



*Ignite*  
HOPE PEACE JOY LOVE

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

December 6, 2020

Advent 2 Ignite Peace

Online Worship at 10:00 am

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*Diverse in Thought | United in Faith | Called to Serve*

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PRELUDE

Once In Royal David's City arr. Catherine McMichael  
Ginny Jones - Violin    Drew Bailey - Oboe

WELCOME

Helen Hempfling and Bruce Ervin

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

The Knepper Family

CHORAL INTROIT

O Come Desire of Nations

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, Desire of Nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind.

Make envy strife, and quarrels cease, fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

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

Words: Latin Hymn (12th Century); tr. John Mason Neal, 1851

Music: French melody (15th Century)

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN

Comfort, Comfort, You My People

GENEVA 42

Comfort, comfort you my people,  
tell of peace, thus says our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness  
bowed beneath oppression's load.  
Speak you to Jerusalem  
of the peace that waits for them;  
tell them that their sins I cover,  
and their warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is calling  
in the desert far and near,  
bidding us to make repentance  
since the reign of God is here.  
O that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise in meeting  
and the hills bow down to greeting.

Make you straight what long was crooked,  
make the rougher places plain;  
let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits God's holy reign.  
For the glory of our God  
now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that God's word is never broken.

Words: Johannes G. Olearius, 1671; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.

Music: Louis Bourgeois, 155; harm Claude Goudimel, 1564

PASTORAL PRAYER

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

*During this time, please use your cell phone to text "The peace of Christ be with you" to someone who needs to receive these words of encouragement.*

Choral Response

One Candle is Lit

CRADLE SONG

As God's Waiting People we come to prepare  
for a gift that will call us to love and to care.

We offer to each other Christ's Peace and Shalom,  
and say to the stranger "Christ welcomes you home."

Words: Helen Hempfling      Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895

## SCRIPTURE

from Isaiah 40:1-11

## HOMILY

Ignite Peace

Bruce Ervin

## INVITATION TO GIVING

*You are invited to offer your gift by mail, or in person (see back page).*

*The method of giving does not matter. It's the mission that makes a difference!*

Response of Praise

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication for the Offering

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration for the Bread and Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Cup (*unison*)

*Please hold the communion elements in your hands during the communion music.*

*We will partake of them in unison following the music.*

Communion Anthem

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Joseph Andreola (b. 1993)

I heard the bells on Christmas Day

And in despair I bowed my head;

Their old, familiar carols play,

"There is no peace on earth," I said;

and wild and sweet

"For hate is strong,

The words repeat

And mocks the song

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

And thought how, as the day had come,

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:

The belfries of all Christendom

"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;

Had rolled along

The Wrong shall fail,

The unbroken song

The Right prevail,

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

With peace on earth, good-will to men."

*(Christmas Anthem continued on next page)*

*(Christmas Anthem continued from previous page)*

Till, ringing, singing on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,  
Of peace on earth, good will to men

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1863; verse 5 Harlan D. Sorrell

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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 debts/sins as we forgive our  
debtors/those who have sinned 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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

### CLOSING HYMN

### It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

### CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all  
from heaven's all-gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing;  
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

And you beneath life's crushing load  
whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way,  
with painful steps and slow,  
look now, for glad and golden hours  
come swiftly on the wing;  
O rest beside the weary road,  
and hear the angels sing!

For lo, the days are hastening on,  
by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years,  
shall come the time foretold;  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing.

### BLESSING

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

Come Now, Savior of the Nations - Bach

Mary Ruth Yates - Organ

*This service was pre-recorded in various segments to allow the worship leaders  
to strictly follow guidelines regarding social distancing.*

## **Join us for Virtual Coffee Hour Today Following Worship at 11:30 am!**

Simply copy and paste the following link into your web browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82020684237?pwd=OTBSd2xKV0xUZzVLVWV0VXhZYWZOdz09>



### **It's Time for Our Adopt a Family Project**

We are asking for monetary donations this year. Please make the check payable to First Christian Church with a memo for Adopt a Family, or if you prefer cash, please include a note specifying Adopt a Family. Donations can be mailed to the church or bring them in person on Wednesdays from 11:00-1:00.

Thank you for your support of this ministry.

### **Worship During the Advent and Christmas Seasons**

We do not yet know the extent to which we will be able to worship live and in person during Advent and Christmas. Pastors Helen and Bruce are working hard with our music and tech team to produce wonderful, online services from our festively decorated sanctuaries. We will try to have a few live, in person services from the Bedford Sanctuary as well if local Covid infection rates permit us to do so safely. But, the Sanctuary will be decorated! Feel free to drop by and sit there for a bit. We will try to have some seasonal music available at least part of the time. You can contact the Church Office for the entry code, let yourself in through the Office entrance, and make your way to the Sanctuary. Stay tuned for hours when the lights will be on and the music playing.



### **Register Your Attendance Online**

FCC Bloomington has a new feature on our website: a place to record your attendance. Just head to our homepage at [www.fcbloomington.org](http://www.fcbloomington.org) where you will find the "Online Sunday Worship Attendance Form". Whether or not you are a member of the Bloomington or Bedford congregations, we ask that you take time to fill this out. We have discovered that if you are using an iPad, you will need to turn it horizontally to see the entire form. If you have trouble with the online form, please send an email to the church office to make us aware of your attendance and of the problem you are having with the form. Thank you. We also have a form where you can submit your prayer requests. Our prayer ministry teams covenant to pray with and for you daily.

## **\*We are Disciples of Christ.**

A movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

**\*Disciples of Christ**

Statement of Identity

### **Church Staff:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Bruce Ervin

#### **E-Mail:**

pastor@firstccbedford.org

#### **Music Ministry:**

**Choir Director:** Jono Palmer

#### **E-Mail:**

music@firstccbedford.org

**Organist:** Mary Ruth Yates

#### **Administrative Assistant:**

Mitzi Flynn

#### **E-Mail:**

firstccbedford@gmail.com

**Custodian:** Steve Harrell

### **Church Office Hours**

Wednesday: 11:00 am—1:00 pm

### **Social Media:**

**Web Page:** [www.firstccbedford.org](http://www.firstccbedford.org)

**Facebook:** First Christian Church  
Bedford - DOC

**Camp Facebook:** Bedford Camp &  
Conference Center

## **Ways to Give to FCC**

### **Mail Checks to FCC at:**

1101 15th St

Bedford, IN 47421

### **In Person**

Wednesday 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

and slide it under the Treasurer's door

## **An Invitation to Community**

As God has welcomed us, we welcome you.

With all our differences--

in age, ability and physical condition,

in race, cultural background and economic status,

in sexual orientation, gender identity & family

structure--

God has received each one

with loving kindness, patience and joy.

All that we are together

and all that we hope to be

is made more perfect

as the richness of varied lives

meets the mystery of God's unifying Spirit

and we become the Body of Christ.