

As we wait faithfully for God's time,
we light the candles of
Hope and Peace.



2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev Julie Peterson

A voice cries out in the wilderness,

“Prepare the way of the Lord!”

Let us line the road with beauty

and pave it with acts of justice.

For the Holy One is coming our way,

the giver of life and the source of living water.

OPENING HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!”

GTG #88, Blue #9

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;

bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE¹

We light this candle in hope.

Natalie, Aubrey, Sara, Ken, Judie, Stu

We light this candle for peace.

A voice cries out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord,”

A choir sings in the silence, “Come, Emmanuel.”

Every valley shall be filled. Every heart shall be made whole,

for peace is stronger than turmoil, and love is louder than hate.

As the Psalmist writes, “Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.” (Psa 85:10-11)

As we light our second Advent candle, we pray for the holy peace of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Peace. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim L.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

“Prepare the way of the Lord,” your prophet says to us. Forgive us when we have failed to prepare your way. Forgive us when we have stood in your way; when we let the challenging words of your prophets roll off of our lives, rather than let

them spark change; when we walk around a neighbor in need, rather than encounter a chance for compassion. Forgive us, O Lord, and grant us assurance that the glory of your coming does not depend upon the righteousness of your followers. Forgive us, O Lord, and free us to try again.

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONDING TO GRACE

“Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

GTG #113 *refrain only*

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

SHARE GOD’S LOVE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

“Jesus Loves Me”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Jim L.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1-8

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Advent Peace”

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ...IN JESUS’ NAME

PASSING THE PEACE

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

(Grant us Peace)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Luke 1:67-79

Jim L.

Then John’s father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge

of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jim L.

SONG OF PREPARATION

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

COTC Choir

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING¹

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God: the grass withers and the flower fades, but your word stands forever. You speak tenderly to your people, with tidings of peace and comfort. Like a shepherd, you feed us and gather us in your arms. Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Holy, Holy, Holy, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior: baptized by John, Jesus came to be our way in the wilderness, to wash us clean from the dust of death and the stain of sin, and to pour out the power of the Holy Spirit among us. Remembering your goodness and grace, we offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of our risen Lord until he comes in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup; make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Help us to repent and live in peace with you and with one another, watching and praying for your new heavens and new earth where righteousness and justice will be at home. Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, we bless you, God of glory, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION¹

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People!”

GTG #87, Blue #3

**“Comfort, comfort now my people, tell of peace!” So says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon that waits for them.
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.”**

**For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Calling us to true repentance since the reign of God is here.
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.**

**Straight will be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.**

BENEDICTION

¹Call to Worship 54.1, © 2019 Office of Theology and Worship Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), pgs13-14, 20

Welcome All
Share God's Love
Offer Hope
... all in Jesus' name



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request, please email or text Pastor Julie

Avonne (Laura's mother)
Joyce A (friend of George R)
Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Steve A (father-in-law of Glennas's daughter)
Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)
Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Sushma B
Andree C
Chuck C (Laura D's brother)
Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)
Sabina C (Adelaide's sister)
Betty D (Marie R's cousin)
Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)
Karen F
Lori F (George R's OES friend)
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)
Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)
Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)
Hice Family (Jane & Dave's daughter's family)
James & Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)
Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)
José K (Adelaide's friend)
Marge K (George R's OES friend)

Steve (Jane's brother)
Bob L (husband of Judie T's friend)
Jim/Sheryl L (Ken/Pat's son-in-law/daughter)
Phyllis L
McKenzie (daughter of Michelle V's friend)
Judy M
Klee M (Fritz/Fay's son)
Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)
Letty (Laura D's friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Rachel M (Rutter's granddaughter)
Jim M
Steve M
Dick McW (Ann M's brother)
Susan Q (Ann S's boss)
Maria R (Laura D's friend)
Jessie R (Julie/Jeff's niece)
Ann & Geoff S
Marnie S (Glenna M's friend)
Shirley (Cathy W's aunt)
Larry V (Jim V's father)
Those who are caregivers
Those devastated by terrorism
Our world and all affected by COVID-19
Those affected by the devastating forest fires
Those who grieve

- **family of Bob Olson** (family of Jim/Sue)
- **family of Ralph Sorenson** (family of Jim/Sue)
- **family of Kris M** (Jim M's sister)
- **Cassie V** (friend of Mike/Chris)
- **family of Jane S** (extended family of Jim/Sue)

CONGREGATION MEETING

Join us on Sunday, December 6 after the Worship

**A Special Congregational Meeting for Church of the Cross
is called for December 6, 2020 @ 11 am on Zoom.**

The meeting is called for the sole purpose of electing new officers for the positions of Deacon and Elder.

How to connect to Zoom for the meeting (including phone call-in information) has been sent to all members of Church of the Cross.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE

Our Annual Poinsettia sale is here! The order form is on our website.

The cost is \$15 per poinsettia and colors are: red (20 available), speckled (10 available) and white (6 available). Checks can be mailed or dropped off in the mailbox at church.

All poinsettias may be picked up at the church after Christmas. Contact Jane L to schedule a time to have the church opened for you. OR, if you prefer, your poinsettia(s) will be donated to Friendship Village to share with their residents. Please be sure to check your preference when you make your selection. If no selection is made, you will be contacted about your preference. Thank you!

Blue Christmas

A service of remembrance and hope

This time of year can be a mix of emotions that make it a challenge.

We invite you for a service of reflection, comfort and hope for hurting hearts.



Tuesday, December 8th @ 7 pm



ZOOM LUNCH WITH PASTOR JULIE

Join us via Zoom every Wednesday at 12 noon for bible study as we discuss scripture passages for our upcoming worship service. Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom access information to join the Zoom session.

Here is the schedule:

December 9	John 1:6-8, 19-28; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
December 16	Luke 1:26-38; Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
December 23	NO CLASS
December 30	NO CLASS

HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE!



You can help a child feel loved this holiday season.

Fill a wish list, send a gift card, or make a donation!

However, you choose to help, know that you are bringing joy to a child, young adult, or family experiencing crisis.

Sign up for gifts or gift cards or a financial donation will go through the Shelter, Inc. Holiday Gift Drive 2020—Interest Form.

The links will be in the COTC e-news for the next couple of weeks and on our website.

You can also contact Zoe McGrath at zmcgrath@shelter-inc.org or 847-595-0180.

Your gifts will make holiday dreams come true for our victims and their families!

Visit WINGS Holiday Store

Visit the Wings Holiday Store at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090845aeab2faaff2-wings> to sign up to purchase a gift for one of the clients within the WINGS family. You may purchase the gifts at any store that you choose.



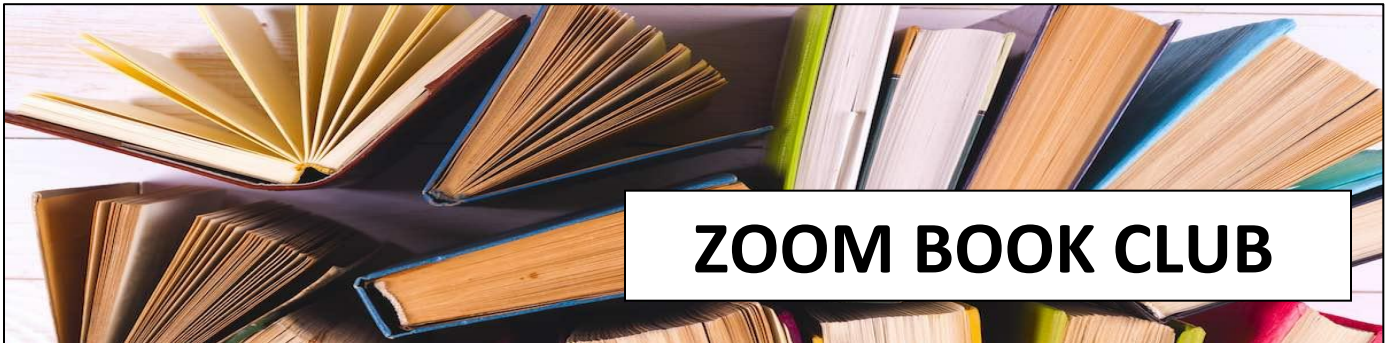
ZOOM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study will meet on December 9 & 16

Meetings start at 7 pm.

Our current study is on the book *ISAIAH Trusting God in Troubled Times*
by Howard Peskett.

We meet via Zoom. We encourage new attendees, so if interested, please
contact Ken G. or Stu R. for access details.



ZOOM BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club meetings will be on:

- **Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7 pm**
Brooklyn by Colm Toibin

If you want to be included, please email Judie at judietrue@gmail.com and she
will send you a Zoom invitation.

Sponsored by the Presbytery of Chicago:



An Advent Worship Event
Exploring images of Dark and Light

Sunday, December 13, 2020 | 3 p.m.

Liturgy, music, a time to dream.

Preaching: The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins
Director, PCUSA Office of Public Witness

There is no cost, but please register at
bit.ly/AdventWorship

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

DROP OFF AT 1 ILLINOIS BLVD HOFFMAN ESTATES

Mondays to Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

FINANCIAL DONATIONS:

Monetary donations allow us to purchase goods based on the needs of our clients at wholesale prices and is the easiest way to meet the growing demand at this time. Checks can be mailed to the Township (Attn: Food Pantry) and should be made out to the Township of Schaumburg with Food Pantry in the memo section. Donations can also be made online through our website schaumburgtownship.org. Please remember to signify the donation should be made to the Food Pantry.

FOOD DONATIONS:

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Soup
- Oatmeal and Cereal
- Canned Meats (tuna fish, chicken, ham, Spam)
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, mandarin oranges)
- Canned Pasta Meals
- Beef Stew, Chili, Pork n Beans
- Canned or Boxed Potatoes
- Canned or Dry Beans
- Tomato Products
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta Roni
- Rice A Roni
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels



amazon

Order on AMAZON and deliver right to our door via our amazon list*:

<http://a.co/9YbUnas>

*Please note the list will be updated regularly - we have no brand preference

