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please give it back to an usher and we will recycle it.

Thank you for helping our environment!



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

# Worshiping While We *Walk*



SECOND SUNDAY OF  
*Advent*

*Welcome to Court Street United Methodist Church*



We are a people called United Methodists.  
*Open Hearts    Open Minds    Open Doors*

The mission of Court Street United Methodist Church  
is to be a welcoming, nurturing, and serving community of Christ.

*2nd Sunday of Advent  
December 6, 2015*

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

## WE GATHER to be NURTURED

Prelude

“Lo, How a Rose”

*Ringing of the Bell*

*Please sign registration sheets and pass to others in your pew.*

Lighting of the 2nd Candle of Peace

*Tashiana Deleon & Family*

.. in a visit to a nursing home, and in the smile - or cry - of a child.

**ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.**

§ **Opening Hymn UMH #203**

**“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*Rev. Calvin Culpepper*

Prayers of the People

**The Lord’s Prayer, UMH# 895**

## WE ARE NURTURED by GOD’S WORD

§ Scripture Lesson - New Testament p. 91

John 1:1-18

*Leader:* This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Christmas Cantata

### The Incarnation

K. Lee Scott

#### Glory Be to God on High

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Glory be to God on High,

And to the Earth be Peace:

God comes down: He bows the Sky;

He shows himself our Friend!

God th’Invisible *appears*,

God the Blest, the Great I AM

Sojourns in this Vale of Tears,

And JESUS is his Name.

Him the Angels all ador’d,

Their Maker and their King:

Tidings of their Humbled LORD

They now to Mortals bring:

Emptied of his Majesty,

Of His dazzling Glories shorn,

Being’s Source *begins to BE*,

And GOD himself is BORN!

See th’Eternal Son of GOD

A Mortal Son below,

Dwelling in an Earthly Clod,

Whom Heav’n cannot contain!

Stand amaz’d ye Heav’ns at This!

The LORD of Earth and Skies

Humbled to the Dust He is,

And in a Manger lies!

We the Folk on Earth rejoice,  
The Prince of Peace proclaim,  
With heaven's Host lift up our Voice  
And shout *Immanuel's* Name;  
Knees and Hearts to Him we bow;  
Of our Flesh, and of our Bone,  
JESUS is our Brother now,  
And GOD is All our own!

**Love Came Down at Christmas**  
Christian Rossetti (1830-1894), alt.

Love came down at Christmas,  
love all lovely, love divine;  
love was born at Christmas--  
star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
love incarnate, love divine;  
worship we our Jesus--  
but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
love be yours and love be mine;  
love to God and neighbor,  
love for plea and gift and sign.

**In the Beginning Was the Word**  
John 1:1-5; 10-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of the world. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. He was in the

world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came to his own and his own did not receive him. But as many as received him, to them he gave the power to become God's children, even to those who believe on his name, who were born not of blood, nor the will of the flesh, but of God. And the Word was made flesh and dwelled among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Exult, O Morning Stars Aflame!**  
Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1992

Exult, O morning stars aflame!  
with all the works of God proclaim  
the Child of Bethlehem who came  
for love and love alone.

Come earth and air and sky and sea,  
bear witness to his deity  
who lived, the Man of Galilee,  
for love and love alone.

By faith behold the Crucified,  
his arms of mercy open wide,  
the Lamb of Calvary, who died  
for love and love alone.

Let every eye his glories see,  
who was, and is, and is to be;  
who reigns as Christ in Majesty  
for love and love alone.

O world, by strife and sorrow torn,  
new hope is yours on Christmas morn,  
the Prince of Peace a child is born,  
for love and love alone.

### **That Virgin's Child**

John Gwyneth, c. 1530, alt.

That virgin's child  
most meek and mild,  
    alonely for my sake,  
his Father's will  
for to fulfill  
    he came great pains to take.  
Such pain and smart,  
as in his heart  
    he suffered for his kind  
can no one take,  
nor mourning make  
    so meekly for a friend.

Now Christ Jesu,  
of love most true,  
    have mercy upon me:  
I ask thee grace  
for my trespass  
    that I have done to thee.  
For thy sweet name  
save me from shame

and all adversity:  
For thy dear sake  
to thee me take,  
    and mourn no more for me.

### **See, See, the Word Is Incarnate**

Godfrey Goodman, c. 1624, alt.

Charles Wesley

See, see, the Word is incarnate;  
God is made flesh in the womb of a virgin.  
Shepherds rejoice,  
    wise men adore and angels sing:  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax  
hominibus bonae voluntatis.*  
(Glory to God in the Highest  
and on earth peace...)  
Alleluia!

Knees and Hearts to Him we bow;  
Of our Flesh, and of our Bone,  
JESUS is our Brother now,  
And GOD is All our own!

## **WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD**

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory "From Heaven Above To Earth I Come" ~ *Johann Gottfried Walther*

§ **Doxology UMH #94**

**"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

## **WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE**

§ **Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #152**

**"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"**

§ **Benediction**

We have gathered, prepared, celebrated and received. Now let us go. Go to encounter and engage your world in such a way that those who meet you have met the incarnational presence of Christ. Know that God goes before you and with you

and that you will meet no one along the way whom God has not appointed to be in your path. *Amen.*

Postlude

“Glory Be to God on High” (*Reprise*)

## *Brunch, Bakery, Bazaar & Evergreens*

All are invited to the Lower Level to enjoy our United Methodist Women's event to support their mission fund. Brunch is offered for only \$6 per person.



### *Come Home*



### *for the Holidays...*

## *Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets' Christmas*

**December 13 - 10:00 a.m.**

Featuring our children from ages 4 through 13



### *Advent Workshop for Youth*

**Saturday - December 19 - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

### *“Hark!” Christmas Pageant*

**December 20 - 10:00 a.m.**

Our youth under the guidance of

James Marck, Director of Music, James L. Crow, Director of Arts Ministries

### *Christmas Eve: Family Worship*

**Thursday - December 24 - 4:00 p.m. - Chapel**



### *Christmas Eve: Candlelight Worship*

**Thursday - December 24 - 9:30 p.m.**

Adult Choir & String Ensemble

Sanctuary





**We welcome you, member or visitor**, as we join in worshiping God this morning. We pray you will be blessed and invite you to return!

**Today through Thursday, December 24th, poinsettias will be our altar flowers.** If you would like to donate towards them & memorialize someone, please donate \$24 & sign up on the altar flower list outside the church office. We only need 2 memorials each Sunday at the most. The plants would not be picked up until Dec. 24th.

### **Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! on Dec. 9th!**

**4:00 - 5:30 p.m.**

- Rev. Rhoads' class in the Library - Adults

**5:30 - 6:00 p.m.**

- Dinner by Diane in the Dining Room for only \$3.50/person

**6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

- Men's Fellowship Group in the Dining Room in the Advent Study below
- **Join us in the Dining Room during Advent as we learn about the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Christmas!** Meeting at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays, December 9, and 16, for only 1 hour, this will give you a much-needed break from the hurry and scurry of preparations. Books are only \$8 each.



**Angel Tree, a Ministry of Prison Fellowship**, is a program designed for children whose parent is in prison. This year we have 55 children. Many of these children live in our church neighborhood. We buy gifts for the children and give them on behalf of the parent who is in prison. Family members of the children will be contacted to determine needs. Each child will receive 2 gifts, one a toy and one a clothing item. You can: 1) Volunteer to distribute angels following any worship service. 2) Buy gifts for the children (\$15-\$25 each Retail). **Do not buy any gifts until you receive your angel.** 3) Make a cash donation or a check payable to Court Street United Methodist Church with Angel Tree Ministry on memo line and mailing to Barb or Gene Ferry at 1321 Camp Ave., Rockford, IL, 61103. 4) Shop for gifts. 5) Organize and deliver gifts between December 20th and December 24th. 6) Pray for the prisoners and their families. To receive your angel, please look for Barb or Gene Ferry or an Angel Tree representative following the service in the Narthex starting Nov. 15th. The angels will be on a small green Christmas tree. For questions, contact Barb or Gene at 815-965-6518.

**It is time to gather children's mittens, gloves, caps, and perhaps a scarf or two to be placed on the "mitten tree" which is in the narthex.** The Nurture Committee will distribute them to needy little ones after Christmas.

***Don't forget:***

***Final date to order Scrip for Christmas giving is next Sunday, Dec. 13th.***

***Carol with us in the neighborhood on Wednesday, December 16th, 7:00 p.m..***

## Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

**Sunday Second Sunday of Advent**

**12/06**      **9:00 am**    **Lamplighters in Room 209**  
                  **9:00**        **Sunday School in Room 104/Nursery**  
                  **9:00**        **UMW Bakery, Bazaar, Evergreens Sale**  
                  **10:00**       **Worship in the Sanctuary - CANTATA**  
                  **11:15**       **UMW Brunch, Bakery, Bazaar, greens Sale**  
                  **11:15**       **Children's Choir in Choir Room**  
                  **1:00 pm**    **Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets**  
                  **1:00**        **Youth Homework 2nd Floor Computer Lab**  
                  **2:00**        **Youth Bowling @ Don Carter Lanes**

**Mon 12/07**   **9:00 am**    **MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103**  
                  **4:30 pm**    **SPRC meeting in Room 209**

**Tue 12/08**   **9:00 am**    **MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103**  
                  **9:00**        **Quilters in Room 206**  
                  **9:00**        **History & Archives in Room 201**  
                  **9:00**        **"Ugly Bag" Ladies in Room 205**  
                  **10:30**       **Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room**  
                  **11:00**       **Adult Computers, Computer Lab, 2nd Floor**  
                  **4:30 pm**    **DKG Christmas Party in the Dining Room**  
                  **5:30**        **Trustees Meeting in the Library**  
                  **6:00**        **JuBellation Rehearsal in the Choir Room**  
                  **7:00**        **Chancel Choir in the Choir Room**  
                  **7:00**        **Grace Awakening in Room 202 & 209**

**Wed 12/09**   **9:00 am**    **MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103**  
                  **9:30**        **Early Head Start in Room 100**  
                  **4:00 pm**    **Holy COW! -- SEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
                  **6:30**        **Setup/serve Women's Crisis Center Meal**

**Thu 12/10**   **9:00 am**    **MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103**  
                  **9:30**        **Early Head Start in Room 100**  
                  **2:30 pm**    **Early Head Start in Room 100**  
                  **6:00**        **Chatterbox Supper @ Ciao Bella, 6500 E. Riverside**

**Fri 12/11**    **9:00 am**    **MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103**  
                  **10:00**       **Early Head Start in Room 100**  
                  **10:00**       **Image Class in the Library**  
                  **1:30 pm**    **Early Head Start in Room 100**

**Sat 12/12**    **8:30 am**    **UMM @ Stockholm Inn, 2420 Charles St.**  
                  **10:00**       **Dowel Rod Rehearsal in the Sanctuary**

**Sunday Third Sunday of Advent**

**12/13**        **9:00 am**    **Lamplighters in Room 209**  
                  **9:00**        **Sunday School in Room 104/Nursery**  
                  **10:00**       **Worship in the Sanctuary - Puppets**

**11:15**    Fellowship Time in the Narthex  
**11:15**    Children's Choir in Choir Room  
**1:00 pm**   Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets  
**1:00**     Youth Homework 2nd Floor Computer Lab  
**2:00**     Dowel Rod Ministry  
**3:00**     Youth Christmas Party in the Youth Center

*We thank the following people for making this musical offering possible:*

Chancel Choir of Court Street UMC

John Meyers, *trumpet*

Beth Kinch, *french horn*

Carey Sheley, *trombone*



**Poinsettias have been given...**

... in loving memory of my husband, Vic, by Lois McCauley.

...in loving memory of our daughter, Dr. Katherine Andersen, by Milt & Judy Schmitt.

**TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**Greeters:** Gary & Doris Noble

**Ushers:** The Sue Cram Team

**Video Tech:** Steve Ripley

**Sound Tech:** Stan Tunnell

**Van Driver:** Bruce Shindel

**MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET**

The Congregation	<i>Ministers</i>	
Calvin Culpepper	<i>Pastor</i>	<a href="mailto:cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org">cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org</a>
Miriam Castro-Rodriguez	<i>Deacon</i>	
Ryanne Ludington	<i>Christian Ed Director</i>	<a href="mailto:RyanneLudington@courtstreetumc.org">RyanneLudington@courtstreetumc.org</a>
James L. Crow	<i>Director of Arts Ministries</i>	<a href="mailto:JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org">JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org</a>
James Marck	<i>Director of Music</i>	<a href="mailto:JamesMarck@courtstreetumc.org">JamesMarck@courtstreetumc.org</a>
Teresa Field	<i>Parish Nurse</i>	<a href="mailto:TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org">TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org</a>
Diane Lutmer	<i>Nursery</i>	
Verlette Gorman	<i>Church Co-Administrator</i>	<a href="mailto:ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org">ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org</a>
Lorelle Wandell	<i>Church Co-Administrator</i>	<a href="mailto:LorelleWandell@courtstreetumc.org">LorelleWandell@courtstreetumc.org</a>
Derek Coffman	<i>Maintenance Engineer</i>	<a href="mailto:Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org">Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org</a>
Odis Black & Sean Smith	<i>Custodians</i>	

Court Street United Methodist Church

215 North Court Street

Church Office: (815) 962-6061

Rockford, IL 61103

Church Fax: (815) 962-9754

[www.courtstreetumc.org](http://www.courtstreetumc.org)