

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 4, 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 Love this day.
We pray for Love 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 each person
We open to see each person

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 love.
lighting the way to love.

♪ 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 Love,
 we give you thanks for this holy gathering of Beloveds.
 As we take in the love you offer,
 may we be a reflection of your light,
 expanding the sacred presence you have promised
 into the sacred presence we can offer.
 Amen.

OPENING HYMN OF LOVE "People Look East" UMH 202

REFRACTING THE SACRED

FIRST READING

Romans 15:4-13 (NRSVUE)

SECOND READING

Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSVUE)

REFILLING THE SACRED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 4
 Worship (Advent Week 2)..... 10:30am
 UMW Christmas Lunchafter worship
 Monday, December 5
 Office Open10:00am-2:00pm
 Tuesday, December 6
 Office Open10:00am-2:00pm
 Wednesday, December 7
 Office Open10:00am-2:00pm
 Advent Study..... 1:00pm
 Thursday, December 8
 Office Open10:00am-2:00pm
 Sunday, December 11
 Worship (Advent Week 3)..... 10:30am
 New Hope Circle Meeting..... 6:30pm

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Baby Christian and Family	Kevin Bushong
Bernice Osborne	Laura Peck
Bev Wolford	Marilyn Inman
Betty Miller	Marlene Farley
Bradley Adams	Pastor Joy Wigal
David Inman	Sandra Boyd
Dennis Cebulsky	Steve DeGarmo
Diana Bohn Family	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	Medical Faith Shut-in:
Karen Norman	Kathleen McCutcheon
Karen Wilson	

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

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

*Maker and Lover of all...
...in our depths*

Open us, O God,
free us to reflect the sacred.
Touch us with your presence,
we pray in your Holy Name:
Christ, Anointed One.
Amen.

*Hear this good news...
...You are not alone!*

You are forgiven and freed. You are not alone.
Glory to God!
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, ...
...join their unending hymn:

Praise God, Praise God of pow'r and might,
Praise God whose presence shines through our night.
Praise God of glory, hosannas sing,
reflecting the sacred story.

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

*Holy are you,...
...the mystery of faith.*

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Anoint this community...
...now and forever.

Amen.

This, this is Christ the One
who mirrors love 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 AS SACRED PEOPLE

CLOSING HYMN "Away in a Manger" UMH 217