

Evangelical United Church of Christ
 33 South Ellis Street, Cape Girardeau, Missouri
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 December 28, 2008
 (*Those who are able are invited to stand)

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT #280 vs 1 & 2
“One Small Child”

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: People of God, sing and rejoice! God has come to us in Jesus the Christ, to reconcile and make new.

PEOPLE: *God has entered our existence of joy and sorrow, taking on human likeness in Jesus, born of Mary.*

LEADER: Therefore, we rejoice, praising God and singing:

ALL: *Glory be to God in the highest, on earth peace to those who will the good. Christ is born. Alleluia!*

*HYMN OF ADORATION #90
“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*INVOCATION

LEADER: Let us pray.

ALL: *Our faces are sometimes lined with worry, O God; our days are full of stress and struggle. Yet we come today grateful that in the midst of this crowded and troubled world, your child was born, lived, and died, full of grace and truth. Surprise us with your presence; renew our sense of wonder; and give us peace and courage to live as your people in the world. May you be glorified in us, as in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.*

*SENTENCES

LEADER: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims **God’s handiwork.**

*RESPONSIVE READING —PSALM 148
 Hallelujah!
 Praise the Lord from the heavens;

Prayer List

December 28, 2008

In case of hospitalization or surgery please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital be sure to tell them that you are affiliated with this congregation. * indicates a new request. *Please note: after six months names will be removed from the prayer list, unless an update is made to the church office.*

Joyce Abernathy; 10-08	Anita MacDonald; 09-08	Ratliff Nursing Home
Bob Amelunke; 12-08	Frank, Jr & Ame	Polly Wilmsmeyer
Leo Amelunke; 11-08	Maevers; 09-08	Fountainbleau Lodge
Marilyn Amelunke; 11-08	Dana McClard; 12-08	Alta Proffer
Loyd Bollinger	Kenny Mehrle	Lutheran Home
Ian Bolton; 10-08	Bill McMillan; 06-08	Dorothy Cole
Eldon Chasteen; 12-08	M.D. McMillan; 08-08	Viola Geiser
Phyllis Chasteen; 12-08	Ester Nussbaum	Frank Maevers, Sr.
“Red” Clifton; 08-08	Hannah Parks; 06-08	Leonard Moore
Bettye Crockett; 06-08	Travis Rister—Iraq; 09-08	Andora Peetz
Eldon Davis; 11-08	Bob & Nora Lee	Auburn Creek
Lexi Edwards; 11-08	Seabaugh; 09-08	Irene Orlando
Aleene Ellinger; 10-08	*Meta Siemers; 12-08	House Bound
Dean & Carolena	Brett/Cherie Stembel; 06-08	S.G. Coy
Galloway; 11-08	Karen Stephens; 06-08	Mary Huckstep
Joan Hope	Marshall Whitworth; 08-08	Kenny Mehrle
Ernie Jordan; 11-08		Helen Owens
Ida Mae Jordan; 11-08	Please Remember	
Jane Juergens; 09-08	Our Friends at Home	

Financial Report	General Fund	Memorial General Fund	Memorial Fund	Misc.
12-07-08	\$2,370.00	---	---	\$95.00
12-14-08	\$1,682.75	---	---	\$54.00
12-21-08	\$393.00	---	---	\$25.00
12-28-08				
Worship	Attendance	Special Collections	Total	Offering
12-07-08	68	---	12-07-08	\$2,465.00
12-14-08	69	\$95.00	12-14-08	\$1,831.75
12-21-08	57	\$35.00	12-21-08	\$453.00
12-28-08			12-28-08	

Welcome first time guests! **We're glad that you are here!** We invite everyone to complete a Communication card (located on the Information Table) and place it in the offering plate. You are important to us and we want to know that you are here.

Evangelical United Church of Christ	(573) 335-5611
Email Address	eucc-cape@sbcglobal.net
Web Site	www.evangelicalucc-cape.org
Pastor	Pastor Daniel Johnson
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Ernest Jordan
Organist	Beverly Reece
Sound System	Terry & Mindy Best
Diaconate	Tammy Popp
Greeters	Ernie & Ida Mae Jordan
Reader	Jeff Strickert
Ushers: Randy Coy, Michael Bodine, Bob Roloff, and Lori Siebert	

“Taking Down the Greens”

Please stay after church next Sunday, January 4, 2009, to help with taking down the greenery and Christmas decorations. The more people helping with this task, the quicker it will go, and the more fun will be had by all. Lunch will be served. Thanks to everyone.

Flowers

The flowers on the Altar Christmas Eve and today are in memory of **Kenny & Betty Mehrle's parents and Calvin & Verla Sailer's wedding anniversary.**

The flowers on the piano are in memory of **Clarence & Cora Oberbeck's anniversary** from Barbara Oberbeck.

On the Calendar

- Dec 28 Sunday Worship, 10:35 AM
- Dec 31 New Years Eve
- Jan 1 New Years Day, Office Closed
- Jan 4 Fellowship Time, 9:00 AM
- Adult Bible Study, 9:30 AM
- Sunday School, 9:30 AM
- Sunday Worship, 10:35 AM
- Epiphany Celebration and “Taking Down the Greens”*
- Jan 5 **McAlister's Deli, 4-8 PM**
Fundraiser for Jamaican MM
- Jan 6 Epiphany
- Jan 7 Open Gym, 7:30 PM
- Jan 10 MO-Mentoring, 10 AM-1 PM
- Jan 11 Union of Concerned Christians
Meet & Eat, 6:00 PM
- Jan 16 February Chronicler Articles &
Annual Reports DUE

praise him in the heights.
 Praise him, all you angels of his;
praise him, all his host.
 Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.
 Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.
 Let them praise the Name of the Lord;
for he commanded, and they were created.
 He made them stand fast for ever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
 Fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
 Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
 Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and winged birds;
 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
 Young men and maidens,
old and young together.
 Let them praise the Name of the Lord,
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.
 He has raised up strength for his people
 and praise for all his loyal servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!

*GLORIA (Lasst Uns Erfreuen)
ALL SING: From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung.
Let God the spirit free each tongue! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Eternal is your glory, God.
Eternal Word we give you laud;



*Alleluia! Alleluia! Eternal Spirit we adore,
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 61:10—62:3 Page 1158
Galatians 4:4-7 Page 1813
*Luke 2:22-40 Page 1591

GENERAL PRAYER

LEADER: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, for you have visited and redeemed your people, coming to us in Jesus, delivering us from all enemies, remembering your holy covenant, the oath you swore to our ancestors in the faith. You have come to set us free that we may serve you without fear all the days of our lives. In Christ, you have given us knowledge of salvation and forgiveness of sin. You have come to us to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet in the way of peace. Therefore, we praise you with psalms and hymns and carols and with thankfulness in our hearts for your gift of yourself in Jesus. Through your Spirit, may we put on compassion, kindness, humility, and patience to understand and forgive one another. Bind us together in the perfect harmony of love. May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts that we may be instruments of your peace on earth. We offer all words and deeds and **prayers in Jesus' name.** *Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING

LEADER: **Paul tells us, "And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of God's Son into our hearts...and if a child then also an heir, through God" [Gal. 4:6-7].** We have the opportunity to be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world and to share what we have through supporting the missions of this congregation and our denomination.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" #815

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

ALL: O God, we are stirred this Christmastime to refocus our attention from the commercialism of Christmas to the miraculous birth of an infant who was born in a manger long ago. You have given us such a precious gift. Thank you, God. We offer you these gifts as our gratitude for all that you give to us. We pray in the name of that miraculous infant, the Baby Jesus. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #43

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

SERMON —Pastor Daniel Johnson
"A Sword Will Pierce Your Own Soul Too"

ANTHEM

"That Beautiful Name" —Choir

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: Let us pray. Thanks be to you, O God, for from the beginning you have entrusted us with your word and have called us to give heart, mind, voice, and love to serving its truth, even as Jesus Christ brought it to life among us. *Amen.*

LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us,

*ALL: 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,
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

*HYMN OF PARTING #147

"How Great Thou Art"

*BENEDICTION

LEADER: **Depart in peace, for you have seen God's salvation, a light for the nations.** May the love of God guide you, the word of Christ dwell in you richly, and the gift of the Spirit give you power, now and for ever. *Amen.*

CHORAL EXTROIT #280 vs 3 & 4

"One Small Child"

POSTLUDE

POINSETTIA

Poinsettia's in memory of Bill Brinkopf and his parents, Bill & Emma Brinkopf, from Ramona Brinkopf and Bill, Sandy, and their children.

Poinsettias all so from Maxine Hale & Verla Sailer.