

**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

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

Ring of the Bell - Please use this to begin focusing for worship.

Prelude "People, Look East" ~ Wayne Wold

§ Lighting of the Advent Candle - Third Sunday - Joy

Ella: Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.

Ella: We light this candle in hope.

Jake: We light this candle for peace.

Teagan: We light this candle in joy!

Rejoice! For our Lord is coming into the darkness of
oppression's exile to lead us home, as we hear in

Isaiah 35:1-10. *(Scripture is read.)*

Ella: Let us pray: O Lord, our redeemer, you lead us from lan-
guishing in sorrow's shadows into laughter's joy over your
abundant restoration. Thank you that you are coming for us to
lead us home along your Way, Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen.

§ **Opening Hymn UMH #98 "To God Be the Glory"**

Sharing of Joys and Journeys

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 12:2-6

Please refer to the Table of Contents to find it in your Bible.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn UMH #657 "This Is the Day"

The children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Children's Message "Advent A to Z Continued" *James L. Crow*

Hymn FWS #2129, vs 1 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Musical Witness "Carol Of The Bells" ~ *Wilhousky*

§ Reading from the New Testament Luke 3:7-18

Please refer to the Table of Contents to find it in your Bible.

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

"Turn, For a Change!"

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

RECEPTION into the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH &
into our LOCAL CONGREGATION - *please see insert*
Etienne Kahe

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory "A Tanzanian Alleluia" ~ *Honoré*

§ **Doxology UMH #94**

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ **Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #185**

"When Morning Guilds the Skies"

§ Benediction

Follow the light of hope's guiding star. Seek the child.

Listen to the words of a heavenly host. Find the child.

Offer as gifts the best that you have. Serve the child.

Peace be among us. God be with us. **Amen.**

-Glen E. Rainsley, from 'Flames of the Spirit,'

ed. by Ruth C. Duck (New York: Pilgrim Press, 1985), 17.

Choral Benediction "Our Last Amen" ~ *Keveren*

Postlude

"The King of Glory Rises, His Star is Seen" ~ *Seyyed Darwish*

Facetime by the Big Bell

The 2019 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.

Ski Outing for all Youth ~ Go with Bruce Martin on Thursday, January
3, 2019. Check the bulletin board outside the Church Office for infor-
mation & permission slips. Please **respond by Wednesday, December
26th** to Rianne Ludington cell (815) 985-4260, Dessie Voigt cell (815)
505-5263, or Bruce Martin cell (815) 985-6159.



We welcome you, visitor or member, as we join in wor-
shipping God this morning. We are all one family. We pray
you will be blessed and invite you to return!

Noisy Offering is TODAY!!

Dig out your coins & help support Waffles & Worship

**Everyone is still welcome to join a small group study of Adam
Hamilton's book, "Not a Silent Night," during Advent:**

Sunday • 8:30 a.m. • Church Parlor

Sunday • 11:30 a.m. • Church Parlor

Wednesday • 10:30 a.m. • Church Parlor

Friday • 1:00 p.m. • various homes

Call Gwen Culpepper for Friday's location: (815) 708-6383

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 19, at Noon in our Chapel. Then stay for a
light lunch in the Dining Room for a free-will donation.**

**If Christmas hurts, come to a Blues Christmas Service on Friday,
December 21, at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel.** A service of remembrance
of lost loved ones or lost direction, and a promise of help by partic-
ipating in Christmas instead of avoiding it. Special music and warm
holiday refreshment will be offered. Bring a friend that might be experi-
encing a loss this season. This is a service to uplift spirits, not depress.

**Come to the Choral Presentation of Ralph Vaughan Williams' 'Fan-
tasia on Christmas Carols' next Sunday, Dec. 23, at 10:00 a.m. in our
Sanctuary.** Includes a chamber group and brass ensemble.

All are welcome to join us in celebrating Christ's birth!

Christmas Eve Family Service - Mon., Dec. 24 - 4:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

Candlelight Service - Mon., Dec. 24 - 9:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

**If you are willing to greet and/or usher at either of these services,
please drop a note in the offering plate or call the Church Office.**

**Consider Scrip cards for those on your gift list, especially those
who are hard to buy for.** The current list of Scrip cards, on hand and
those usually ordered, is available on the church website (courtstree-
tumc.org), at the Scrip table, or in the church office. For the complete
list, stop at the Scrip table. For those who like to go out to eat, consider
a restaurant gift card or two. **TODAY is the Deadline for ordering
cards for Christmas giving.** Also the \$5 and \$10 cards for Culver's,
Beef-a-roo, Backyard Grill, Olympic and Subway make easy stocking
stuffers! Please consider Scrip cards whether you are giving them as a
gift or using them yourself to purchase gifts or for food needs (Gordon
Foods, Valli, Woodman's, Walmart, Sam's Club, Pinnon). *The Scrip
committee thanks you for your support.*

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	<i>Ministers</i>
Calvin Culpepper	<i>Pastor</i>
cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org	
Ryanne Ludington	<i>Christian Education Director</i>
ludingtonryanne@gmail.com	
James L. Crow	<i>Director of Arts Ministries</i>
JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org	
Jack Armstrong	<i>Director of Music</i>
Andrew Mertenich	<i>Organist</i>
Teresa Field	<i>Parish Nurse</i>
TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org	
Diane Lutmer, Bert Cromwell	<i>Nursery</i>
Verlette Gorman	<i>Church Co-Administrator</i>
ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org	
Lorelle Wandell	<i>Church Co-Administrator</i>
LorelleWandell@courtstreetumc.org	
Derek Coffman	<i>Maintenance Engineer</i>
Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org	
Ryan Welk	<i>Custodian</i>
Mike Smith	<i>Evening/Weekend Security</i>



Court Street United Methodist Church

215 North Court Street Rockford, IL 61103
 Church Office: (815) 962-6061 Church Fax: (815) 962-9754
 www.courtstreetumc.org

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Dorothy Powell	Acolyte: Ella Anderson
Ushers: The Davis/Dienhart Team	Video: Steve Ripley
Sound Tech: Stan Tunnell	Liturgist: Carter Anderson
Van Driver: Bob Lutmer	Facetime Hosts: Beverly Maus/Bess Koehn

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

Sun 12/16 3rd Sunday of Advent
 8:30 am 'Not a Silent Night' Study in the Parlor
 9:00 Sunday School - 104, Dining Room, Balcony W
 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 11:15 Facetime by the Big Bell
 11:30 'Not a Silent Night' Study in the Parlor
 11:30 Youth Choir in the Choir Room
 12:00 pm Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets in Room 302

Mon 12/17 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103

Tue 12/18 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 "Busy Bag Ladies" in Room 205
 10:30 Winn Cty Substance Abuse Coalition-Dining Room
 3:30 pm Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room
 6:00 JuBellation Rehearsal in the Choir Room
 6:00 Recovery from Life in the Youth Center
 7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room
 7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 202

Wed 12/19 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 9:30 Deborah Circle @ 7581 W. State St.
 10:30 'Not a Silent Night' Study in the Parlor
 12:00 pm Noon Worship in the Chapel
 12:30 Lunch in the Dining Room
 3:00 Wesley Willows Christmas Party in the Dining Room
 5:30 N IL Wood Turners in the Youth Center

Thu 12/20 8:30 am MAYA's House Christmas Party in the Dining Room
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 1:00 pm The Journeymen in the Parlor
 2:00 Early Head Start in Room 100


Fri 12/21 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 10:00 Early Head Start in Room 100
 1:00 pm 'Not a Silent Night' Study
 1:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 6:00 Blues Christmas Service in the Chapel

Sat 12/22 8:00 am Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 3rd Floor

Sun 12/23 4th Sunday of Advent
 8:30 am 'Not a Silent Night' Study in the Parlor
 9:00 Sunday School - 104, Dining Room, Balcony W
 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 11:15 Facetime by the Big Bell
 11:30 'Not a Silent Night' Study in the Parlor
 11:30 Youth Choir in the Choir Room
 12:00 pm Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets in Room 302

ORDER OF WORSHIP
 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

MEETING WHERE JOINING **U** R ON

The JOURNEY 



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.

*3rd Sunday of Advent
 December 16, 2018*

WELCOME!

December 16, 2018

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 _____