



Kenilworth Union Church
Service of Worship
December 6, 2020
Second Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Online

[CONNECT TO WORSHIP](#) at 9:30 a.m.

Prelude

Wachet Auf
Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine

J.S. Bach
Keith Chapman

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Lewis Henry Redner

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.
3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Advent Prayer and Candle Lighting

Ministry of Music

“Sing Lullaby!” from *A Light in the Stable*

Alan Bullard

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Angels are watching, stars are shining
Over the place where he is lying:
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping:
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
Then in the grave at last reposing:
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Sing lullaby! Lullaby! Is the babe awaking? Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the infant king.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,

Conqu'ring death, its bondage breaking:
Hush, do not wake the infant king.

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	<i>Song</i>	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 *When Out of Poverty* Kathryn Galloway

1. When out of poverty is born
A dream that will not die,
And landless, weary folk find strength
To stand with heads held high,
It's then we learn from those who wait
To greet promised day,
"The Lord is coming, don't lose heart.
Be blest; prepare the way!"
2. When people wander far from God,
Forget to share their bread,
They find their wealth and empty thing,
Their spirits are not fed.
For only just and tender love
The hungry soul will stay.
And so God's prophets echo still
Be blest; prepare the way.
3. When God took flesh and came to earth,
The world turned upside down,
And in the strength of women's faith
The word of life was born.
She knew that God would raise the low,
It pleased her to obey.
Rejoice with Mary in the call,
Be blest; prepare the way.

Benediction

Postlude *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Michael Bedford

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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:

Emily Barnash, Chancel Choir Soloist

Lisa Bond, Director of Music

Candle Lighters, Bryan, Stephanie, Andrew, and Sigrid Wilson

Chancel Choir

William Evertsberg, Senior Minister, Preacher

Joel Fox, Audio and Video

Susan Klotzbach, Organist

Katie Snipes Lancaster, Associate Minister, Liturgist

Orchestra

Jonathan Wilson, Hymn Soloist

Milestones: The congregation celebrates the birth of Pierce James Patterson on November 13, son of Cale and Blair Patterson, and grandson of Michael and Jennifer Patterson.

The congregation celebrates the birth of Brody Ridge Strickler on December 3, son of Charlie and Lindsey Strickler, and grandson of Bill and Diane Hart.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Saturday, December 12 Drop-off time and locations for Lawrence Hall and Christopher House: Thank you to all that participated in these two programs that brightened many family's Christmas this year.

Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Fund: This memorial fund is a proud supporter of and donor to many local mental health organizations. [Click through for the seven resources.](#)

WORSHIP

Wednesday Chat with Bill Evertsberg: Bill takes us on a tour of his finely crafted minister's library at home, leading him to discuss one of his favorite Bible characters: Joseph the carpenter.

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 8 we will pray for the following: Barbara Stone, George & Patricia Stone, Andrew & Robin Stone, Jan Storlie, Patricia Stratton, Jim & Ann-Marie Streibich, Charles & Lindsey Strickler, Geoffrey & Joanne Stringer, Joe & Sarah Stuart, Bryan & Christine Sullivan, Jim & Stephanie Sullivan, Sean & Meg Sullivan, Kaley Surman, Jim & Margie Surpless, Jane Surpless, Rip & Sue Suster, Eric & Susan Sutherland, Doug & Patti Sutton, Ted & May Swan, and Keith & Jill Swenson.

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

The Reverend Dr. Jo Forrest's Choral Benediction from the Music Ministry, Lisa Bond, Director of Music:
"The Lord Bless You and Keep You", Peter Lutkin
"Blessing", Katie Moran Bart

YOUTH MINISTRY Follow [@kucyouth instagram](#)

Team Spirit—College Break Course: Has 2020 got you down? Or stressed? Or confused? Join Team Spirit!—and transform your life! First session is Mon., Dec. 7 at 1 p.m.

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

College Break Winter Walks: Saturdays, December 12 and 19 at 1 p.m. with Katie Lancaster. 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*

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.

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.

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

**for more information on Children and Family Ministry Programs please contact [Greta Connor](#).*

RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Quick Fact: Young black males were 21 times more likely to be killed by police than their white counterparts between 2010 and 2012. [RJC website](#)

[Virtual Social Justice Committee Program:](#) On Monday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. Alicia Garza will discuss her new book, *The Purpose of Power: How We Come Together When We Fall Apart*. Those interested are required to register on the [FAN website](#).

OUTREACH

Become an Outreach Agency Liaison: Over 70 members of the congregation serve as liaisons to the notfor-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 an individual to serve as liaison to [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:](#) You may purchase and pick up your calendars and stands in the front lobby of the church from Monday–Friday between 8a.m.–2:30 p.m. There will also be curbside purchase and pick-up on Sundays December 13, 20, and 27 from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. in front of the church on Kenilworth Avenue. Checks made out to Kenilworth Union Church only for curbside pick-up; \$10/calendar and \$10/stand.

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](#)

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 December is Sallie Smith.

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

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATES

- Sun., Dec. 6
- 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
 - 1 p.m. Journey to Bethlehem
- Mon., Dec. 7
- 6 a.m. The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
 - 1 p.m. Team Spirit—Outside Warwick Manse
 - 4 p.m. Katie Lancaster Virtual Office Hours—Online
- Tues., Dec. 8
- 6 a.m. The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
 - 12:15 p.m. Mid-Day Prayer—Livestream
 - 4 p.m. Tuesday Storytime—Online
 - 7 p.m. Depression Support Group—Online
- Wed., Dec. 9
- 6 a.m. The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
 - 8:30 a.m. Lawrence Hall Wish List Gift Drop Off—AJN drop off line on Warwick
 - 10 a.m. Men's Coffee—Online
 - 10 a.m. College Break Work Day—Off Site
 - 6 p.m. Junior High Youth Group—Online
 - 7 p.m. Wednesday Chat with Bill Evertsberg—Online
- Thur., Dec. 10
- 6 a.m. The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
 - 9:30 a.m. Women's Reading Group—Online
 - 4 p.m. Thursday Storytime—Online
 - 7 p.m. Fall Exploring Grief Group—Online
- Fri., Dec. 11
- 6 a.m. The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
- Sat., Dec. 12
- 6 a.m. The Weary World Rejoices Daily Devotional—Online
 - 9 a.m. Christopher House Family-to-Family Gift Drop Off—Truck in front of Church
 - 9:30 a.m. Lawrence Hall Wish List Gift Drop Off—In front of Warwick Manse
 - 1 p.m. College Reunion Winter Walk—Meet in front of Church