

December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome, Announcements and Parish Notes Pastor John

Prelude Jen Moser

***Responsive Reading (From Mary's Song)**

One: My soul glorifies the Lord

All: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

One: For he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

All: From now on, all generations will call me blessed.

*Hymn "Angels from the Realms of Glory" No. 220

Lighting the Advent Candle Tom and Wendy Rife

***Prayer of Affirmation and Assurance**

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of obedience, and no power greater than the power of love, we pray that you spread your spirit across all people of all nations as we prepare to welcome the ruler of all creation, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Amen!

***Unison Prayer**

Gracious Father, we pray for this church and for all churches throughout our community, across our nation, and around our world. May each be blessed, fortified, and protected by your righteous right hand. Fill us with truth, honor, compassion, and love so that we will be equipped to do your will, obey your commands, and serve others as we serve you. This we pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Blessed Savior, we bow before you, seeking absolution and purification for all that we have done and all that we have failed to do. May you guide us through this sacred season and toward the light of your glory so that darkness will never prevail and that goodness will prosper in our thoughts, words, and actions. This we pray in humble and contrite confession. Amen!

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading (Matthew 1:18-25)

Response One: Let us Rejoice in God's Holy Word!

All: For His Word brings us Light, Hope, and Joy!

*Gloria Patri No. 70

*Hymn "Hark the Herald" No. 240

Sermon "Angelic Influence" Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer

As we gather today as a fellowship of believers, let us lift up our prayers and petitions at this time.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer No. 895

Presentation to God of Our Gifts

*Doxology No. 95

*Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" No. 238

Benediction and Postlude

*=please stand in body or spirit

Colors of Christmas

We continue our tradition of the "Colors of Christmas."

Thursday, 12/24 – (Christmas Eve) – White

(signifying purity)

Sunday, 12/27 – Gold (signifying riches)

Financial News

Tithes and Offerings needed each Sunday for budgeted expenses (November 2020): \$1,496

Received last month:

11/01 - \$2,401

11/08 - \$2,180

11/15 - \$1,610

11/22 - \$962

11/29 - \$443

As of 11/30/2020, we received about 102% of our budgeted income for the month of November and 83% YTD. Our recent monthly donations continue to improve our YTD performance. On top of that, we received \$225 for the Salvation Army (in lieu of bell ringing), \$465 for the Food Pantry and \$2,300 for livestreaming equipment. Oak Chapel is alive and well!

Christmas Eve Service

We want to be able to provide for as many people as possible to worship in person on Christmas Eve. We believe we can safely accommodate 75 people in the sanctuary at one time. Ushers will seat you in a safe area that will appropriately accommodate individuals or groups of varying sizes. In addition, we are working on having a livestream option which can be viewed from Fellowship Hall or the comfort of your own home. If you wish to continue to worship from your car, the FM feed will be available or if you want to reserve a room for your family in the church we can provide that as well. Masks will be required in all areas inside the church with the exception of family rooms.



Our Prayer List

Our neighbors and our community, those serving in the armed forces, our country, its leaders

Our Church Family

Jennifer Adair	April Aten
Betsy Bower	Arden Boyer
Bill Feldman	Bill Stewart
Esther Franks	Wayne Kahrig
Elsie Mykrantz	Betty Princehorn
Christy Rickard	Patti Ritchey
Elaine Sprinkle	Sandy Treece
Moore Family - Passing of Jane's brother	
Family of Janice Ritchey - Mark's sister-in-law	
Family of Roger Burckhart	

Our Friends, Family and Neighbors

Family of Larry - Friend of Cindy Mykrantz and Carol Gossage
COVID vaccine

Opportunities for Ministry This Week

Sunday 12/20	Worship	10:30 am
Monday 12/21	Bible Study	9:30 am
Tuesday 12/22	Girl Scouts	6:30 pm
Thursday 12/24	Christmas Eve Service	7:00 pm
Friday 12/25	Christmas Day	



Looking Ahead

Sunday 12/27	Worship	10:30 am
Monday 12/28	Prayer Shawl	6:00 pm
Tuesday 12/29	Girl Scouts	6:30 pm
Friday 1/1	Happy New Year!	

Youth Group:

Our Youth Group typically meets the first and third Sundays of every month from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Gathering Grounds. Our leader provides a lesson that is followed by open discussion. We also have time for fun, games, and a light snack. Due to our current concern for the health and safety of our youth and their families youth meetings have been cancelled for the time being. We hope to resume our youth gatherings early next year.

Join us from our parking lot at 97.9 FM
and visit our website at
oakchapelumc.com

Oak Chapel United Methodist Church

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John Finn, *Pastor*

*Serving God and Community
through Love, Compassion,
Fellowship and Caring*