

**THE UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST at THE VILLAGES**

**Service of The Word**

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2013

*\*Indicates, "All who are able, please stand"*

**PRELUDE** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" arr. Lloyd Larson

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME**

*Please sign the fellowship pad found on the center aisle end of the row  
and be sure to greet one another during the Passing of the Peace.*

**INTROIT**

"Bar' chu" - Jewish call to worship Sheldon Skurow

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT**

*(Please use this time to reflect and prepare for worship)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Adhan— Muslim traditional call to prayer  
Imam Abdurrahman Sykes

**Lighting of the Advent Candle - Peace**



**\*HYMN** "O God of Love, O God of Peace" #571

**\*INVOCATION (Unison)**

**O God of Abraham & Sarah & Hagar, be with us this morning as we blend our traditions for a time of worshiping you and learning from one another. Strengthen us to the task of challenging fear and bigotry in our land and in our world. Bless us this hour to be a blessing to one another. And may the work of faith we create together today provide a broader vision of your Beloved Community and that being different in our perspective just makes life an adventure of discovering more about You and Creation. Amen.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

**O God of Mercy, as we acknowledge when we have faltered out of some action or neglect to be less than the loving people we could be, have mercy upon us. We trust your judgment, for you know our human condition and still love us. In silence, we pray...**

**SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF PARDON AND ASSURANCE**

Assurance of forgiveness by Imam, Rabbi, and Pastor:

**Response: Thanks be to God. Amen**

\* "Gloria Patri" (Christian)

\* "Khutba al khjah." (Muslim)

\* "Vayomer Adonai solalacti." (Jewish)

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Pastor: Shalom /The peace of Christ be with you /Salaam aleikum

**People: And also with you**

Pastor: Let us pass the peace!

**OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES**

The Invitation to Offering

Offertory "Breath of Heaven" Chris Eaton/Amy Grant  
arr. Kevin Olsen

\*Doxology (Christian)

\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**O God of all Creation, we dedicate these gifts today toward the building up of your Beloved Community. Bless our offerings of time, talent, and treasure for the sake of our mission here and now and for future generations to come. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Hinei Ma Tov" M. Jacobson, arr. C. Davidson

**JEWISH TORAH LESSON & MESSAGE**

Numbers 6:27 Mr. Sheldon Skurow, Spiritual Leader of Temple Shalom

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Shalom, Pacem, Peace" Choir

**ISLAMIC QUR'AN LESSON & MESSAGE**

Sura 29:46; Sura 3:64,84; Sura 42:13  
Imam Abdurrahman Sykes, I.S.L.A.M. Inc. Peace Center

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Blowin' In The Wind" See Screen

**CHRISTIAN GOSPEL LESSON & MESSAGE**

Matthew 2:1-12 The Rev. Drew M. Willard, Pastor, UCC at The Villages

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Silent Prayer

Joys and Concerns "O God, hear our prayer..."

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (Debts & Debtors)  
Muslim Prayer "The Opening"/"Al Fatihah"

**BLESSING OF THE FOOD & CLOTHING DONATIONS**

Pastor: Jesus said that when we give food to the hungry and clothe the vulnerable, we are actually caring for him, too.

**People: May the love of God, made visible in the life of Jesus, be infused with these cans and boxes of food and wrapped around the clothing which we give to those in need.**

Pastor: O God, bless these offerings of food and clothing and bless those who will receive them. In Jesus' name.

**People: Amen.**

\*HYMN "O For a World" #575

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION by Rabbi, Imam, & Pastor

\*DEPARTING SONG "Let There Be Peace On Earth" See Screen

\*POSTLUDE "The Holly and the Ivy" arr. Kevin Olsen

**Serving You Today**

Pastor: Rev. Drew M. Willard  
Music Director: Monica Peidl  
Accompanist: Cheryl DeJonge  
Liturgist: Becky Dunning  
Advent Readers: Diane Bacon & Mable Prescott  
Flower: Beatrice Hester, in loving memory of mother, Mrs. Rosa Knox

**Prayer Concerns**

*Church Members for our remembrance in prayer:*

Dorothy Hull, Burr & Bev Kuhlewind, Dorothy Lawrence, Carolyn Nahabedian, Linda Morris, Frances Rolph, Jack & Phyllis Ross, Ron Lee, Jerry Darr, Sheila Carpenter, Jean Venters, Lloyd Olinger, Kathleen Happ, Lucretia Leen, Marilyn Long, Yvonne McGaha

*Friends of the Church for our remembrance in prayer:*

Terri Morris, Telisa DeVito & Eddie Copland & James, Bill Zacharoff, Mae Bayless, Bea Beals, Peter & Marcelle Janis, Bill Bravakis, Robin Schrader, Alex Crawford, Ruth Graham, Steven Beebe, Michelle Burton, Pat Lyons, Anna Wilson, Mark & Kathy Werneke, Shari Jarrell, Gean & Adele Cravens, Grace Bakerjian, Linda Lewis, Nancy Silveira, Terry McGaha, Bob Porrizzo, Bob Chapman, Ruby Townsend, Lawrence Myers, Dan Symenzki, Amy Mergen, Jerry Collins, Dail Sleeper, Lee Tepsick, Mario DeVito, Dan Frame, Paul Maxwell, Judith Payne, Bob VanderWeire, Donna Cochrane, Al & Mary Leonard, Karsten Styles, Roger Taylor, Christina Fox, Paul Fox, Martin West, Susan Miller, Nancy Bernstein, Cole Haldeman, Eugene Guyton, Jr., Margaretta & Wayne Post, Chad Payne, Al Bateman, Kathy Rush, Rita Courson, Bob Shafer, Betsy Konefal, Dennis Fair, Craig Davis-Johnson, Ruth Haskell, Jeff Sutthoff, Judy & Clarence Robinson, Mary Nerney, Jack Woodward, Ryan Raymond, Connie & Ken Lawrence, Linda Haines, Jeremy Baranyai, Jim Godfrey, Ruth Theis

# The United Church of Christ

## at The Villages

Sunday, December 8, 2013

Second Sunday of Advent



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## **WORDS OF PARDON AND ASSURANCE**

[Assurance of pardon from Islamic tradition, then of the Jewish tradition, concluding with the Christian tradition...]

Pastor: Jesus Christ said that the Son of Man has authority on Earth to forgive sins. 'The Son of Man' can also mean every mothers' child, too. So, accept the grace of God which is forgiveness and offer forgiveness to others in their need. Let us say together...

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen**

## **GLORIA PATRI**

**\* Glory be to our one God – Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

## **INTERFAITH PRAYERS OF PRAISE**

**\* "Khutba al khjah." (Muslim)**

**\* "Vayomer Adonai solalacti." (Jewish)**

## **DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God, Belov'd Community;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, three. Amen.**

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