## SCHOENBRUNN COMMUNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH

We are Christ called, Christ centered, Christ sent...loving all.

2200 EAST HIGH AVE, NEW PHILADELPHIA, OH 44663 (Phone) 330.339.1940 (Website) scmchurch.org

# Third Sunday of Advent December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

| Ministers                               | All of Us!       |  |
|---|------------------|--|
| Pastor                                  | Rev. Ben Lippert |  |
| Director of Music/Organist              | Angie Miller     |  |
| Elder of the Month                      | Jean-Anne Baker  |  |
| Trustee of the Month                    | Doug Miller      |  |
| Media Technician                        | Denny Drumm      |  |
| Media Production                        | Paula Drumm      |  |
| *************************************** |                  |  |

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*Watchword for the week: **"Be strong, do not fear, your God** will come, he will come with vengeance, with divine retribution to save you."-Isaiah 35:4

WORDS OF WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH

\*PASSING THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

\*WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH "PEOPLE IN DARKNESS" MBW# 266 V.1, 2,3

SCRIPTURE LESSON ISAIAH 35:1-10 MATTHEW 11:2-11

## Prayer

OFFERING

\*OFFERTORY "PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW" MBW# 817 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW; PRAISE HIM ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW; PRAISE HIM ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST; PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST!

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LOVING SAVIOR,

WE THANK YOU FOR SHOWING US WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE MESSIAH. MAY YOUR COMPASSION BE REFLECTED IN OUR GIVING TOWARDS ALL. AMEN.

| Children's Lesson  |                                     |          |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Message ""         |                                     |          |
| *Hymn "Once He Cal | ME IN BLESSING"                     | MBW #270 |
| HOLY COMMUNION     | "IN CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S COMING" | MBW#183  |
| BENEDICTION        |                                     |          |
| *CHIME             |                                     |          |
| *POSTLUDE          |                                     |          |

\*Please stand, as able.

*† Reprinted with permission from "Moravian Daily Texts 2020" © 2019 †† Lyrics from: <u>https://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/nlb/special-occassions/special-epiphany-a-b-c.html</u>* 

## Prayers of the People

<u>Church and World:</u> For all families and churches of Tuscarawas County; for the ministries of our Eastern District and Northern Province; for the shared work of the worldwide Moravian Unity; for all who risk their lives for the gospel; for refugees and victims of natural disasters and violence around the world and for those who work to provide shelter, healing, and peace. We think especially of the people of Ukraine.

<u>Military and Families:</u> Carter Baker, Adam Porter, Bret Penik, Kyle Springer, Nathan Zinser, Anna Sandoval, Ben Miller.

<u>Healing, Comfort and Peace</u>: Melanie Hahn, Rev. Darrell and Chris Johnson, Richard Roth, Doug Stafford, Troy Hammel, Missy Martin, Dixie Lewis, Tyler Kastor, Tommy Baker, Mike Wright, Tyler Cox, Callie Reynolds, Eric Fondriest, Miracle Knight, Fred Sullivan, = Robert Carrier, Steve Pasquinelli, Eric Fondriest, Evelyn Bennett, Cheryl Feutz, Barb McCauley, Corey Smith, Janet West, Lynn "Charlie" Reichmann, Tammie Reynolds, Jackie Pasquinelli, Tim Reynolds, Tammy Bennett, Jim Ferrone Jr., Corey Beitzel, Paige Martin, Ryan Kastor, Aimee Pasquinelli, COVID-19 Victims.

**<u>Families Bereaved</u>**: Sharon Roberts, Colorado Springs, Virginia University, George Knauss, Aaron Funk.

<u>Homebound Members and Friends:</u> Lynne Capretta (Northwood Inn), Janet West (Hennis).

To add prayers please contact Prayer Chain: 330-339-1940 or pastor@scmchurch.org.

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# **Advent Lighting Script 2022**

Speaker #1: We have faced many unexpected obstacles and challenges these past few years. In some ways, we have grown stronger from adversity and in other ways, our faith has felt shaken. We are left wondering, who will have our backs?

Speaker #2 Who will guide us? Who will lead us out of the darkness? Who will be the one to show us that we are never truly alone?

Speaker #1 The Prophet Isaiah says there is a way out of the darkness. A Messiah has come that will light up our lives and our world. He will mend the brokenhearted and he will show us that we do not walk alone.

Speaker #2: We light this candle, as a sign of our hope, our unshakable hope that we know that our Savior lives and that he will show us the way out of the darkness. He will give our footsteps meaning and purpose. Jesus will show us the true meaning of God's love.

(Light Candle)

Sing Verse 1 of hymn.

### Week 2

**Reader One:** For many of us, there is nothing like heading home. A familiar path, memories that flood our hearts and minds, and a tree in the front yard that has witnessed every important milestone our family has shared together.

**Reader Two:** Yet, going home isn't always a good occasion. Sometimes we have to retreat home when we have lost our way in the world. Sometimes we are called to go home when something or someone is lost and our lives will never be the same. Sometimes we go home when there is no place else in the world to go. We have become spiritual pilgrims.

**Reader One:** The prophetic voice of John the Baptist tells us to, "Repent, for the kingdom of God has come near." John prepared the way for Jesus by reminding us that our spiritual home is not in the clouds or even in the buildings religious communities occupy. We no longer need to look up to see God. We just need to look around us.

**Reader Two:** We light these candles, the candle of hope and love, as a sign that we are on a journey home to our Christ child. He is willing to guide us no matter the circumstances. Whether we are feeling nostalgic and excited to follow him or feeling lost or exhausted from the grind of the journey. His love shows us the way home.

(Light Candle)

Sing Verse 1 and 2 of hymn.

#### Week 3

**Reader 1:** Peace is such an important thing to have in life. It could be a few minutes of silence we spend with our cup of coffee in the morning, a car ride home from work or school, or a prayerful place we to go that we know won't be interrupted.

**Reader 2:** Yet, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph knew very little peace throughout their journey. They had to quietly leave town and head to Bethlehem. Shortly, after Jesus was born they had to flee to the foreign land of Egypt, out of fear that Herod would kill Jesus out of jealousy. Peace was not given to this family. They had to work hard to find it.

**Reader 1**: Matthew 5:9 said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." It is our prayer that this Advent season that God may use every one of us to be his agents of peace and reconciliation.

**Reader Two:** We light these candles, the candle of hope and love, and peace as a sign that many of God's greatest gifts cannot be enjoyed without peace in our hearts and peace in our communities. May all of us get the chance to experience God's peace within us this Advent season.

(Light Candle)

Sing Verse 1, 2, and 3 of hymn #266.