

## Those Who Serve

Pastor:	Joy Wigal
Musician:	Chris Kennedy
Treasurer:	Roberta Covert
Audio/Visual Technicians:	Larisa Harper & Barb Wolfe
Custodian:	Jordan McKee
Administrative Assistant:	Amanda Hatfield

# Faith United Methodist Church

December 18, 2022

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ♪ MUSIC FOR GATHERING ♪

### REFLECTING THE SACRED

*The shiny additions to our Advent and Christmas visuals remind us that we are called to reflect the sacred each and everyday. "Incarnation" is a word that means that God's presence came to dwell among all people, and we believe this happened in a special way in the birth of Jesus. All creation has always been infused with the Creator's brilliance. This season, we will remember the call to shine with this holy light.*

### CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

"We pray for Peace this day.  
We pray for Peace this day.

We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.  
We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.

We open to see our deepest selves  
We open to see our deepest selves

as a gift of holy presence.  
as a gift of holy presence.

This is the gift of the Christ Mystery,  
This is the gift of the Christ Mystery,

lighting the way to peace.  
lighting the way to peace.

♪ Upon this moment, ♪  
upon this people,  
upon this place,  
the holy comes.  
And sacred knowing  
brings sacred being  
for sacred doing of God's plan.

### PRAYER

*Let us pray:*

**Living God, Christ Mystery, Spirit of Peace,  
we give you thanks for this holy sensing  
of your presence.**

**As we take in the peace you offer,  
may we be a reflection of your light,  
expanding the sacred knowing of  
"you are here for me"  
into the sacred knowing of  
"you are present for all of us."  
Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN OF JOY

*"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" UMH 218*

### REFRACTING THE SACRED

*As light passes through a medium, it can be redirected in ways  
that make its brilliance more visible, as in a prism. As we en-  
counter the message today, we see the world and our own  
lives and loved ones in a different light, one that invites us to  
know more deeply the sacred nature of all things.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 18  
Worship (Advent Week 4)..... 10:30am

Monday, December 19  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm

Tuesday, December 20  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday, December 21  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm  
Advent Study ..... 1:00pm

Thursday, December 22  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm

Saturday, December 24  
Christmas Eve Service..... 4:00pm

Sunday, December 25  
Christmas Day Service at First UMC ..... 9:00am

Monday, December 26  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm

Tuesday, December 27  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday, December 28  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm  
Advent Study ..... 1:00pm

Thursday, December 29  
Office Open ..... 10:00am-2:00pm

Sunday, January 1  
Blessing of the Animals Worship ..... 10:30am

## KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Baby Christian and Family	Karen Norman
Bernice Osborne	Karen Wilson
Bev Wolford	Kevin Bushong
Betty Miller	Laura Peck
Bradley Adams	Marilyn Inman
David Inman	Marlene Farley
Dennis Cebulsky	Pastor Joy Wigal
Diana Bohn Family	Sandra Boyd
Doug Adams	Steve DeGarmo & Family
Ed McAuley	Steve Inman
Ellen Kelton	Suzanne Collins
Heidi	Terry Pickens
Jane Thorne	Thea & Mark Crawmer
Janice Moore	Tim & Sherry Dickerson
Jill Shrock	Veronica
Jim Tignor	Vicky Wolfe
JoAnne Peadon	Zola Duncan & Family
Juanita Mohler	<b>Medical Faith Shut-in:</b>
Karen Bay	Kathleen McCutcheon

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-16 (NRSVUE)

Special Hymn "Star Child" TFWS 2095

## SECOND READING

Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSVUE)

## REFILLING THE SACRED

*We are wells of the sacred. God's presence is poured into creation in a never-ending flow of love. We enter a time of prayer that invites us to be refilled in ways that can help us pour out our love throughout the week. All we must do in this moment is open our hearts to the Holy One.*

## PRAYERS

♪ Emmanuel, Emmanuel, ♪  
his name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us,  
his name is called Emmanuel.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

♪ Emmanuel, Emmanuel, ♪  
his name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us,  
his name is called Emmanuel.

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God all heavens and the earth  
reflecting the sacred story.

This, this is Christ the One  
who mirrors hope for all of us.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Word of time eternal.

## REFRAMING THE SACRED

*We too often think that something “sacred” is far away and not available to us. This Advent season, we are “reframing” the way we recognize the sacred reflected all around and through us. As we prepare to move into the world, we begin to reframe our view of the world and our circumstances, illuminating new ways of being the Christ (Anointed One), tangibly present.*

## ANOINTED TO SACRED KNOWING

### CLOSING HYMN

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem” UMH 230*

### BENEDICTION

*When you see lights twinkle,  
when you catch a reflection in a mirror,  
when you notice the sunlight dancing on a surface  
or a nightlight glowing in the darkness,*

let these be signs that the Christ Light is revealed  
again and again in and through this world.

Know that your brilliant presence  
is pouring more hope into a weary world.

**God loved us by becoming us.**

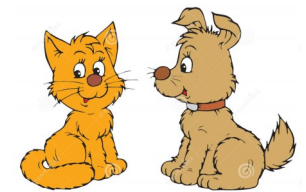
This means you are already  
reflecting the sacred.

In the name of the Creator, Christ, and Spirit of Hope.  
**Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

### Blessing of the Animals

Bring in pictures of your pets or  
email them to [fumcza@gmail.com](mailto:fumcza@gmail.com)  
so they can be displayed during our  
Blessing of the Animals service on  
January 1st.



Pictures need to be submitted to the church office by  
Wednesday, December 28th.