

# Creekside Church of the Brethren

## The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2006, 9:00 a.m.

**I believe** there are gifts more important than the ones under the Christmas tree, the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the industry with which we set about reshaping the world in our time. **I believe** that the finest carols are often sung by the poorest voices; from hearts made warm by the wonder of the season. **I believe** in the angel's message that we should not be afraid – that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.

### Gathering

PRELUDE *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* arr. John Tyndall

GATHERING MUSIC (8:55 a.m.)

No. 197 (Blue)

No. 152 (Renew)

(Insert)

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

*"While We are Waiting, Come"*

WELCOME Pastor David

### Praising God

HYMN vs. 1 (insert)

#### **Lighting the Third Candle of Advent**

*"Longing for Light"*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) John Zerbe

1. From the darkness we seek freedom.

2. From the darkness we seek love.

**All: From the darkness we seek God.**

1. When will we come out of the dark?

2. When will we find freedom and love?

**All: When will we find God?**

1. The Lord is in your midst. You shall fear disaster no more.

2. The Lord is in your midst; do not let your hearts grow weak.

**All: The Lord is in your midst; God will renew you in his love.**

1. Now look for the freedom.

2. Now look for love.

**All: Now look for God.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you not only created a world where once there was chaos, you not only brought us from the dust of the ground, you not only gave us your holy Word, you also drew near to us. For your advent in our empty world, your light shining in our darkness, your word into our silence, we give thanks. Today, Lord, give us hearts open and receptive to your advent, spirits expectant for your presence, and lives ready to rise up and follow you at your call. Amen.

\*HYMN NO. 198 (Blue)

*"Let Our Gladness Have No End"*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Laurie Mastic

SHARING OUR PRAYER REQUESTS

CALL TO PRAYER NO. 211 (Blue)

*"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

GIVING BACK TO GOD

It is easy to *think* Christmas, and it is easy to *believe* Christmas, but it is hard to *act* Christmas.

Offertory

*"Silent Night"*

arr. Bill Galliford

\*Response no. 204 (Blue)

*"Gloria"*

\*Prayer of Dedication

(The pre-schoolers are dismissed to the nursery.)

### Hearing God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 3:7-18

SERMON

**"Love is Not Afraid"**

David Bibbee

### Sending

\*HYMN NO. 122 (Renew)

*"The First Song of Isaiah"*

\*CLOSING PRAYER

POSTLUDE

\*Please stand as you are able.

Bulletins may be recycled in the baskets located in gathering area.

**Website:** [www.creeksideconnected.com](http://www.creeksideconnected.com)

**STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

The Office (Cindy): [office@creeksideconnected.com](mailto:office@creeksideconnected.com)  
 Pastor David: [pastordavid@creeksideconnected.com](mailto:pastordavid@creeksideconnected.com)  
 Jean Mann: [jmann@creeksideconnected.com](mailto:jmann@creeksideconnected.com)

**Staff Office Hours Week:**

**Cindy Harman:** 9:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mon. – Fri.  
**Jean Mann:** Tues., Wed. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Pastor David:** 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tues. – Fri.

Bulletin and weekly news deadline: 12:00 Noon on Tuesday

**CREEKSIDE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

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 Elkhart, IN 46517  
 574-875-7800 telephone  
 574-875-7885 fax

**Today: December 17, 2006**

**9:00 a.m.:** Worship **10:15 a.m.:** Fellowship Time **10:45 a.m.:** Church School

<b>Preaching</b>	David Bibbee	<b>Children's Message</b>	Laurie Mastic
<b>Worship Leader</b>	John Zerbe	<b>Acolytes</b>	Cara Mastic, Darren Vance, Maddie Randall
<b>Flute Players</b>	Jenny Cooper, Samantha Cooper, Becca McFadden	<b>Childcare</b>	Cary Kelsey
<b>Bass Player</b>	Denny Weaver	<b>Sound Engineer</b>	Gary Arnold
<b>Music Director</b>	Janet Berkebile	<b>Graphics Operator</b>	Brian Arnold
<b>Organist</b>	Marilee Gilliland		
<b>Pianist</b>	Shelly Randall		

**BIRTHDAYS**

Dec. 18 Dave Mastic  
 Dec. 19 Stephen Berkebile  
 Dec. 22 Roger Neal

**ANNIVERSARIES**

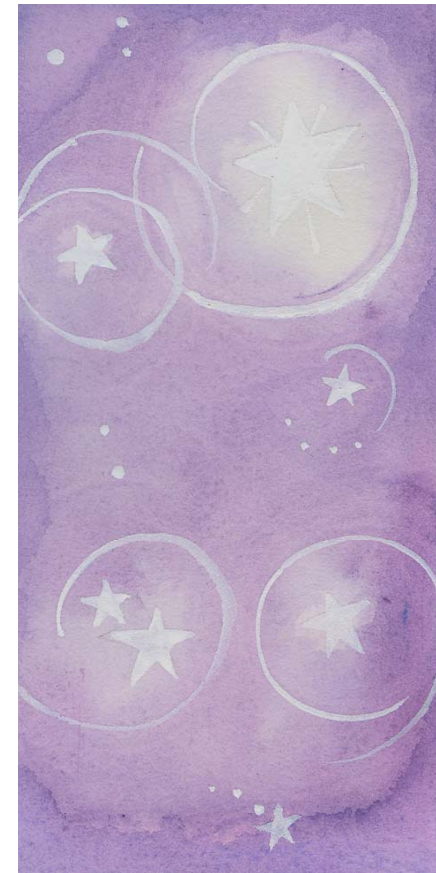
Dec. 17 Bill & Jan Swigert  
 Dec. 19 John & Jan Berkebile  
 Dec. 21 Paul & Paulajeane Ritzmann

**Last Sunday**

General Fund	\$ 2,793.25	Building for Christ	\$ 770.00
West Memorial Fund	\$ 50.00	Fellowship Time	\$ 16.84
Community Dinners	\$ 123.00	General Board/Christmas	\$ 40.00
Water Bottle Money (Crop Walk)	\$ 35.00		

**Our Mission:**

Because we are God's beloved in Christ, united in the Spirit we  
**Seek** God's love in our lives  
**Celebrate** God's love in vital worship  
**Share** God's love through acceptance, service, and witness.



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**"Love is Not Afraid"**  
 December 17, 2006

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