

Parents -Please escort your children to the restrooms.
Also, please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.

Thank you.

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

WE GATHER to be NURTURED

Prelude Wachtel Auf: Prelude ~ Wayne Wold

Ringing of the Bell

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

Leader: As we wait in the “in-between” times before Jesus comes again there are many seasons. Especially during this time of the year when the “to-do” list is extra long, how do we endure and find meaning within the daily grind?

The Last Meal from ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’

Peter Bailey, George’s dad Steve Whitmore

§ **Opening Hymn UMH #140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

Sharing of Joys and Journeys Rev. Calvin Culpepper
Pastoral Prayer

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD’S WORD

God’s Word in Song
“How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place” ~ Lightfoot
Chancel Choir, Children’s Choir

Old Testament Reading - p. 631 Isaiah 2:1-5
Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn FWS #2129, vs 1 “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”
The children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Children’s Message
“How much do you know about sheep?” James L. Crow

Hymn - see screens, vs 1 “This Little Light of Mine”

§ Gospel Reading - New Testament p. 27 Matthew 24:36-44
Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
according to Matthew.
People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“It’s a Wonderful Life: Endure It”
Rev. Calvin Culpepper

WE RESPOND to GOD’S WORD

Please turn to page 12 in the front of The United Methodist Hymnal.

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves
Offertory

§ **Doxology UMH #94 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**
Please remain standing as you are able after the Doxology.

The SERVICE of WORD and TABLE

We will use Musical Setting A on p. 17 for the sung responses.

*The communion bread served is gluten-free
so that all may partake of the Holy Sacrament.*

Communion Music

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ **Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #626**
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

§ Benediction ~ Based on Romans 12:9-13
Go forth into the world in peace; let your love be genuine, hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Labor for God’s reign in all that you do, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Choral Benediction
“The Lord Bless You and Keep You” ~ Lutkin

Postlude “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” ~ Arr. Lani Smith

Facetime by the Big Bell

A most familiar Advent Tune, Wachtel Auf reminds us of the imminent coming of Christ. Over the next three weeks, the preludes immediately preceding our worship will feature a selection from a suite of pieces based on this tune. These pieces were arranged by Wayne L. Wold, an active Professor, College Organist, and Music Department Chair at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland. This first week’s selection, the Prelude, is based on the opening phrase, “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying!” As you prepare your heart and mind for worship, we hope you will enjoy these selections in your moment of meditation.

Memory Verse for This Week

“Keep awake therefore,
for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.”
Matthew 24:42



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

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 whom live in our church neighborhood. We buy gifts for the children and give them on behalf of the parent who is in prison. Each child will receive 2 gifts, one a toy and one a clothing item. You can help us by: 1) Volunteering to distribute angels following any worship service. 2) Buying gifts for the children (\$15-\$25 each Retail). **Do not buy any gifts until you receive your angel.** 3) Making 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) Shopping for gifts. 5) Organizing and delivering gifts between December 17th and December 22nd. 6) Praying for the prisoners and their families. To receive your angel, please look for the Angel Tree representative following the service in the Narthex. For questions, call 815-965-6518.

Granny’s Corner is a new addition to the Christmas Bazaar. It is an additional effort to raise money for UMW. We need contributions. ..TREASURED ITEMS ...that you can part with. KEY WORD IS TREASURED, NOT RUMMAGE. Examples might include CHRISTMAS TREASURES you no longer use, VINTAGE JEWELRY, SPECIAL BASKETS, OLD BENCHES. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY** you can drop off donations before and after church in the Lower Level Worship Room.

Best remedy for Holiday Angst is the CHRISTmas Activities planned at CSUMC. These activities are guaranteed to Reduce Your Stress, Refresh Your Spirit, and Renew Your Soul. Come for a **30-Minute Worship on Wednesday, December 6, at Noon in our Chapel. Then stay for the UMW Christmas Lunch for everyone in the Dining Room. Please RSVP to (815) 877-2141 if you are coming and how many you are bringing by TODAY. The cost is still only \$7.00 per person.**

Come to ‘A Charlie Brown Christmas,’ a live performance of the televised special performed by our Fine Arts Saturday Troupe. Choose your date and time: December 8 at 7:00, December 9 at 2:00 and 7:00, December 10 at 10:00 and 2:00. \$5.00 per person/Children under 5 free.

Next Sunday, December 10th, we will be taking a special offering to help us meet our Apportionment. There will be an insert next week to help you understand the importance of this offering. You may make your check out to CSUMC with “Apportionment” on the memo line.

Next Sunday, December 10th, is our yearly, and always anticipated, Brunch, Bakery, and Bazaar. If you are interested in having a table for your items to sell, please call 815-877-2141.

Mark your calendar & join us:

Blues Christmas Service - Wed., Dec. 20 - 6:00 p.m. - Chapel
Christmas Eve Worship - Sun., Dec. 24 - 10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary
Christmas Eve Family Worship - Sun., Dec. 24 - 4:00 p.m. - Chapel
Candlelight Service - Sun., Dec. 24 - 9:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

Your contributions in the white baskets on the 1st Sunday of every month at Communion will be greatly appreciated to further our local outreach. The Local Mission Committee will report what they do with your monthly contributions in The Chimes.

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

The Congregation *Ministers*
 Calvin Culpepper *Pastor*
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 Ryanne Ludington *Christian Education Director*
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 Ryan Welk & Luke Kelsey-Powell *Custodians*



Court Street United Methodist Church

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 Church Office: (815) 962-6061 Church Fax: (815) 962-9754
 www.courtstreetumc.org

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Marie Lewis **Liturgist:** Randiann King
Acolyte: Isaiah Meligan
Ushers: The Davis/Dienhart Team **Sound Tech:** Ryan Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley **Van Driver:** Bob Lutmer
Facetime Hostesses: Geri Ryan, Barb Adam

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

Sun 12/03 1st Sunday of Advent
 8:00 am Waffles & Worship in the Dining Room
 9:00 Lamplighters (Adults) in Room 209
 9:00 'Believe' Study in the Parlor
 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 11:15 Facetime by the Big Bell
 11:15 Happy Days Youth Activities begin
 11:30 Christian Ed Team in the Dining Room
 11:30 'Because of Bethlehem' Study in the Parlor
 3:30 pm 'Because of Bethlehem' Study at 5772 Pepper

Mon 12/04
 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 6:00 pm FAST rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Tue 12/05
 8:30 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
 6:00 pm JuBellation Handbell Choir in Choir Room
 6:00 FAST rehearsal in the Sanctuary
 7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 202 & 209
 7:00 Chancel Choir in the Choir Room

Wed 12/06
 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 10:30 UMW Mission Team in the Kitchen
 12:00 pm 30 Minute Advent Worship in Chapel
 12:30 UMW Christmas Lunch in the Dining Room
 6:00 FAST rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Thu 12/07
 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 1:00 pm The Journeymen in the Parlor
 2:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 6:00 FAST rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Fri 12/08
 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 10:00 Early Head Start in Room 100
 10:00 Image Class in the Library & Parlor
 1:30 pm Early Head Start in Room 100
 7:00 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' in the Sanctuary

Sat 12/09
 8:30 am UMM Breakfast @ Stockholm Inn, 2420 Charles St.
 9:00 UMW Brunch prep in the Kitchen
 10:00 FAST @ Wesley Willows
 2:00 pm 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' in the Sanctuary
 7:00 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' in the Sanctuary

Sun 12/10 2nd Sunday of Advent
 9:00 am UMW Bakery & Bazaar on the Lower Level
 9:00 Lamplighters (Adults) in Room 209
 9:00 'Believe' Study in the Parlor
 9:15 Blood Pressure Check in the Narthex
 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 11:15 Blood Pressure Check on the Lower Level
 11:15 UMW Bakery, Brunch, Bazaar on the Lower Level
 11:15 Happy Days Youth Activities begin
 11:30 'Because of Bethlehem' Study in the Parlor
 2:00 pm 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' in the Sanctuary
 3:30 'Because of Bethlehem' Study at 5772 Pepper

ORDER OF WORSHIP
 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

Have with God



'It's a Wonderful Life: Endure It'

& Growing in Love



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.

*1st Sunday of Advent
 December 3, 2017*

WELCOME!

December 3, 2017

We're glad you're worshipping with us this morning! Please fill out this card if you are a visitor to our church or if you have changed your address or phone number. Place completed card in the offering plate as it is passed.

- I'm a visitor.
- Please note my address change.

Name (s): Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms.

How did you hear about Court Street? _____

Children:

Name _____ age _____ grade _____
 Name _____ age _____ grade _____
 Name _____ age _____ grade _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____

E-mail _____