

Offertory “”
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Response “Doxology”

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (**in unison**)

Almighty God, we give thanks for the surpassing gift of your Beloved, the Christ. As we welcome him again into our lives, we commit ourselves to the work of his kingdom. Receive the gifts we offer as signs of our commitment to live according to Jesus' good news, by which we are redeemed. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Communion Hymn “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent” #124

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation
Communion Prayer
Words of Institution
Consecration of the Elements
Sharing of the Elements

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (**in unison**)

The bread has been broken, the cup has been poured, the meal has been shared. Gracious God, we give thanks for bread for the journey, for your wisdom guiding us along the way. May the memory of your son and example of his life, culminating with his sacrifice on the cross, make this a cup of blessing that brings us deep and abiding peace. Amen.

*Closing Hymn “Let There Be Peace on Earth” #677

*Benediction

*Postlude

St. Paul's

United Church of Christ



**“A Story of Peace”
December 4, 2022
9:00 am**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

One: As we move through this Advent Season let us say to one another...

Many: Peace be within you!

One: As we encounter the world in this Advent Season let us say to the communities we live, work and play in...

Many: Peace be within you!

One: As we wait for the birthing of the Christ Child, full of newness and light...

Many: Peace be within you!

One: As we open our hearts, our souls to your transforming ways...

Many: Peace be within you!

One: In this Advent season let us wait and watch together saying always...

Many: Peace be within you!

*Invocation (in unison)

God of the peace that passes all understanding, be near to us today. Hear our praises and prayers. Be present in our worship. Be present in our lives. Bring us peace. Amen

*Hymn "Comfort, Comfort You My People" #122

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Father God, you are the one who leads us from darkness into light, from captivity into freedom, from anxiety into peace, from despair into joy. Yet we long to break free, choosing independence, convinced of our own wisdom, forgetting your love and grace. Forgive us, draw close to us, embrace us once again in your loving arms, and enable us to follow you in

() All who are able please stand when noted.*

worship and grateful service each day of our lives. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Peace! Peace is what you receive from God when you are forgiven and embraced by your Heavenly Father. Peace is what you have when you know the grace of God and believe you are not alone in your journey of life. Therefore, peace, my sisters and brothers! In Jesus we have received forgiveness, we have been given endless love and abundant grace, and we have been restored!

Many: Thanks be to God!

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Response "Creator of the Stars of Night" #127 (vs 1)

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music ""

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Scripture Matthew 1: 18-24

Sermon "A Story of Peace"

Invitation to the Offering