


ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.
Church Office– (815) 465-6191
Parsonage phone – (815) 466-4048 Pastor's Cell – (567) 249-5130
Website: www.stpetersgp.org
Email: stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net
Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park



St. Peter's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

God is still speaking

815-465-6191

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 19th, 2021

10:30 AM

* - In the way you are able, whether in body or in spirit, please rise.

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

“Still, Still, Still” (*Mansfield*)

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: We are waiting on You, God. We are still waiting.

People: **The darkness is deeper, but look! The star is beginning to shine. The everlasting light is creeping closer. Hope is in the air. Peace is promised. Joy is on the tips of our tongues.**

Leader: Love is coming. Love divine, all Loves excelling.

People: **We are waiting on Love. And Love is waiting on us.**

*Unison Prayer of Invocation & Confession

Living God, come to us this hour as we join together as brothers and sisters who come to worship You, the One True God. We confess our sins to You in faith and believe that You are Faithful and Just. Forgive us of all our wrongdoings. May Your Spirit change our lives so that we may experience the fullness of Your gift of Love, Jesus Christ, this Christmas. Amen.

*Opening Song

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#358

Children’s Message

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent Thoughts

Reading of Scripture & Prayer

Lighting of the Candle of Love

Song "The Candle of Peace"

(To the tune of "O Worship the King")

*The candle of love tells what we are worth:
God loves us so much, God came to the earth!
An angel brought news of a child who would be
The One who would save us and set us all free.*

Pastoral Prayer

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer in Unison

Choir Anthem

"Celtic Christmas Lullaby" *arr. Raney*

Worshiping God with our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory What Child Is This? (*18th Century English*)

*Doxology #34

Scripture Reading

Zephaniah 3:9-20

***Hymn**

"Love Came Down at Christmas" #210

Message

"The Best Gift Ever" Pastor Kyle

***Closing Hymn**

"God's Love Made Visible" #226

***Spoken Benediction**

***Postlude**

"Christmas Fanfare: From Heaven Above" (*Grodin*)

We at St. Peter's are praying for:

Gary Ekhoﬀ, Gene Sievers, Carter Fortin, Austin Delaney, Linda Havely, Taylor Cleary, Nancy Lewke, Dennis Balgemann, Joy Currier, Cheyenne Jones, Donna Dorrough, Ken Erickson, Richie Rodriguez, and Marge Myers

Serving You Today

Minister: Kyle Timmons

Organist: Shari Ohm

Greeters:

Lay Reader: Bev Junker

2022 Offering Envelopes are available to be picked up. If you do not see yours or if you'd like to receive them for the first time (or the first time in a while), please contact the church office and we will be sure to provide a box for you.

Toys for Tots We are collecting toys (no stuffed animals) from now until December 20th. Please place new, unwrapped gifts in the box in the lobby.

Christmas Eve worship services will be at 7 pm and 11 pm this year. The choir will provide special music at the 7 pm service and communion and candlelight will be provided at both services.