

State Street Church, United Church of Christ

December 15, 2024

Welcome to State Street Church! During the greeting the Pastor will ask if any visitors would like to be introduced. There is no pressure to be introduced, if you would like to remain quiet and be present to the service, please feel free to do so. There is a card in your pew to fill out if you'd like contact from the church. Children are welcome, but not required, to come forward during the "Time for Children," - and may either return to their seats or join us for Kids' Church.

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Prelude                      Two settings of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*    R. Dinda and M. Thomas

Greetings, Introductions, and Announcements

\*Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ (God) be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

(Take a moment to share the peace of Christ with your neighbors.)

A Moment of Centering Silence

\*Opening Hymn 145                      Once in Royal David's City                                              IRBY

**\*Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 132)**

**Liturgist: Larry Reilly**

One:    Rejoice, my friends, rejoice!

**Many: We seek time to embrace the joy.**

One:    Rejoice, my friends, rejoice!

**Many: We create opportunities to embody joy.**

One:    Rejoice, my friends, rejoice!

**Many: Singing songs that announce joy.**

**Invocation** (unison)

**Holy Convenor of the Ages,**

**As the memories of happiness sweep back into our minds, we delight in the Advent blessing of joy. Such blissfulness turns our spirits from the lengthened nights to God's Divine Light which will be arriving soon. Like the saints of yesteryear, we celebrate together, rejoicing in the season, and knowing the best is yet to come. Amen.**

\*Please rise in body or spirit

The Lighting of the Advent Candles - Clifford Trott & Michael Nozdrovicki  
A Time For Children

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 12:2-6 (pew Bible pg. 711)

Christian Scripture: Luke 3:7-18 (pew Bible pg. 62)

This Morning's Sermon

Rev. Bryan S. Breault

A Time of Prayer

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

A Moment of Silence

Hymn 105 Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear JOSEPH LIEBER, JOSEPH MEIN

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**Our Father, Mother, Parent, 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 forever. Amen.**

Choral Response

Offering

*We are aware that some give online, or by other means, and some are unable to give. When the usher comes to your pew, you should feel comfortable looking to the usher smiling and nodding so the usher knows to move to the next person.*

Invitation

Offertory *And the Glory of the Lord* from **Messiah** G. F. Handel  
The State Street Church Choir

\*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above all heavenly hosts,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Closing Hymn 131 It Came upon the Midnight Clear CAROL

\*Benediction

Postlude Fantasy on a Luther Hymn (with an interlude by Praetorius) G. Young

*Sitting for the postlude is voluntary. If you so choose, please feel free to leave the sanctuary quietly.*

**Please join us in the Chapel Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshment.**  
Enter through the door to the front left of the sanctuary.

State Street Church is a progressive, diverse, and tolerant congregation. We provide a spiritual home for people from all walks of life. We work toward the vision of social justice preached in the gospels but are not exclusive in our faith. We find meaning in connecting with one another to help those in need and to nurture and deepen our spiritual awareness. We don't feel a need to agree on every matter but we try to listen and learn from one another. We are wide open to, and deeply affirming of LGBTQ+ individuals. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We encourage you to continue your spiritual journey with us! We'd love to get to know you.

### This Week at State Street Church

Sun. (12/15) 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
10 am Worship Service & Kids Church

Mon. 7-9 pm Music Swap  
Wed. 1-3 pm Clothes Closet  
Thur. 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Where you can park on Sunday Morning while attending State Street Church

- 1. Street Parking** is free on Sunday
- 2. Conroy Tully Walker Funeral Home**, unless you see a "Funeral Home Only" sign placed at the entrance.
- 3. The Portland Club**, be sure to get a pass for your windshield from an usher!

### Coming Up

Sun. Dec. 22 10 am Intergenerational Christmas Service  
**Tue. Dec. 24 7 pm Christmas Eve Service (music begins at 6:40 pm)**  
Tue. Dec. 24 Office Closed Christmas Eve  
Wed. Dec. 25 Office Closed Christmas Day

Deep gratitude to our Deacons of the day, Steve Ouellette and Nor Dale; our ushers, Josh Davis and Sally Decatur; our fellowship hour hosts Camy Barrantes and Sue Welch; our liturgist, Larry Reilly; our live streamer, and our Kids' Church leader Eunice Bentley.



An easy way to support State Street Church: scan the QR code with your phone!



Restrooms are to the left and right of the hall at the back of the sanctuary.

## State Street Church, United Church of Christ

Reverend Bryan S. Breault, Pastor  
John & Meg Williams, Interim Music Directors and Organists  
Maryam Darjazi, Childcare Provider

