



*I Believe
in Love, Even When...*

“We Believe in Love”

Isaiah 7:1-14, Matthew 1:18-25

December 6, 2020

**THORNDALE
United Methodist Church**

3503 Lincoln Highway, Thorndale, PA 19372

610-384-2433

www.thorndaleumc.org

All Are Welcome!

PRELUDE

O Come All Ye Faithful

Handbell Choir

WELCOME/INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

THEME SONG

I Believe

Josh's Video

THRESHOLD

+OPENING PRAYER AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch
of your gift of daring love.

Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle—
even when we cannot yet see a better day
when we will act like the human family we are,
ignite the flame of love within us...

People: ...that we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

All: God of love, help us face this fear of difference
and dare to see what love can do.

+GREETING in Sign Language

Renay Oberholtzer

PRAISE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1, 3, 4)

Tim Eaton

God With Us

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pat Moore & Renay Oberholtzer

TIME OF PRAISE & PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 7:1-14

During the time that Ahaz son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and King Pekah son of Remaliah of Israel attacked Jerusalem, but the attack sputtered out. When the Davidic government learned that Aram had joined forces with Ephraim (that is, Israel), Ahaz and his people were badly shaken. They shook like trees in the wind.

Then God told Isaiah, "Go and meet Ahaz. Take your son Shear-jashub (A-Remnant-Will-Return) with you. Meet him south of the city at the end of the aqueduct where it empties into the upper pool on the road to the public laundry. Tell him, Listen, calm down. Don't be afraid. And don't panic over these two burnt-out cases, Rezin of Aram and the son of Remaliah. They talk big but there's nothing to them. Aram, along with Ephraim's son of Remaliah, have plotted to do you harm. They've conspired against you, saying, 'Let's go to war against Judah, dismember it, take it for ourselves, and set the son of Tabeel up as a puppet king over it.'

But God, the Master, says, "It won't happen. Nothing will come of it
Because the capital of Aram is Damascus and the king of Damascus is a mere man, Rezin.
As for Ephraim, in sixty-five years it will be rubble, nothing left of it.
The capital of Ephraim is Samaria, and the king of Samaria is the mere son of Remaliah.
If you don't take your stand in faith, you won't have a leg to stand on."

GOD spoke again to Ahaz. This time he said,

"Ask for a sign from your God. Ask anything. Be extravagant. Ask for the moon!"
But Ahaz said, "I'd never do that. I'd never make demands like that on God!"
So Isaiah told him, "Then listen to this, government of David! It's bad enough that you make people tired with your pious, timid hypocrisies, but now you're making God tired. So the Master is going to

give you a sign anyway. Watch for this: A girl who is presently a virgin will get pregnant. She'll bear a son and name him Immanuel (God-With-Us).

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

O Come All Ye Faithful (vs. 1-3, 5)

Tim Eaton

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy One, this Advent season we wait with love, and we give with love. Love for you, our God; love for your beautiful people. Receive these generous offerings, and use them for your works of love in our world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

MESSAGE

"We Believe in Love"

Pastor Shauna

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Lawrence Rappoldt

+BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Come, Little Children

Lawrence Rappoldt

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

PASTOR

Rev. Shauna K. Ridge

WORSHIP TEAM SHEPHERDS:

MUSIC

Lawrence Rappoldt

DOOR GREETER

Hannah Smith

LITURGIST

Tim Eaton

USHER 1

Wayne Barrows

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dave Davis

USHER 2

Chuck Moore

TECH TEAM

Pat Moore

TEMP TAKER

Kim Nicolazzo

Renay Oberholtzer

ATTENDANCE

Laura Arndt

Josh Dwyer

FLOATER

Hannah Smith

Terry Moore

Jamie Ridge

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by John & Jennifer Lafferty,
in honor of John's birthday.*