



Bazetta Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
Rev. Timothy McCollum, Pastor

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Radio Station 88.7 for Parking Lot

**Celebrating the Lord's Day**  
at  
Bazetta Christian Church  
December 3, 2023  
First Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
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*The Church Gathers Before God*

**GREETINGS IN CHRIST**

**PRELUDE**

**\*ADVENT READING**

Pirtz Family

Reader: In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out: O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. (Isaiah 64:1-3) In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls to us, "Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come" (Mark 13:35).

Congregation: **We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kin-dom all around us.**

Reader: We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God's activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.

Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

**SING**

*"One Candle is Lit"*

#128, verse 1

Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,  
our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light.  
Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage.  
One candle is lit for the hope of the age.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"*

#588

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after thy will,  
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Search me and try me, Savior today!  
Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,  
as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!  
Power, all power, surely is thine!  
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.  
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me!

**\*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

Michelle Aliesch, Liturgist

L: Let us join together in prayer.

**Wondrous God, the One who brings hope when it seems there is no hope, remind us of our calling. May your Spirit breathe fresh faith upon us, that we might be a people, a church, that can declare the love of God. For we proclaim together a God who was, and is, and is to come. And this is our story of faith. May it become real in us again. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, amen.**

**\*THE PEACE**

*The people exchange with one another, by words and careful gesture, signs of peace and reconciliation.*

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 64:1-9;  
New Revised Standard Version

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name  
or attempts to take hold of you,  
for you have hidden your face from us  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

## **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

#119, verse 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

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

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37; New Living Translation

“At that time, after the anguish of those days,  
the sun will be darkened,  
the moon will give no light,  
the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then everyone will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds with great power and glory. And he will send out his angels to gather his chosen ones from all over the world—from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.

“Now learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branches bud and its leaves begin to sprout, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see all these things taking place, you can know that his return is very near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass from the scene before all these things take place. Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear.

“However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows. And since you don’t know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert!

“The coming of the Son of Man can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. When he left home, he gave each of his slaves instructions about the work they were to do, and he told the gatekeeper to watch for his return. You, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know when the master of the household will return—in the evening, at midnight, before dawn, or at daybreak. Don’t let him find you sleeping when he arrives without warning. I say to you what I say to everyone: Watch for him!”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

“hope”

## SONG OF PRESENTATION

*“People, Look East”*

#142

People, look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.  
People look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

### **\*DISCIPLES OF CHRIST IDENTITY STATEMENT**

**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.**

### **COMMUNION PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Words of Institution

Communion Music

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

**Christ Has Died**

**Christ Is Risen**

**Christ Will Come Again**

### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*"O Day of God, Draw Nigh"*

#700

O day of God, draw nigh in beauty and in power;  
come with your timeless judgment now to match our present hour.

Bring to our troubled minds, uncertain and afraid,  
the quiet of a steadfast faith, calm of a call obeyed.

Bring justice to our land, that all may dwell secure,  
and finely build for days to come foundations that endure.

Bring to our world of strife your sovereign word of peace,  
that war may haunt the earth no more, and desolation cease.

O day of God, draw nigh as at creation's birth;  
let there be light again, and set your judgments on the earth.

### **\*BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

Anthony Ruggiero, Musician

\*All who are able may stand.

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## **THIS WEEK AT BAZETTA CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. Breakfast @ Eat 'n Park  
6:30 p.m. Elders' meeting  
7:00 p.m. Scouts

Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

2nd Sunday 9:00 a.m. Small Group  
of Advent: 10:00 a.m. Worship

### **In case of emergencies:**

**Fire Alarm:** Calmly and quickly evacuate the building. Reassemble at the pavilion next to the garage. No longer at flagpole. Do not block the fire lanes. All doors in the sanctuary lead to outside exits.

**Tornado Warning:** Calmly and quickly exit through the rear doors and assemble in the hallway of the Educational Wing/Child Care area. Stay away from all doors and windows.

**Gunshots or Threats:** Duck down between the pews to shield yourself and allow the Security Team to handle the situation.

### **Open Communion and Offering Information**

We celebrate the Communion of the Lord's Supper every week. It is open to ALL Christians. Everyone who is able is invited to come to the front by rows. A piece of bread and cup of grape juice will be given to you to partake. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Return to your seat by the side aisles.

Kneelers are available on each side for those who wish to stop and pray. If you are not able to come forward for any reason, a plate and cup will be offered to you. If you prefer not to partake, just indicate that when offered the elements.

The offering that we share in worship is part of our shared commitment to doing ministry together. In our offering, we reflect that we are called to share in the blessings we have that others may be blessed. Offering bowls are provided in the center and right-hand aisles.

## **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome! As we come together to celebrate this first Sunday of Advent, let us lift up our heads to see the Son of Man coming on a cloud with power and great glory, our Savior and Redeemer!

If you have questions concerning membership with this congregation, speak with Pastor Tim or any of the BCC Elders (Dan Davis, Paula Davis, Jim Dolgae, Heather Faler, Myra May, Christy McCollum, Valarie Rizzo, Michelle Stineman, Megen Stocker, Larry Swiger).

*You're cordially invited to the*

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

for Ben Petrick

Today, December 3, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Outdoor reception to follow (weather permitting); inside if inclement weather

(Ben is the scout that made our fire pit.)

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Next Sunday, December 10, during worship  
2024 Budget**

Disciples of Christ District 4 **Blue Christmas Worship Service**, Monday, December 11, 7:00 p.m., Champion Christian Church; calming service designed for anyone who wants to step away from holiday hustle and bustle and experience an evening of peace

**BCC's Live Nativity**, Saturday, December 16, 4-7 p.m.; please come and invite everyone you know to come and see the characters and hear the story of the first Christmas so many years ago! If you'd like to help in any way, contact Jeannette Callahan at 330-980-2374.

**Women's Spiritual Retreat**, "Treasured", Holiday Inn Express by the mall, Friday, January 26, thru Saturday, January 27, 2024. Please sign up on the easel by the office door TODAY to help with planning purposes. The registration deadline is Tuesday, December 26, 2023. See your December *Bazetta Beacon*, or the easel for more details.



## **OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES**

**Loose Change Mission Jar:** We are collecting loose change in the Gathering Space for missions. From October through December, the funds will go to Youngstown Blue Coats. Thank you!



### **Angel Tree Ministry**

We all at Bazetta Christian Church have faithfully heard God's call to care for the children in need within our community.

Please find below an updated to do list compiled thru the questions and suggestions extended by you. They are much appreciated.

- ♥ Select your Angel.
- ♥ Sign your name and phone number next to the Angel # on the clipboard located next to the tree.
- ♥ The gifts listed are all suggestions.

Our goal is to help the families provide each child with an outfit and a toy. A good price range is \$50-\$75 per child. We encourage budding up with another to share in the cost while enjoying giving to the Angels.

- ♥ Want to help, but don't want to shop? No Problem. We have volunteers who love to shop. You may purchase gift cards thru the church (see or call Patti Peterson, 330-647-4591, or mark your offering envelope "Angel Tree Ministry").
- ♥ You may wrap your gifts, but it's not necessary.
- ♥ Return all gifts to the church on or before Sunday morning, December 10, 2023.

Your generosity of giving from what you have is so appreciated by the families who receive.

Thank you for sharing of God's Love and being the vessel from whom the Holy Spirit works in and thru within the Angel Tree Ministry.

Any questions or concerns, please see or call Patti Peterson, 330-647-4591, or Sue Cross, 330-717-6224.