

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 "No One Is Alone" ~ *Sondheim*

Ringing of the Bell

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

§ **Call to Worship** ~ *Based on Isaiah 60:1-6*

Leader: "Arise, shine; for your light has come!"

**People: Even though the days may be dark,
we seek the light God shines before us.**

Leader: "Lift up your eyes and look around."

**People: We gather as stargazers with those far and near,
searching the heavens for the brightest beam.**

Leader: "Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice."

**People: Let us worship the God of light,
who shines in the midst of our darkness!**

§ **Opening Hymn FWS #2178** "Here Am I"

Sharing of Joys and Journeys *Rev. Calvin Culpepper*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Anthem "The Gift of Love" ~ *arr. Hal Hopson*

Old Testament Reading - p. 690 Isaiah 60:1-6

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 "Let's Have a Praise Party!!!" *James L. Crow*

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

§ Gospel Reading - New Testament p. 34 Mark 1:4-11

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

"More Than Hocus-Pocus, Holy!"

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Anthem "He Shall Feed His Flock" ~ *Handel*

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves
Offertory "Children Will Listen" ~ *Sondheim*

§ **Doxology UMH #94 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ **Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #384**
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

§ Benediction

May the Spirit of God rest gently upon you, and may you hear God's voice saying to you, "You are my daughter, you are my son, my beloved children. With you I am well pleased." As people of God, we have been baptized with water and God's own Spirit. Go, therefore, in holiness and joy, remembering who and whose we are and celebrating our life with God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. **Amen.**

Vocal Benediction - "Amen"

Postlude "Go Tell It On the Mountain"
arr. Armstrong

**We thank Tracey Armstrong, our soloist this morning,
for sharing her musical gifts with us today!**

Memory Verse for This Week

"The Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you."

Isaiah 60:2b



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!

**Please turn in all 2017 contributions by TODAY.
Thank you!**

TODAY we will be taking a special offering, United Voices for Children, to benefit ChildServ, MYSI Corp, and Rosecrance. As a network of child advocates, United Voices for Children keeps the needs of the voiceless, powerless little ones before the church and the community. You may give cash or make your check out to CSUMC, with "5th Sunday Appeal" in the memo line, and use the enclosed envelope.

From Amelia Simpson, Rockford JFON Clinic Coordinator: Our attorney has let us know that in order to meet the requirements of the New Americans Initiative grant for the citizenship workshops, as well as accommodate her workload, we'll only schedule one month at a time. Therefore, the only confirmed date we have right now is Sunday, January 28th. Hopefully we'll be able to hold a clinic once a month in Rockford, presumably on the dates we originally gave you for January through April, but the only confirmed one at this point is January.

Ski Outing for all Youth ~ Don't forget to go with Bruce Martin on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, if you signed up for the ski trip.

Children's Choir is looking for new singers. If your son/daughter enjoys singing, or if they have a friend who likes to sing, think about being in the Children's Choir here at church. We rehearse each Sunday for half an hour after church. All you have to do is come ready to have fun and make a joyful noise to the Lord. Any questions, contact Jack Armstrong, the music director, at (815) 742-7415.

Help Worship Committee take down the church Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 6. We'll begin work at 9:00 a.m. until finished. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PART OF WORSHIP COMMITTEE to come help. The more people we have, the faster it will go.

On Sunday, January 7, come to Waffles and Worship, a modern worship experience in the Dining Room. Waffles starting at 8:00, worship begins at 8:30. Communion will be served.

The 2018 Altar Flower chart is posted outside the church office on the bulletin board. Sign up now to get your favorite date to honor or memorialize someone you love.

We are still collecting Box Tops for Education. Labels for Education are NO LONGER valid. Please continue to save the Box Tops for Education coupons. There is a list of products that have the Box Tops coupon posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

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: Beverly Maus **Acolyte:** Morgan Whitmore
Ushers: The Davis/Dienhart Team **Sound Tech:** Brian King
Video Tech: Steve Ripley **Van Driver:** Bob Lutmer
Liturgist: Lorelle Wandell

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

- Sun 12/31 Epiphany/Baptism of our Lord Sunday**
 9:00 am Lamplighters (Adults) in Room 209
 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
- Mon 01/01 Church is Closed - Happy New Year!**
- Tue 01/02**
 9:00 am 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 Handbells in Choir Room
 6:00 Knitting Group @ Lino's, 5611 E. State
 7:00 Chancel Choir in the Choir Room
- Wed 01/03**
 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 10:30 UMW Mission Team in Room 209
 11:30 Staff Lunch @ Capri, 313 E. State
- Thu 01/04**
 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
 2:30 YAVO/Haskell in the Gym
- Fri 01/05**
 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 10:00 Early Head Start in Room 100
 1:30 pm Early Head Start in Room 100
- Sat 01/06 9:00 am De-green the Chapel & Sanctuary**
- Sun 01/07 Covenant Renewal Sunday**
 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
 11:30 Christian Ed Team meeting in Dining Room

ORDER OF WORSHIP
 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

Have with God

Then you shall see
 and be radiant,
 your heart shall
 thrill and exult...

Isaiah 60:5, ESV



& 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.

*Epiphany/Baptism of our Lord Sunday
 December 31, 2017*

WELCOME!

December 31, 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 _____