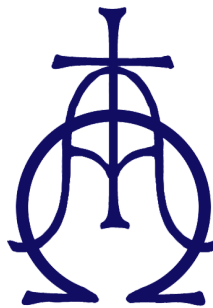

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH XENIA**NewsNote Vol. 1, No. 23**
Advent 4**Waiting for Jesus****Christmas Eve at Christ Episcopal, Xenia****A Vigil for the Holy Family and the World
& Agape Meal****December 24, 2020**

As Mary and Joseph walked to Bethlehem--some estimate it was a 7-10 day walk--they must have felt the weariness of the road and anxiety about how to manage each day.

Our Advent journey has its own weariness and anxiety. Right now the pandemic rages on in our community, more and more people are displaced and in need, and gathering as a worship community continues to be too great a risk.

Christmas Eve Vigil

On Christmas Eve we will keep watch with the Holy Family and people everywhere with a vigil. Beginning at 2.00, and with no more than ten people in the sanctuary at a time, we will have four different times designated for you to come to the candlelit sanctuary, hear Christmas

hymns on the organ, and engage prayer, scripture, and the Good News. It will be a moment to catch your breath in a beloved holy place.

The vigil will be streamed live so that you can join us by Zoom or Facebook.

Agape Meal

At 5.30 pm, all who are not in the sanctuary are invited to gather with us by Zoom or Facebook. Rev. Jennifer will say a prayer of blessing for food and drink. We will share a symbolic meal--this could be your Christmas Eve dinner, or just a snack or beverage. We will be together with the blessings of sustenance for the final hymns of the Vigil.

Ingathering for Christmas Outreach

We will also make the Vigil an opportunity for gathering donations of diapers, baby food, and cash for the FISH pantry outreach.

Details will be mailed in a separate newsletter later this week.

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CHRISTMAS OUTREACH FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Gifts of sustenance for Baby Jesus--and all babies

Christmas Outreach: Diaper Drive

Please continue to bring your diapers for the diaper drive for Mother Lynn to collect.

Five Dollars for FISH Christmas Outreach

The FISH Food Pantry can make money go much farther than any of us individually. Please send in or bring \$5--or more, if you can afford it--to Christ Episcopal Church/Nickell House, [68 E. Church Street, Xenia, 45385](#). Make your checks to Christ Episcopal and put FISH in the memo line--or just tuck in a \$5 bill.

Bless you in your everyday matters, and bless you every day.

December 20, 2020 Advent 4
Preparation for the Coming of the Christ Child

December 20, 2020 is Third Sunday

Scripture Readings for December 20

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Psalm 89 or Canticle 3 or Canticle 15

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

*you can find copies of the scripture on our weekly devotional
at the bottom of this note*

Worship this Sunday

Liturgy of the Word 9.30 am on Zoom

Rev. Steve Cuff, preacher

Rev. Jen, service convener

**It's easy! Click the link or the Sunday ZOOM button below and
join.**

***You need not participate unless you wish to...you can just watch
and worship.***

Sunday ZOOM link

Your Guide to Worship at Christ Episcopal and COVID-19

**Due to high levels of COVID-19 in our county,
we are currently worshipping online**

**Here is a copy of the new 4 Dec Updated Worship Guidelines (click on the
bolded and underlined words) for worship during COVID. The bishops of
Southern Ohio and Ohio have asked us to stay remote when we are
purple or red. With the terrible spike in cases and COVID-related deaths,
we will be remote until further notice--through December, and likely into
January.**

Click on the button below to check on Greene County's status

Ohio Dept of Health Map

Stewardship and Pledges

***Please help us close the 2020 financial year with your remaining
pledge, and please prayerfully consider what you can offer to in
2021. Call the church office for details.***

Click on the button below if you'd like to give your pledge via the Diocese of Southern Ohio (this is set up especially for churches like ours). You can also mail or deliver your pledge to Becky at Nickell House.

Give pledge online

++Parish Prayer List++

Prayers for your daily devotions

Healing

For Heidi, John G., Bev H., Brad, John N, Rick B, Cynda, Connie, baby Amelia, Karen, Diana, Peter, Heather, David, Rev John T, Woody W, Bob M, Traci S, Rick F, Rogue C and family, and for all who suffer because of COVID-19.

In God's Nearer Presence

Infant son of Rogue C.

Coyla W.

Casey G.

Richard L.

For all victims of COVID-19

All the victims of racial unrest

We pray for comfort and healing for those who grieve.

On-going prayer

Matt, Trisha, Reid, Trish, Carolyn, Shayna, Kathy, Steve, Dorothy, Marcia, Shirley, Terry, Arlene, Kim, Jill, Lynne, Cynthia, Tiffany, Heidi, Madysun, Ken, Lamar, Laura and Avis, John, Grandma Ann, Greg, Jess and Tim, Tom, Tawn, Autumn, and Marsha S.

Diocese of Southern Ohio

Please keep our diocese in your prayers, especially Bishop Ken, Bishop Nedi, and Bishop Wendell, and the Standing Committee who will be serving the diocese for the coming months as we discern the process for calling a new bishop.

++Christian Formation++

Weekly Devotional

Our readings this week include exploration of hunger--spiritual and physical hunger. Suzanne Guthrie's weekly devotional is found at the button below. At the top left hand corner you will find the readings of the week.

Here is the link for the weeks readings as well as the devotional [Edge of the Enclosure](#)

++Previous Sermons++

Father Mike Kreutzer
Christ Episcopal Xenia on ZOOM
Sunday, December 13
Are you saved?

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Advent Devotionals and Music

There is a wealth of Advent devotionals and special offerings in this year of COVID--all delivered to you via the internet.

Here are two this week:

Calvin University Campus Choir

click here: [Healer Concert](#)

7.00 pm, Sunday Dec 20

Diocese of Southern Ohio Becoming Beloved Community

Way of Love Advent Series click here: [Way of Love](#)

7.00-8.30pm Wednesday December 16

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christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/christepiscopalchurchxenia/>
www.christ-episcopal-xenia.org



Christ Episcopal Church | 63 East Church Street, Xenia, OH 45385

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