



*Welcome to worship! No matter where you are, where you have been, or where you are on your faith journey, our prayer is that you will find a place to belong in worship and mission with us.*

December 12, 2021

8:30 am

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### Preparation for Worship

The characters in the Advent story experienced the transformation of their questioning and fearful human attitudes by encountering God. Through these Advent services, we encounter God, confront our human attitudes and experience and celebrate the transforming power of Christ's love on Christmas Day. --R. Buurma

Focus Scripture

Isaiah 12:2-6

Prelude

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

Hand Bell Choir

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Rost Family

**Congregation:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Come to our hearts and in our presence dwell. We wait in hope for peace once again. Return to us the joy of Bethlehem. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come in love, our darkness to dispel.

Anthem

*Light of Joy*

Sanctuary Choir

### \*Call to Worship

We have been looking for a sign.

**Emmanuel--God with us.**

We have been waiting for a savior.

**Emmanuel--God with us.**

The time is near--can it be?

**Emmanuel--God with us.**

Come let us worship the God of sign, wonder and promise.

\*Hymn

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

No. 203

Common Prayer (Let us pray together...)

**O God, in this time of worship, may we be open to your promises, your love and your transformation. May we vision and dream. May we be surprised. May we receive the life you give us. May we encounter Emmanuel--God with us. And may we never be the same. Amen.**

Special Music                      *God Is So Good/Rejoice In the Lord Always*                      Abby Pilcher, Piano

Scripture    Matthew 1:18-25

Kid's Time

Message    *Transformation of Joseph*

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Sharing of our Gifts and Lives

Offertory    *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*    Arr. Hayes

Doxology No. 94

Prayer of Dedication

**Loving God, in thankfulness and praise for the gift of a child born to us, receive our tithes and offerings. Receive our hearts also, that we may live as those touched by your great gift. Amen.**

Hymn    *Joseph Hymn*

Announcements

Benediction

Go forth with a dream in your soul and a song in your heart,  
knowing that God's promises are always fulfilled. **Amen!**

Postlude    *Masters In This Hall*    Arr. Edwards

Our Staff:

Pastor: Kathy Bueker Sweet

Office Manager: Mary Catherine St. John

Director of Music: Kathy Brown

Director of Family Ministries: Melanie Burger



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Office Hours--Monday-Thursday 9 am - 12 noon  
Live Radio Broadcast 8:30 a.m. WCZQ 105.5 FM  
Worship: 8:30a in person and Facebook Live  
10:45a in person

If you are visiting we welcome and invite you to Fellowship coffee and conversation at Café 2020. Ask about any of the events named in this bulletin. You will be welcomed!

Individual wireless receivers and children's activity bags are available from the ushers.  
Rocking Chairs are located at the back for parents of babies.

**Chancel Flowers** The flowers are given by Martha Morris in memory of her mother, Gaynell Tippett on her birthday, and her father, Darrell Tippett.

**Food Pantry Needs:** Please pick up a copy of the Reverse Advent Calendar, or look for it on the website and social media for items needed. A copy can also be mailed to you. Thank you for your continued support.

On Tuesday, December 21 at 7 pm we will have a ***Longest Night Service*** (also called a Blue Christmas Service). This service begins by gathering in honesty about grief, hearing the consolation found in God's presence and love, and departing with the joy that comes from memory and a sense of shared peace. All are invited to attend.

Our **Christmas Eve Services** will be at 4 pm and 7 pm with the Children's Choir singing at the 4 pm service.

The Bible study is scheduled to begin a new study on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 1:00 p.m. at the MUMC. It is a 6 session study with a weekly video and a study book. If you want Wendy to order you a book please let her know no later than WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29.

### **Calendar**

#### **Today**

8:30 am      Worship, in-person, online and  
                    radio  
9:45 am      All Sunday School classes!  
10:45 am     Worship, in-person  
**4:00 pm      Sounds of Christmas followed  
                    by a meal of Tri-M BBQ!**

#### **Monday, December 13**

4:00 pm      T.O.P.S (Take Off Pounds  
                    Sensibly)  
7:00 pm      Boy Scouts

#### **Tuesday, December 14**

8:15 am      Just Walking  
7 pm          Prayer via Zoom

#### **Wednesday, December 15**

12:00 pm     Bible Study Luncheon  
6:00 pm      Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm      Bell Rehearsal  
8:00 pm      New Day Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, December 9**

8:15 am      Just Walking

#### **Sunday, December 19**

8:30 am      Worship, in-person, online and  
                    radio  
9:45 am      All Sunday School classes!  
10:45 am     Worship, in-person  
5:00 pm      Youth Group Christmas Party!