

# *United Church of Christ*

Midland, Michigan • An Open and Affirming Church

Rev. Dr. Carl R. Gillett



January 1, 2012  
First Sunday after Christmas

## Order of Worship

### Gathering Hymns

*Mary Woman of the Promise*  
*Once in David's Royal City*

NCH (Black) #123  
NCH (Black)# 145

### Welcome to Worship

(Please sign the *Fellowship Pad* in the red folder at the end of the pew. Visitors, please give your address and phone number and sign our guest book located in the Narthex.)

### Announcements

#### Joys and Concerns

#### Greet Each Other with the Peace of God

**Prelude**                    *A Carol for the New Year*                    Alfred Fedak  
(*Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year*)

### We Bring the Light of Christ into Our Midst

(Acolyte carries the Light to the Communion Table)

### Call to Worship

Leader: All are welcome, Everybody come!

**People: We hear God's call and come to rejoice, share, encourage, support and transform.**

Leader: Let no one be shy; may everyone rejoice

**People: We come a determined folk who will not let the ugliness of the world destroy beauty or the discouragement of the world destroy hope. We will be joyful!**

### \*Hymn

NCH (Black) #140

*Break Forth , O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

(Asterisk indicates when you may stand. Please stand, as you are able, when the first notes of the hymn are played.)

**\*Prayer of Confession (unison):**

O God, we come to begin the New Year. Some of us come weary with celebrations. Some of us come burdened with fears and pain. Some of us come hoping to find relief from our discouragement. Hear our seeking and our sighing that we may know that in all things, in each and every day, in ways we have yet to discover, that you are among us and that you will sustain us. In the name of the reborn Christ: Amen

**\*Congregational Kyrie** NCH (Black)750  
Leader and Congregation

**\*Words of Assurance (unison):**

We feel the joy of God's constant presence. We find assurance among God's people and will be assured that in pursuing justice, and making mercy we will find God's peace.

**Children's Moments** *Christmas Unwrapped* Rev. Dr. Gillett  
Children should remain with their families during the worship service today.

**Special Music**

Wendy Hohmeyer, Flute

**Unison Reading:** *Psalms 148* NCH (Black) page 721

**Scripture**

Isaiah 41:10-62:4, 10-12

Pew Bible, pages 620-621  
and pages 641-642

Luke 2:22-40

Pew Bible, pages 889-890

**Sermon** *Birth of a Rebel* Rev. Dr. Carl R. Gillett

**\*Hymn**      *Sing a Different Song*      NCH (Black) #150

### **Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer** ("Debts" and "Debtors")

**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.**

**Offertory**      *Hodie Christus natus est*      Eugene Lindusky  
(The loose change in today's offering will be  
given to SAMS Food Pantry.)

**\* Doxology**      NCH (Black) #780

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

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

### **Order of Communion**

**Invitation**

**Communion Prayer**

**Congregational Sanctus**      NCH (Black) #793  
(Spanish, English, Spanish)

**Sharing the Elements**

(Please hold the bread until all are served.  
You may drink the cup when it is received.)



**All infants and children** may remain in the sanctuary today and join with the congregation in this morning's New Year's Day service. Due to the holiday, Nursery Care and Sunday School are not provided today. Rainbow bags are available if needed and families may feel free to use any classroom and nursery amenities.



**Please join us in Fellowship Hall** for a time of fellowship and refreshments provided by the Board of Deacons.

The special offering for the month of January is for **Crossroad**. Crossroad helps youth (ages 6 to 21) not only by treating those who live on the campus in Fort Wayne, Indiana, but by helping children and families who live at home but visit the campus, and also by serving the community. It also has special services for special kids such as those who are medically fragile or developmentally disabled. Crossroad employs about 150 counselors, teachers, therapists, housekeepers, cooks, groundskeepers, chaplains, nurses, and others.



**Crossroad** programs are helping to create futures for children and our financial support is needed. To make a contribution, please put a note on the information line of your check and drop it in the offering plate or turn it in at the church office. Gifts will be collected **through January 29**.

**Acolyte:** Nathan Lowrey  
**Liturgist:** Mary DuBuis  
**Organist:** Edward Soehrlen  
**Director of Music:** James Hohmeyer  
**Director of Educational Ministries:** Rachel White  
**Head Usher:** Tom Wells  
**Head Greeter:** Mary and Jake Eichhorn



**Unhanging of the greens** will take place immediately following the service of worship on Sunday, January 8. Anyone interested in helping with this project is encouraged to join the Board of Fine Arts in unhanging the greens.



### Calendar of Events

<b><u>First Sunday after Christmas</u></b>	<b><u>January 1, 2012</u></b>
Service of Worship - Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Fellowship Hall	11:00 a.m.
<b><u>Monday, January 2</u></b>	
Church Offices are closed	
Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room	8:00 p.m.
<b><u>Tuesday, January 3</u></b>	
<b><u>Wednesday, January 4</u></b>	
Annual Report Deadline	
<b><u>Thursday, January 5</u></b>	
Music Committee - Choir Room	6:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	7:00 p.m.
<b><u>Friday, January 6</u></b>	
Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room	8:00 p.m.
<b><u>Saturday, January 7</u></b>	
<b><u>Sunday, January 8</u></b>	
Service of Worship - Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Baumann Fellowship Hall	11:00 a.m.
Unhanging of the Greens immediately following the service	
Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall	3:30 p.m.
Confirmation Class - Blue Door Room	4:00 p.m.

**Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**

**Rev. Pancost's Office Hours:  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon, Monday through Thursday  
and by appointment**

**Rachel White, Director of Educational Ministries is  
available in the building on  
Sunday - Tuesday mornings  
9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon.  
or via phone or email at  
your convenience.**

