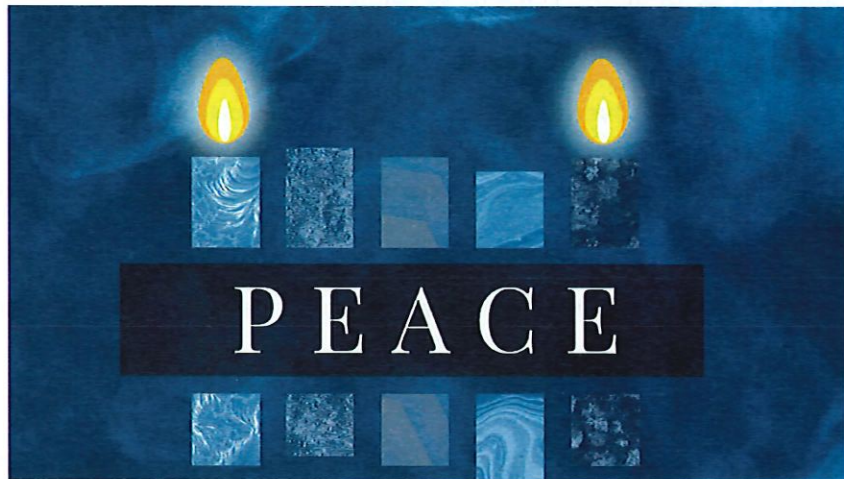


Central United Methodist Church



Second Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2024
10:45 a.m.

Our Vision:

***Making Christ known by extending hospitality,
serving the community, pursuing justice and embracing all.***

201 - 3rd Avenue Knoxville TN 37917
www.knoxcentralumc.org

We Gather to Praise God

Prelude

How Great Our Joy

arr. Heather Sorenson

Welcome

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod

Opening Prayer

Linda Jackson

† Call to Worship

God comes! So don't let go of all the reasons to rejoice.

We will sing a song of Advent to the One who fills our lives with joy.

God comes! So don't stop lifting your prayers with thanksgiving.

We will sing a song of Advent, to the One who hears our words and silence.

God comes! So don't stop giving your hearts to God.

We will sing a song of Advent to the One who graces us with a peace we cannot begin to understand.

Come, let us sing a new song to God, who is with us always.

We sing a song of peace, grounded in the hope we have in Jesus. Alleluia! Amen.

† Opening Hymn

Angels from the Realms of Glory

UMH 220

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

[Refrain] Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: [refrain]

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: [refrain]

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Bob and Melynda Whetsel

This Sunday we light the second candle, the candle of PEACE. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning, we thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

O Come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

We Listen to Hear God's Voice

† Scripture

Luke 1:39-45

This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

A Time for Young Christians

Ali Umbarger

Sunday school for nursery through 5th grade is offered every week following children's time except on Sundays when we celebrate Holy Communion (typically the first Sunday of each month).

Anthem

O Come to Set Us Free

arr. Mary McDonald

Sermon

Coming to Your House

Rev. Sherrod

We Respond to God's Great Love

† Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful (vv. 2-3)

UMH 234

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten not created; O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

† 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.

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

Offertory

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Joel Raney

† Dedication of Gifts

(Veni-Emmanuel - tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

We Are Scattered to Serve God in Our World

† Closing Hymn

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (vv 1, 3 & 4)

UMH 218

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

† Benediction

Postlude

Sussex Carol

arr. Mark Hayes

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† Please stand in body or spirit

Altar flowers today are given in memory of Robert A. Ellis, Sr. by the Ellis and Knable families.

Prayer List
Sunday, December 8, 2024

Rev. Grady Winegar has moved to The Pointe at Lifespring Lane. His new address is 4371 Lifespring Lane, #223, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37918. His telephone number is 865-414-8406 (another correction).

Ford Deese (Mary Humes's grand-niece) is having some difficulty in her transition to home. Her mother has returned to work after being with Ford constantly for 10 months during her cancer treatment (2046 Mower St, Newberry, SC, 29108).

Tiffany Mynatt asks prayer for a family she is working with whose son is going through a rough time emotionally.

Please continue to remember **Pat Cowart** (Melanie Gangaware's mother), **Emalie and Haley Dockery** (5215 E Sunset Rd, 37914), **Lena Frye** (friend of Lauren Gangaware), **Brenda Bacon Goble** (friend of Susie Knable), **David Helms** (801 E Inskip Dr, 37912), **Karen Till Johnson** (friend of Susie Knable), **Larry Ketron** (Jodie Overton's father), **Peter Keyes** (2806 N Decatur Rd, Apt. 514, Decatur, GA 30033), **Diane Lowe** (7125 Meadowbrook Cir, 37918), **Joan Moon** (7655 Apple Cross, Corryton, 37721), **Nancy Morgan** (3105 Atoka, 37917), **Donna Shirley** (Larry Ward's sister, 4133 Stephanie, Jonesboro, AR 72405), **Mike O'Tool** (Ron O'Tool's grandson), **Charles Sartwell** (Ann Sartwell's father and former CUMC member, Ivy Park at Monterey, 1110 Cass St, Apt 101, Monterey, CA 93940), **Billy Varnell** (4121 Riverstone Ln, 37918), **Carroll and Lucy Varnell** (4408 High School Rd, 37912), **Kathy Whaley** (friend of Penney Helms, 200 Nodding Oak, Chapel Hill, NC, 27516), **Bill Winans** (1658 Wisteria View Way, 37914), **Rev. Grady Winegar** (4371 Lifespring Lane, #223, 37918), and **Nic** (friend of In Mendenhall, c/o Tim Mendenhall, 865 Barksdale Dr, 37918).

Looking Ahead ~ Our Calendar

Weekly:

Builder's Class Bible Study via Zoom, Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Bible Study, Tuesday, 6:30-8:00 pm, Room 209
Bible Study, Wednesday, 10:00-11:30am, Room 209
Handbell Rehearsals, Wednesday at 5:30-6:15 pm
Choir, Wednesday at 6:15 – 7:45 pm
Worship, Sunday at 10:45 am

Monthly:

1st Tuesday – Prayer Group, 10am, Room 213
Caswell Manor Lunch Prep
1st Wednesday – Serve Caswell Manor Lunch
3rd Thursday – VMC Lunch Prep
3rd Friday – Serve VMC Lunch
4th Thursday – Help at Minvilla Manor
Second Harvest Food Pantry

December 8	Christmas at Central, 5pm
December 15	Christmas Concert, 3pm, Sanctuary
December 16	4 th and Gill Neighborhood Meeting, 6:30 pm, Room 210
December 17	Beta Christmas Party, 6pm, Fellowship Hall
December 20	Centro Christmas Party, Fellowship Hall
December 22	Blue Christmas service, 6pm, Sanctuary
December 24	Christmas Eve Services, 5pm and 10:45pm

Christmas at Central, our annual Christmas event, will be TONIGHT at 5:00. We will enjoy a soup supper together followed by Christmas games, crafts, and coloring sheets for kids of all ages! We will round out the evening outside in our Pray and Play area roasting marshmallows and s'mores. This is a special event that has been enjoyed by young and old alike...all are invited.

We are excited to celebrate Christmas at the Beta Party on Tuesday, December 17th from 6-8pm! We need food, drinks, money for pizza, gifts, and volunteers! Please sign up on the bulletin boards for donations, and take one or more gift items to wrap for our friends. Please have gifts turned in by Sunday, Dec 15! Thank you! Any questions contact Jeanette at 865-228-2699.

WOW brown bag meal and deep cleaning – Monday, December 9. Check the board for a Sign Up sheet!



The Flower Guild will be using seasonal flowers to decorate the church for the Christmas season. If you would like to contribute to these arrangements, please fill out the form below indicating your name and dedication. These dedications will be listed in the Christmas Eve worship guides for both services. The Flower Guild has graciously chosen to contribute all donations to the Music Ministry for the purchase of new handbells. All contributions are due no later than Sunday, December 15th. Please drop the form in the offering plates or leave it in the church office.

Your name: _____

I wish to contribute to the Christmas floral decorations by making a monetary contribution.

Amount of contribution: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____



Welcome Visitors!

If you are visiting with us today, we invite you to let us know you were here. In front of you, in the pews, you will find a visitor card. If you are willing, leave us your name and phone number, or e-mail address so that we can connect with you and find out more about you and share more about who we are as well.

Care and Prayer

If you have a prayer request, let us know so we can be in prayer for you. Either use the visitor cards in front of you or e-mail Kathy Gant at gants@att.net

Sunday Morning Coffee

The coffee is on! Every Sunday morning at 9:30 am, you are invited to join us for coffee. Connect with Central folks for fellowship and conversation. Coffee is available from 9:30 until 10:45 am.

The Central Hub

Keep up with what's going on each week by subscribing to our weekly e-newsletter. You can subscribe by going to knoxcentralumc.org and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

Spiritual Discipline of Giving and Financial Update

Giving financially is a spiritual discipline and has the power to shape and transform us. When we give, it expresses priorities in our lives. All are encouraged to give out of the abundance that God has provided us. We aren't currently passing the offering plates, but we do ask you to consider giving to the ministries of Central Church in one of the following ways.

- Place your gift in the offering Plate on Sunday Morning. You'll find them as you exit the sanctuary.
- Mail a check to 201 Third Ave. or bring it by the office.
- Give online (text to give) and through the Vanco Mobile App.
- Set up an automatic withdrawal through your checking account. Please reach out to Laurie in the office to sign up.
- Scan the PayPal QR code to donate through PayPal.



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www.knoxcentralumc.org



Pastoral and Administrative Staff

Office: 865-524-1659

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Madie Shehan, Director of Families with Children	madie@knoxcentralumc.org		Katie Chait, Preschool Supervisor	
Ron O'Tool, Building Coordinator			Doug Johnson, Facilities Manager	doug@knoxcentralumc.org
			Jeff Criswell, Custodian	

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