

## December 11, 2022 Advent Joy

From Generation to Generation: We Can Choose a Better Way

## **Mantua Center Christian Church**

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms
Rev. Chad Delaney, Senior Minister

Rev. Chad Delaney, Senior Minister Pastor's Contact: 330-569-4926

pastormccc@gmail.com
www.mantuacentercc.org

WiFi pw: mccc1827

## If you choose to attend in person, please be aware of the following:

- Please use your discretion on **masking**, **handshakes**, **and hugs as each person feels comfortable**. Thank you for your patience, prayers, and feedback.
- 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 and is available if needed for your children. There are also coloring sheets at the entrance of the church.
- After the Children's Moment, all kids through 4<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to attend Sunday School class which will run until the end of worship.
- We have resumed the passing of communion. If you prefer, we have sealed "personal" communion cups available at the entrance. Offering baskets will be passed around the sanctuary at the start of the "Invitation to Generosity" during worship. (You may also *Give Online* at: mantuacentercc.org).

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP **December 11, 2022 Advent Jov**

**PRELUDE** "Away in a Manger"

Sarah Park

[by J. E. Spilman]

**Rev. Chad Delaney** WELCOME

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

**Katie Baird** 

Calvin Brant, Everett Baynes, Christina Brant, Paul Meeker

\*OPENING HYMN

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

#119, v. 3

**3** O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge of show, and cause us in her ways to go.

## Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pam Auble

#### **INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

Invitation

**Katie Baird** 

Offertory

**Music: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"** [by R. S. Willis]

The Doxology

#46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offering Prayer

**Katie Baird** 

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

**Rev. Chad Delaney** 

"Joy to the World"

#143, v. 1-3

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**3** He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love.

#### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

## Carli Delaney & Ryan Delaney

"10,000 Reasons / What A Beautiful Name"

[Words and Music by Myrin Jonas Carl Gustaf, Redman Matt, Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligerwood]

#### PRAYERS OF PREPARATION

**Rev. Chad Delaney** 

ONE: God of mercy, a million times a day we have the opportunity to be gracious,

ALL: to assume the best in others, to give the benefit of the doubt.

ONE: A million times a day we could choose the better way, and so often we don't.

ALL: Fear and greed kick in. Assumptions and insecurities take the wheel. Comparison and critique lead the charge.

ONE: Forgive us for forgetting that we are descendants of Joseph.

ALL: Forgive us for forgetting that grace and mercy are in our blood.

ONE: Forgive us for forgetting that all belong to you.

ALL: Give us the courage to zoom out, to love even bigger than before, and the wisdom to choose a better way. Amen.

#### \*COMMUNION

Meditation **Communion Hymn** 

"All Earth is Waiting"

Sue Wright 139, v.1-2

1 All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and open furrows the sowing of our God. All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty; it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

2 Thus says the prophet to those of Israel:
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,'
one whose name is 'God with us' our Savior shall be;
with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

Prayer & Lord's Prayer Words of Institution **Special Music:** 

Sue Wright Rev. Chad Delaney Carli & Ryan Delaney

"Draw Me Close/Breath" [Arr. by Caleb + Kelsey]

**SCRIPTURE** 

Matthew 1:18-25

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

"How Great our Joy!"

#170, v. 1-2, & 4

1 While by the sheep we watched at night, lo, there appeared an angel bright:

### Refrain:

How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Glory to God who reigns on high! Glory to God who reigns on high!

- 2 Born is the Child, in manger small, whom God has sent to save us all. [Refrain]
- 4 Jesus, the gift from heav'n above fills all our hearts with joy and love. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

**Rev. Chad Delaney** 

**POSTLUDE** 

"There's Sunshine in My Soul Today" [by J. R. Sweney]

Sarah Park

# Thank you for joining us at Mantua Center Christian Church.

- All are welcome to join in any of our Sunday classes following worship:
  - (1) "Seeking Enlightenment" led by Rev. Nancy Humes,
  - (2) "Life 101" led by Carol Buzbee
  - (3) Sunday School for grades 5<sup>th</sup>-12 led by Rev. Chad Delaney.
- Please note that every Sunday during the month of December, we will be collecting staple food items for Kids Weekend Meals. (ie. Mac & Cheese, Canned Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Alfredo Sauce, Peanut Butter, Green Beans or Corn, Puddings in cups non refrigerated, Sugar Free Dole fruit cups in 100% juice non refrigerated, and any individually wrapped treats or cookies) We will resume the collection for the 4C's on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.