



**Peace United Church of Christ  
The Children's Christmas Program  
December 17, 2017  
Third Sunday in Advent**



**Accompanist** – Sandy Eickert  
**Acolytes** – Jacob, Emma & Nathan Schneider

**PRELUDE** – Sandy Eickert

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Amber Horn-Leiterman

**LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY**

Ian Aplin: We have lit the first two candles, one for HOPE and one for PEACE. Today we light the third candle, the candle of JOY. This should be the easy one because joy is all around us – in the children, the lights, the music and gathering together. But how often do we let our preparations – or our memories – push joy to the side? Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but joy is also a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share.

HYMN: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #6 (Notebook) vs. 1-2  
*(The candle of JOY is lit by Ian Aplin)*

**All**: Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us: you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by You, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S SELECTION** “All Things Bright & Beautiful”

**WELCOME** – Jase Heritage & Quinn Schuh

**MESSAGE OF A STAR** – Trent Leiterman, Alex Nowak, Nathan Schneider, Mason Leiterman, Jamison Krahn, Landon Schuh, Mason Aplin, Alijah Stackhouse

**CHILDREN'S SELECTION** “This Little Light of Mine”

**DID YOU KNOW** – Morgan Janas, Jacob Fischer, Aubrie Williams, Grant Leiterman, Rachel Fischer

**SCRIPTURE READING** Aubrie Williams Luke 1:46-58

**PRESENT OUR GIFTS**: *We are on the way with you, gracious God. We put our faith in you. Bless our giving and our gifts.*

- Ian & Paxton Krahn

**OFFERTORY**

**\*Offering Response**

Doxology - “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

**Gracious and Loving God, as stewards of that which has been shared with us, we are grateful for the opportunity to share with this congregation and its ministries. Enable us to use this offering, we pray, in ways that continue to be responsive to Your call to feed the hungry, lift up the broken hearted, welcome the stranger. And we give thanks that as stewards of these gifts, that call continues to be heard and welcomed in our midst. Amen.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL SONG** #48 (Notebook)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

**MANGER SCENE**

**NARRATORS**: Jacob Fischer & Grant Leiterman

**SHEPHERDS**: Nathan Schneider, Trent Leiterman, Mason Aplin & Alijah Stackhouse

**JOSEPH:** Alex Nowak

**MARY:** Sophia Krahn

**THREE WISE MEN:** Mason Leiterman,  
Landon Schuh & Jamison Krahn

**ANIMALS:** Jase Heritage & Quinn Schuh

**CHILDREN'S SELECTION** "Away in the Manger"

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** #46 (Notebook)

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

**TIME OF PRAYER** Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**MUSICAL SELECTIONS**

**BEAUTIFUL STAR** – Sophia Krahn, Trent Leiterman & Alex Nowak

**CHILDREN'S SELECTION** - "We Are the Church"

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** #36 (Notebook) "Joy to the World"

**POSTLUDE**

*Special thanks to all the parents who helped organize this wonderful  
Christmas Program & those who organized Coffee Hour this  
morning.*