



Kenilworth Union Church
Service of Worship
November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Online

CONNECT TO WORSHIP at 9:30 a.m.

Prelude *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* arr. Wayne Wold

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* #446

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.
3. Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,

Safe they feed upon the manna
Which God gives them when they pray.

Advent Prayer and Candle Lighting

Ministry of Music

Magnificat in D Major

Felix Mendelssohn

Magnificat ánima mea Dóminum.
Et exultávit spíritus meus: in Deo salutári meo.
My soul doth magnify the Lord.
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my savior.

Prayers of the People

Thanksgivings and Intercessions
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 trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Tithes and Offerings

Announcements from the Life of the Church
Prayer of Dedication

Scripture and Sermon

Advent Practices for the Shortest Days and Darkest Nights

November 22	<i>Friendship</i>	Mary & Elizabeth	Luke 1:39–45
November 29	Song	Mary's Magnificat	Luke 1:46–55
December 6	<i>Sleep & Dreams</i>	Joseph's Dreams	Matthew 1:18–25
December 13	<i>Look to the Sky</i>	Shepherds & Magi	Matthew 2:1–12
December 20	<i>Wonder</i>	Mary's Ponderings	Luke 2:19
December 24	<i>Darkness</i>	Christ the Light	John 1:1–5, 14

Closing Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#2

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever,

Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Recognition of Faithful Service

Benediction

Choral Benediction

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Blessing*

Peter Lutkin
Katie Moran Bart

Postlude

Sleepers, Awake!

arr. Wayne Wold

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+++ Plate Offering +++

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Worship Note

The idea for this sermon series is from Jan Richardson's article "[This Luminous Darkness: Searching for Solace in Advent and Christmas](#)," in *The Advent Door*, December 17, 2015.

A Methodist minister, poet, and artist from Florida, the Reverend Richardson lost her husband Garrison Doles, 62, on the second day of Advent, 2013, after what was supposed to be routine surgery. These Advent meditations are part of her response to that devastating loss.

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PARTICIPANTS:

Lisa Bond, Director of Music

Candle Lighters, Matt, Sarah, Madeleine, Peter, and Andrew Alshouse

Chancel Choir

William Evertsberg, Senior Minister, Liturgist

Jo Forrest, Senior Associate Minister, Preacher

Joel Fox, Audio and Video

Susan Klotzbach, Organist

KUC Youth Choirs

Orchestra

Rejoice Singers

Milestones: The congregation celebrates the birth of Elizabeth (Eliza) June Gebhardt on October 26, daughter of David and Anna Gebhardt, and granddaughter of Don and Jan Farnsworth.

The congregation celebrates the birth of Sophia Grace Munoz on November 13, daughter of Andres and Genevieve Munoz, and granddaughter of Kevin and Melanie Flynn.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 Updates: please click through to view the church's guidelines and check the calendar for the latest updates.

WORSHIP

Listen to Bill Evertsberg's Lakeside Chat: Bill pivots to bring a new style of Blessing of the Animals Worship service to Kenilworth Union. Come to the Outdoor Blessing of the Animals Worship on Sunday, December 27 at 9:30 a.m., or enjoy the *Online Blessing of the Animals Worship any time. To be included in the Blessing of the Animals slideshow please send a picture of the pet you would like to be blessed by December 15. Please use the [form here to send a blessing picture](#) or send to info@kuc.org.

Registration for Next Sunday's Outdoor Worship: Meet in the Memorial Garden at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Online Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Day Prayer: Each week a new liturgy is offered [livestream](#) this week at 12:15 p.m. We meet for 15 minutes to read scriptures, hear a brief reflection. On Tuesday, December 1 we will pray for the following: Paul Sortal, Dave & Christie Southern, Chuck & Nancy Southwick, Tom & Martha Spalding, Jeff & Mary Ann Spencer, Diane Stalmack, J & Sallie Stanley, John & Ryan Statza, Jason Stavros, Charlie & Carolyn Stearns, Steve & Allison Steinback, Cal & Brooke Steinhoff, Bill & Gail Steinmetz, John & Julene Stellato, Helen Stephens, Bob & Carla Stephens, Todd Stephens, Carl Stern & Holly Hayes, William & Sally Stewart, Andrew & Amy Stoll, and John & Christine Stoll.

Quiet Christmas Worship: Please join us online at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 17 for music by the Sheridan Singers, Lisa Bond, and college students Chris Scortino and Kate Revord, as well as readings, reflections, and prayers by members of the congregation.

MUSIC MINISTRY

David Honoré, Hymn Soloist and Susan Klotzbach, Organist perform *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*. The Rejoice Singers perform *O Come, O Come Immanuel*. Thank you for the gift of music.

YOUTH MINISTRY Follow [@kucyouth](#) **instagram**

Junior High Youth Group Secret Santa COVID-safe: Please register for this gift exchange by tomorrow, November 30 so we can secretly participate safely without contact.

Junior High Youth Group is now online, the next meeting is Wednesday, December 2 at 6 p.m.

College Break Work Day: Volunteer at the Greater Chicago Food Depository in Chicago on Wednesdays, December 2 and/or 16 from 1–4 p.m. or College Break Work Day at [Humble Design](#) on Wednesday, December 9 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

College Break Winter Walks: Saturdays, December 12 and 19 at 1 p.m. Meet in front of church for walking and talking. COVID-19 safety guidelines will be followed, please register.

College Reunion Candlelight Service: Friday, December 18 at 5 p.m. in the Memorial Garden.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY*

Children and Family Ministry is now online only. Following the recommendation of the Illinois Department of Public Health, with love for our neighbors, and to limit community spread so that kids can remain in school, all Children and Family Ministry will pivot online through Christmas.

Still Shines the Star: Children's Christmas Eve 11 a.m. [livestream](#) and available anytime after. Amy Castino, Greta Connor, Christine Hides and Katie Lancaster will lead a special Christmas Eve service for children. Join us for the Christmas story, songs, prayers, and a special star blessing.

Sunday School During Advent: November 29–December 20 Children and Family Ministry will meet online at 9 a.m. for a 30 minute Family Advent Chapel. There will be music, prayers, activities, and of course, Advent Candles. The online link and supply list will be sent in the weekly newsletter or contact [Greta Connor](#) for assistance.

Weekday Storytime: Join us online, Tuesdays and Thursdays, December 1–17 at 4 p.m. as we read a cozy Christmas story together to wind down the day. Christine Hides and Greta Connor share their favorite illustrated books of the season and close in a prayer of gratitude. Contact [Greta Connor](#) or visit [CONNECT](#) for the online link.

Search for the Light Outdoor Scavenger Hunt: Enjoy searching for four boxes hidden at Kenilworth Union Church as you enjoy the Christmas lights.

**Please note that there is no 3rd grade Bible or other classes during Advent. New Sunday Faith Time Classes will begin on January 10, 2020.*

RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Quick Fact: A Black woman with breast cancer is 42% more likely to die from breast cancer than a white woman. (source CDC) [RJC website](#)

OUTREACH

Lawrence Hall Christmas “Wish List” Drive: Please consider brightening the holiday for a child this Christmas. Register here to receive a specific child’s “Wish List” by this Tuesday, December 1. Drop off gifts the morning of Saturday, December 7. Touchless options are available.

Become an Outreach Agency Liaison: Over 70 members of the congregation serve as liaisons to the not-for-profit agencies that apply for grants from the Kenilworth Union Outreach Fund. Liaisons are a critical link between the Outreach Committee and these agencies, both ensuring the Outreach Committee is fully informed about the agency’s leadership, programs, financial condition, and volunteer opportunities, as well as advocating for the agency. This year we need two individuals to serve as liaisons to [Deborah’s Place](#) and [St. Leonard’s Ministries](#). You will each have a co-liaison to partner with. If you are interested in serving as a liaison, please contact [Chris Cole](#) or [Wendy Yamada](#).

Day by Day Calendar: A cherished tradition at Kenilworth Union since 1979, our desktop flip calendars contain 365 days of spiritual, humorous, and inspirational quotes. The calendars make great gifts and are available at the front desk for \$10 each, please make an appointment before stopping in. All proceeds from the calendars’ sale benefit our Outreach Agencies.

GREEN TEAM

A fact from the Green Team: Partners for Environmental Progress estimates that Americans contribute 25% more volume to landfills between Thanksgiving and New Years Day—approximately one million extra tons per week. [Green Team website](#)

PASTORAL CHANGES AT KENILWORTH UNION CHURCH

With gratitude for the long ministry of Jo Forrest at Kenilworth Union Church, today we ask for God’s blessing of energy, imagination, creativity and love on her last Sunday leading worship with us. Jo begins her transition to ministry in Pennsylvania this December, and will serve as the Senior Minister at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh.

FELLOWSHIP

First Wednesday Invitation: Kenilworth Union Church First Wednesday Family invites you to join them for “A Gift of Music” on Wednesday, December 2 at 1 p.m. online for a free concert! Josefien Stoppelenburg (soprano) and Stephen Alltop (harpichord, piano and organ) will share a variety of music from their recent video concerts, including selections by J. S. Bach, Stacy Garrop, Charles Gounod, G. F. Handel and Eric Whitacre. There will be a brief carol sing-along will end the program. [Connect here at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2.](#)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATES

Sun., Nov. 29	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
	8:30 a.m.	Outdoor Worship—Memorial Garden
	9 a.m.	Family Advent Chapel—Online
	9:25 a.m.	Enter In to Worship—Prepare with Children & Family Ministry Video
	9:30 a.m.	Online Worship—Livestream
Mon., Nov. 30		Junior High Youth Group Secret Santa Registration Deadline
	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
	4 p.m.	Katie Lancaster Virtual Office Hours—Online
Tues., Dec. 1		Lawrence Hall Wish List Registration Deadline
	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
	12:15 p.m.	Mid-Day Prayer—Livestream
	4 p.m.	Tuesday Storytime—Online
Wed., Dec. 2	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
	10 a.m.	Men's Coffee—Online
	1 p.m.	First Wednesday—Online
	1 p.m.	College Break Work Day—Greater Chicago Food Depository
	6 p.m.	Junior High Youth Group—Online
	7 p.m.	Wednesday Chat with Bill Evertsberg—Online
Thur., Dec. 3	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
	4 p.m.	Thursday Storytime—Online
	7 p.m.	Fall Exploring Grief Group—Online
Fri., Dec. 4	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
Sat., Dec. 5	6 a.m.	The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

If you would like to learn more, please contact The Reverend Dr. Jo Forrest or a Stephen Leader.

Care Guild Leader for November is Hope Poor and for December is Sallie Smith.

To let us know where help is needed, call Care Guild at (847)853-3534