

Grottoes United Methodist Church  
Pastor – Brian Posey  
December 25, 2022  
1st Sunday of Christmas

Gathering

**Prelude:** “O Come All Ye Faithful” Ramona Leeth  
**Welcome:**

Praise

**Call To Worship:**

A child has been born for us, whose name is called: Wonderful Counselor—  
**Good Shepherd, Deliverer, Lamb of God, The Word;**  
Mighty God—  
**First and Last, Author of Life, Morning Star, The Light;**  
Everlasting Father—  
**Bread of Life, Resurrection and Life, Light of the World, The Vine;**  
Prince of Peace—  
**Chief Cornerstone, Lord of lords, King of kings, The Way.**  
He is Immanuel. God with us!

**Hymn of Praise:** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” Pg. #230  
**Prayer:**

**God of glory, your splendor shines from a manger in Bethlehem, where the Light of the world is humbly born into the darkness of human night. Open our eyes to Christ's presence in the shadows of our world, so that we, like him, may become beacons of your justice, and defenders of all for whom there is no room. Amen.**

**Psalm:** Psalm 96

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.  
**Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**  
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.  
**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.**  
For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.  
**Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**  
Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.  
**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.**  
Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.  
**Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."**  
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
**let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy**  
before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth.  
**He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.**  
**Lighting the Christ Candle (Advent Wreath):**

The Word Proclaimed

**Special Music:** “Make Room” Brad Crawford  
**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Lesson:** Titus 3:4-7  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Lesson:** Luke 2:1-20  
**Prayer:**

Tender and precious God, from ancient times the promise of your salvation has sustained your people. With Mary and Joseph, teach us to treasure in our hearts the birth of Jesus, and with shepherds and angels, lead us to praise his holy name. Amen.

**Message:** “Making Room For Jesus”

Holy Communion

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table:**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, and ho earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Words of Assurance:**

**The Great Thanksgiving (For Christmas Eve)**

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.**

**Receiving the gift of God’s Grace:**

Responding to God’s Grace

**Prayer for the Light of the World:**

**Singing our Christmas Praise:**

Silent Night	(Verses 1-3)	Pg. #239
Away in a Manger	(Verses 1, 3)	Pg. #217
Angels from the Realm of Glory	(Verses 1,2,4)	Pg. #220
The First Noel	(verses 1,2)	Pg. #245
Joy to the World	(All verses)	Pg. #246

**Dismissal and Blessing:**

In darkness we arrived.  
**In light we now leave.**  
Though once we stumbled,  
**we now walk with confidence.**  
Rise up and go, for the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.  
**May the light of Christ lead us forevermore.**

**Postlude:**

# Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!

The Mission of the United Methodist Church



**“To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”**



We are a *faith community* that shares  
*God's gifts of love and hope* through:  
Uplifting worship, Acts of Compassion,  
Spiritual growth & fellowship, Service to others

## **GUMC COVID-19 Policy Update:**

**We are no longer enforcing Masks, or Social Distancing**

- Free masks are available in narthex
- Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex

*We ask worshipers to employ best practices for the good of all.  
If you are feeling sick, please stay home until you are feeling well.  
Use safety precaution as you feel necessary for your comfort.*



## **LIVESTREAM WORSHIP**



**Catch our Worship Livestream  
every Sunday 10:00a.m. on the  
Grottoes UMC Facebook page.  
Or on the GUMC App.**

**Did you know Grottoes UMC now has a Radio Station?**

## **WesleyOne**

You can now listen at your convenience at [www.grottoesumc.org](http://www.grottoesumc.org)  
or  
Download the "Grottoes UMC Church App" on your smartphones  
(Available in the Apple App store, Google Play store, Amazon App Store)

**The Poinsettia's decorating the Sanctuary this Christmas are in Honor or in Memory of the following :**

Memory/Honor of Edith Pence & the Knitting Ministry  
 Memory of George & Ardelia Schreiber  
 Honor of the GUMC Knitting Group  
 Memory of Christopher Spitzer  
 Memory of Raymond Leeth  
 Memory of Tim & Zena Shifflett  
 Memory of Vernon & Betsy Leeth  
 Honor of Joany & Betty Leeth  
 Honor of Hensel & Goldie Cline  
 Memory of Bill & Minnie Peale  
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 Memory of Jessica & Justin Nolen's Grandparents  
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 Memory of Oliver & Bernice Mowbray  
 Memory of Calvin & Bobbie Patterson  
 Memory of Rev. & Mrs. Robert E. Couch  
 Memory of Ben, Audrey & Raymon Teter  
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