

*Please stand in body and/or spirit

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Words to ponder: "God's salvation is like a refiner's fire, cleansing our impurities and making us clean and blameless before the Lord."

Welcome, Acknowledgment of first-time visitors and Announcements

Introit Chancel Choir

Call to Worship (*Responsively*)

Leader: The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness" (Malachi 3:2b-3).

People: In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

Leader: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

Advent Sung Response: "Blessed Quietness" vs 2 See Insert

*Opening Prayer(*Unison*)

Compassionate God, greet us with your grace this day, for we need you. We cannot save ourselves. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield peace, peace as you can give. Today we would be quiet enough to hear your voice. Today we would be still enough to feel your touch. Help us to find that place where we can receive as well as give, wait as well as act, and listen as well as speak. Our whole world needs your peace. Let us come before you and learn your ways, laying down our weapons and feeding the hungry. Come to us now, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*Hymn "Blessed Assurance" UMH #369

1st Scripture Readings: Philippians 1:3-11; Malachi 3:1-4

Anthem Chancel Choir

Children's Time
(*Children go to Pageant Rehearsal*)

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 3:1-6

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Living with Passion" Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Invitation to the Offering

*Doxology #95

*Prayer of Dedication (*Responsively*)

Loving God, in this Advent season, we bring our offerings with hearts open to your call. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, may our gifts help prepare the way for your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring hope, justice, and transformation. Help us to look beyond the surface, to see your work in surprising places and people. Bless our giving, that it may shine with the presence of Emmanuel. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

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.

*Hymn "Come, O Redeemer, Come" See Insert

The United Methodist Church
12 Commerce St, Clinton,
Connecticut

*Benediction

*Response "Bless Us Now"

Bless us now as we depart, Watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again. Amen

Postlude

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SUNDAY, DEC 8

9:00 Sunday School

10:00 Worship

11:00 Fellowship

TUESDAY, DEC 10

7:00 Advent Study Online

WEDNESDAY, DEC 11

10:00 TOPS

5:00 Soup Kitchen

THURSDAY, DEC 12

10:00 Advent Study

6:30 Scouts

FRIDAY, DEC 13

5:30 AA meeting

Ushers: Lyle Cubberly, Lynn Sellers, David Moore, Bob Morrison

Camera Operator: Jill Hale, Video Coordinator: Erica Babjak

Worship Leader: Donna Carpenter-Bronson

Sermon: Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Counters: Gay McPhee and Bob Hawes

Greeters: Wilda Lohutko

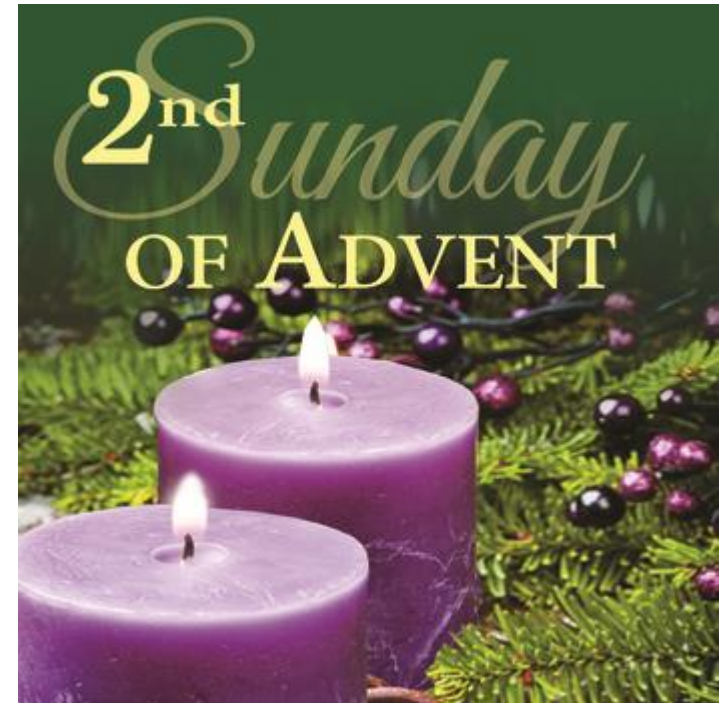
Fellowship Hosts: Clever Crafters

Acolytes: Lucy and Theo

Office Staff Donna Carpenter-Bronson, 860-669-8396, 9-1 weekdays

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Financial Secretary: Jackie Blomberg/ Treasurer: Carol Bell



Morning Worship
December 8, 2024 10:00 am
2nd Sunday in Advent