



Consider the following options to center yourself for worship:

**BREATHING PRAYER:** (Based on Romans 15:13)

*In For A Count Of 4: **God of Hope Fill Us....***

*Out For A Count Of 4: ... **With Your Joy and Peace.***

**REFLECT ON QUOTE**

*"The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord."* – Henri Nouwen

**READ SCRIPTURES**

Isaiah 11:1-10   Matthew 3:1-12

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 7, 2025

**Second Sunday of Advent**

PRELUDE

Appalachian Yuletide

Arr. Dan Forrest

Jerry Bursch, Piano

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WELCOME / OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAITH AND SERVICE

Pastor Matt McPhee

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Terri Rae Elmer

This day is a day of preparation.

**Open our hearts, O Lord, and make us ready to receive you.**

Repentance, changing our attitudes, our lives, is the beginning of our preparation.

**Lord, give us courage and confidence.**

God will fill us with joy and peace as we become witnesses to God's love.

**Lord, help us to be faithful servants all of our days.**

(© Nancy Townley)

**\*HYMN**

*Come Ye Thankful People Come*

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634  
Song # 50200

UMH 694

1. Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home;  
all is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin.  
God our Maker doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied;  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.

2. All the world is God's own field,  
fruit as praise to God we yield;  
wheat and tares together sown  
are to joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear;  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

3. For the Lord our God shall come,  
and shall take the harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away,  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store

**\*Please rise in body and spirit.**

in the garner evermore.

4. Even so, Lord, quickly come,  
bring thy final harvest home;  
gather thou thy people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified,  
in thy presence to abide;  
come, with all thine angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

Debbie Knight

First Reading: Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).

**All: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.**

Second Reading: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

(Light two purple candles)

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**HYMN**

**Be The Light (verse 2)**

Tune: Away in the Manger

Lyrics by Megan Waters, © 2025 Mary Scifres Ministries

Be a light of peace, gentle and true  
A comfort for all, bringing rest that renews.  
let the peace that you share  
fill the world with its glow  
The light spreads around  
and makes God's mercy show.

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Terri Rae Elmer

**God of roots and rising flame, bring your promised life to the withered places of our world and the wounded places of our hearts. We long for the day when justice stands tall like the mighty cedars of Lebanon and peace shelters all creation beneath its branches. Burn away our despair with the refining fire of your Spirit, and plant within us seeds of hope that will never die. In this holy season, keep us watchful for your coming, ready to welcome the one who makes all things new. Amen.**

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SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

\*HYMN

*Savior, of the Nations Come*

UMH 214

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634

Song # 31999

Words: v 1-2 Martin Luther trans by William Reynolds v3-5 Martin L. Seltz, Concordia Publishing House, ©1969, Song # 09624; Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license # A-741822. All rights reserved

1. Savior of the nations, come;  
Virgin's son, here make thy home!  
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,  
that the Lord chose such a birth.

2. Not by human flesh and blood;  
by the Spirit of our God  
was the Word of God made flesh,  
woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

3. Wondrous birth! O wondrous child  
Of the Virgin undefiled  
Human and divine in one  
eager now his race to run!

4. God the Father is his source,  
Back to God he runs his course,

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

Down to death and hell descends,  
God's high throne he reascends.

5. Now thy manger's halo bright  
Hallows night with newborn light  
Let no night this light subdue  
Let our faith shine ever new.

SCRIPTURE READINGS      Isaiah 11:1-10    Matthew 3:1-12      Terri Rae Elmer

Isaiah 11:1-10 (NRSVue)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor  
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSVue)

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’ ”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

Pastor Matt

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

\*HYMN

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634  
Song # 3413029

TFWS 2089

1 Wild and lone the prophet's voice  
echoes through the desert still,  
calling us to make a choice,  
bidding us to do God's will:  
"Turn from sin and be baptized;  
cleanse your heart and mind and soul.  
Quitting all the sins you prized,  
yield your life to God's control.

2 "Bear the fruit repentance sows:  
lives of justice, truth, and love.  
Trust no other claim than those;  
set your heart on things above.  
Soon the Lord will come in power,  
burning clean the threshing floor:  
then will flames the chaff devour;  
wheat alone shall fill God's store."

3 With such preaching, stark and bold,  
John proclaimed salvation near,  
and his timeless warnings hold  
words of hope to all who hear.  
So we dare to journey on,  
led by faith through ways untrod,  
till we come at last like John  
to behold the Lamb of God.

#### RESPONDING IN FAITH

We live out our membership vows by offering our prayers, our presence, our service, our gifts, and our witness. In this way, we glorify God with our whole lives.

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

OFFERTORY

*Lo, How a Rose Is Growing* arr. David W. Moore  
Jerry Bursch, Clavinova & Steve Reints, Trumpet

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\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* (UM Hymnal 94)  
CCLI / Streaming: 1256912 / 20574634  
CCLI Song # 3063266

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Terri Rae Elmer

**Holy God, as we offer our gifts today, we do so with hearts that long for your renewal. Just as John the Baptist called us to prepare the way of the Lord, we repent of the ways where we have failed to live faithfully. May these offerings be an outward sign of our desire to turn our hearts toward you, to bear good fruit, and to serve you with integrity. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

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\*HYMN *Time Now to Gather* (v 1-2) TFWS 2265

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1. Time now to gather  
Time now to feel Christ's holy presence  
Gracing this meal  
Grain from the harvest  
Fruit of the vine  
Simple the supper  
Sacred the sign

2. Time to remember Christ who was sent  
Time to say thank You for all He meant

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

Come to this table  
Come without fear  
God will forgive you  
Welcome you here

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who 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.*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(United Methodist Publishing House, © 1989)

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

(The United Methodist Publishing House, © 1989)

### THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us lift up our 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.**

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth  
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one  
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

... As we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

... Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread  
and the cup.

**Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be  
for the world the body of Christ redeemed by His blood.**

... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(UM Book of Worship, The Methodist Publishing House, ©1972)

*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 and ever. Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION

Pastor Matt

\*HYMN OF PARTING

*Shalom to You*

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634  
Song #1913569

Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through all your loving  
Christ be your shalom. Christ be your shalom.

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway  
Jerry Bursch, Organ

arr. Paul Manz

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\*Please rise in body and spirit.

***Serving in Worship Today***

Greeter: Cathy Brocker

Ushers: Linda Whitney & Mitzi Kerwien

Liturgist: Terri Rae Elmer

Music Director : Jerry Bursch

Pastor: Rev. Matthew M. McPhee

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Video of today's worship can be found at [www.indioumc.com/media](http://www.indioumc.com/media)

Contact the Church Office at 760-347-1046 or [office@indioumc.org](mailto:office@indioumc.org).

Secure online contributions to the church can be made on our  
Church App or at [www.indioumc.com/give](http://www.indioumc.com/give).

**CALENDAR:**

**December 7** – You are invited to Coffee Fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

**December 7 – Youth Group** (grades 6-12) - **5:00 PM** in the youth room. Dinner provided.  
Contact Margie (youth director) or Melissa for more information.

**December 8-12 – New Day Devotions** **8:00 AM** via Zoom. (Link available in weekly  
e-news or by contacting the office)

**December 9 – Bell Choir Practice** **3:00 PM** in the Sanctuary.

**December 9 – Koinonia Life Group** **10:30 AM** offsite at Members Homes –Contact Howard  
Bollinger for more information.

**December 10 – Men's Breakfast** **8:00 AM** at Sloan's Restaurant in Indio.

**December 10 - Tai Chi** **10:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall.

**December 13 – UWF** – **9:00 AM – 12 PM** in the Fellowship Hall

**December 14 – Chancel Choir Practice** **8:20 AM** in the Sanctuary

**December 14 – Adult Bible Studies** **9:00 AM** in the Adult Classroom

**December 14 – Worship** **10:00 AM** in the Sanctuary, followed by Coffee Fellowship in the  
Fellowship Hall.

*Stay Connected – Download our App*



\*Please rise in body and spirit.