-16

Saturday, December 12, 2020: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:13-19; Matthew 21:28-32

Sunday, December 13, 2020: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28



Grace United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

25 East 2nd Street, Frederick, Maryland, 21701

301-662-3312 ~ Office Hours: 9AM-3PM/M-F

admin@grucc.com ~ www.grucc.com

Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor

pastorrob@grucc.com

Jessica Townsley, Youth Minister

Jonas Dawson, Director of Music

music@grucc.com

James Taylor, Bell Choir Director

bells@grucc.com

Taylor Whidden, Jennie Huntoon, Donald Toms, James Taylor

Choir Section Leaders

Joan Princler, Nursery Attendant

joan.dancer@comcast.net

Mat Lutman, Caretaker

trainhouse13@gmail.com

Sarah Petermann, Church Admin

admin@grucc.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 AM — Virtual

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Scripture Reader: ONLINE

Children's Message: N/A

Children's Church: N/A

Altar Guild: N/A

*If you would like to serve as a greeter, or host fellowship time after worship,
please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Good Shepherd Room.*

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

