

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

“Interlude, O Salaturias Hostia” ~ *Alexandre Guillmant*

§ Call to Worship

Leader: In Jesus Christ, a light of hope shines brightly in all the world.

***People:* May the light of Jesus Christ shine brightly upon us.**

Leader: May this light nourish and guide us.

***People:* May Christ’s light show us our pathway to new life.**

***All:* Let us now worship in the joy of Christ’s light shining brightly for us.**

§ Opening Hymn UMH # 131

“We Gather Together”

Sharing of Joys and Journeys

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD’S WORD

§ Gospel Reading

Luke 1:68-79

Please refer to your Bible’s Table of Contents to locate this scripture.

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

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

Hymn UMH #657

“This Is the Day”

The children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Children’s Message

James L. Crow

Hymn FWS #2129, vs 1

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

New Testament Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

Please refer to your Bible’s Table of Contents to locate this scripture.

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

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

“Crown Him Lord of All!”

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

WE RESPOND to GOD’S WORD

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory “A Celtic Thanksgiving” ~ *Joseph M. Martin*

§ Doxology UMH #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH # 694

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

§ Benediction

We are called to serve Christ as king of our lives. Let us love one another as we are loved and go forth from this place rejoicing in the love of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Choral Response “Just As I Am” ~ *Arr. Keveren*

Postlude

“Nun Danken Alle Got” ~ *Jeffrey Honore*

You are invited to finish worship by listening to the Postlude.

If you wish to leave, you may do so,

leaving quietly so others may enjoy the Postlude.

Facetime by the Big Bell

We are currently collecting clothing for those in need. At this time we are especially requesting blankets, warm coats, mittens, gloves, jackets, socks, sweaters, flannel shirts, sweatshirts and winter boots and shoes. Please include new and/or slightly used **clean** clothing items. **Donations will be dispersed at our Thanksgiving Dinner as well as during the Worship & Waffles services. Items may be delivered to Room 109.** If you are interested in helping sort and/or distribute clothing, please contact Dorothy Powell: hiogolfer@comcast.net.



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

We are approaching the fall and winter holidays and would like you to keep the scrip cards (on hand or easily ordered) in mind to give as gifts or to help with your holiday purchases. Come to the Scrip table and view our complete list of cards that can be ordered. Remember your purchases allow us to return profits to support ongoing Court Street UM Church programs.

Do you love to bake? The UMW is seeking baked goods to sell at the UMW Bazaar on Sunday, December 8th. We hope that you will join us by baking cookies, bars, breads or other goodies, and donating them to sell. All funds raised will support the ministry of UMW. Please bring your bakery products to the church office by 3PM on Friday, December 6th. If you have questions, please call Jeanine Wang at (815) 218-1700. We thank you for your support!

Angel Tree, a Ministry of Prison Fellowship, is a program designed for children whose parent is in prison. 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 toy and one clothing item. **Do not buy any gifts until you receive your angel(s).** To learn more about how you can help us, please look for Barb or Gene Ferry or an Angel Tree representative following today’s service in the Narthex, or contact Barb or Gene at (815) 965-6518.

If you would like to order Christmas Wreaths or Poinsettias through the Church, you will need to place your order with the Church Office by Tuesday, Nov. 26th. Order forms with details are available in the Narthex.

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner is Nov. 28th, 11 AM to 1 PM. We still need volunteers to help with the event. Volunteer cards are in the Narthex and at the Church Office.

The Domestic Violence Subcommittee will meet at 11:00 AM in the Library on Monday, December 2. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Get in the Christmas spirit by decorating the church during this year’s Hanging of the Greens. We will be decorating the Chapel and the Sanctuary while listening to Christmas music. The event will last roughly from 9 AM to Noon on November 30th, but feel free to come when you can and leave when you must. All are welcome!

The Special Advent Study Series with Pastor Cal will begin next Sunday at 11:30 AM in the Parlor. This year’s study will focus on Adam Hamilton’s *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*. **You may purchase a copy of the book from the Church Office for \$14.**

