

**Mantua Center Christian Church**  
*Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms*  
**Rev. Chad Delaney, Senior Minister**

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[www.mantuacentercc.org](http://www.mantuacentercc.org)

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**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Sunday, December 12, 2021**  
**Joy: A Home for All**

- We are asking everyone to **please wear a mask during the inside worship service** for the time being. **Thank you for protecting yourself and those around you!**
- This worship service is being live streamed. If you have any concern about you or your child being live on YouTube, please stay behind the 5<sup>th</sup> row of pews.
- The nursery has been cleaned and sanitized if needed for your children.
- There are baskets at the entrance/exit of the sanctuary space to place your offering. (You may also Give Online at [mantuacentercc.org](http://mantuacentercc.org)). There are also coloring sheets at the entrance for the children with a picture corresponding to the sermon.

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**“To Wonder and Worship”**  
*(By James Southbridge)*

**Jan Green**

**WELCOME**

**Rev. Chad Delaney**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Romans 15:5-7**

**\*RESPONSE**

**“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord”**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Katie Baird**

ONE: A voice calls out in the wilderness.

**ALL: It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace.**

ONE: We could choose to ignore it.

**ALL: We could drown out that song.**

**We could choose not to listen.**

ONE: Instead, we come into this space.

**ALL: We let the world grow quiet. We listen.**

ONE: A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it?

**ALL: We hear it. In listening, we worship.**

**With joy, let us draw near to God.**

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

**Fred & Cheryl Delaney**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Stay Silent”**

**#124**

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.

**OFFERING OF PRAISE**

**Katie Baird**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

**Ally Bozeka**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**Rev. Chad Delaney**

**COMMUNION**

Meditation

**Drema Herron**

**Communion Hymn**

**“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”**

**#419 v. 2**

2 All who hunger gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand’ring.  
Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

Prayer & Lord’s Prayer  
Words of Institution  
Distribution

**Drema Herron**  
**Rev. Chad Delaney**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Rev. Chad Delaney**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Luke 3:7-18**

**SERMON**

**Joy: A Home for All**

**Rev. Chad Delaney**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”**

**#150**

**1** Hark! the herald-angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark, the herald-angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

**BENEDICTION**

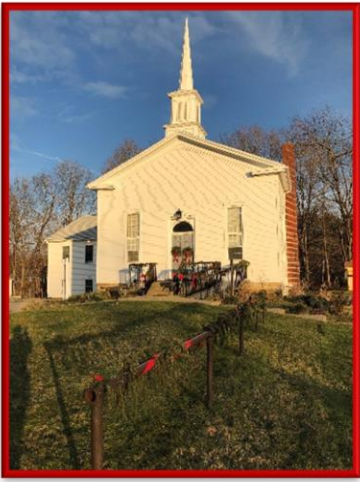
**Rev. Chad Delaney**

**DEPARTING MUSIC**

**“Voluntary on Two Carols”**  
*(By David Kidwell)*

**Jan Green**





## **Future events at MCCC and our Community!**

**Through this season we have two ways offered for worship at MCCC:**

- 1) Worship inside church (in the sanctuary or in the Fellowship Hall.)**
- 2) Worship via YouTube Live** (\*The link is sent out via email on Friday or Saturday. Simply click on the link and it will take you directly to the live stream.

Choose which ever option is **most comfortable for you**, while knowing that God's message will be offered just the same!

**The Worship Team** is asking for your input on the following question: **"If you were the Inn Keeper providing lodging for Mary and Joseph, what would you have placed in the stable to make the space feel like**

**Home?** Text/Call Pam Auble with your answer at (216) 308-7930.

**Our Advent Devotionals "Close to Home" and our Advent Calendars are here!** We still have several extra copies which are located at the entrance of the church for pick-up.

**Chi-Rho and CYF are hosting a tubing event & White Elephant Gift Exchange at Punderson State Park, Dec. 19th at 2pm!** We will also Collect financial gifts to support the work of the Cleveland Christian Home. (\$.01 - \$100+). All gifts are worthy and will be celebrated! **Remember to DRESS WARM for this event!**

**The children's annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, Dec. 19th** during our regular church service. It will be a simplified play with several narrators and all other roles will be non-speaking. If your child is interested, please reach out to Ally Bozeka ([ally.hurd@gmail.com](mailto:ally.hurd@gmail.com)) or text 330-802-0099.

**Our "Blue Christmas" service will be Monday, Dec. 20th at 7pm.** The service is on the eve of the longest day of the year, and together we will make space for God to minister to any grief or sadness we may be experiencing this Christmas Season. It will also be live streamed on YouTube. Keep an eye out for the link!

**"4th for the 4C's" is Sunday, December 26th.** The food items needed for December are: **Jello, Kleenex, and Dish Soap.** Items may be placed in the outside bin at any time throughout December. Thanks to all who help in any way to support our community in need!

**MCCC Poinsettia Ordering Update!** Orders have been turned in to Burton Floral and will be delivered in time for our worship service on December 19th. Feel free to take your flowers home following the **Christmas Eve service.** (If you would like to leave the poinsettia's to decorate the sanctuary, you are also welcome to do so!) If you have any questions, please contact Sandi Kossick at: [secretary@mantuacentercc.org](mailto:secretary@mantuacentercc.org) or call/text (330) 607-7003.

**MCCC Staff Christmas gift deadline is December 12th!**

**If you would like to contribute to Christmas gifts for the MCCC staff, please donate by December 12th!** You have one of 3 options: 1) You can drop a check in the offering plate (with "Staff Christmas Gift" on the memo line, OR 2) Mail your check to: MCCC, P.O. Box 550, Mantua, Ohio 44255, OR 3) Donate online at our website [www.mantuacentercc.org](http://www.mantuacentercc.org), (click on "Giving" then select the "Staff Christmas Gift" option.) Any questions? Please contact Cathy Hakala-Ausperk, MCCC Board Chair at [chakalaausperk@gmail.com](mailto:chakalaausperk@gmail.com).