

December 3, 2023

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

Opening Prayer Pastor John

Peaceful Greeting Congregation

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope The Boyer Family

*Hymn "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" No. 368

*The Apostles Creed Pastor John

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day, He rose from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emanuel" No. 211

*Prayer of Assurance Pastor John

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our savior, we revel in the knowledge that His arrival signals the beginning of new life for each of us. Without Him, we have no hope, but through Him we have encouragement and the promise of eternal life in our Father's Kingdom. Let us celebrate the greatest of all gifts as we lift up His Magnificent Name. Amen!

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession Pastor John

Father, we seek to reconcile with you through your son, whom you sent into this world to atone for our sins and provide a pathway to salvation. Forgive us for our transgressions, and strengthen our resolve to become the holy, reverent, and obedient people you created us to be. In your Merciful Name, we pray. Amen!

Prayer of Preparation Pastor John

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38 A Dramatic Reading

Response

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

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

*Gloria Patri No. 70

Message "A Mighty Messenger" Pastor John

Sacrament of Holy Communion Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer Pastor John

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John

*Doxology No. 95

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

Benediction Pastor John

Postlude Jen Moser

**=An Invitation to Stand in Body or Spirit*

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Holiday Hymn Sing

Catch the Christmas Spirit when Oak Chapel presents "The Light Within Us" on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. Festive carols and hymns will be sung that day, and a cookie carry-in will follow in Fellowship Hall. Any musicians who wish to participate are encouraged to contact Jen Moser.

Hope for the Holiday

The Grace Ringers and Friends will present a benefit Christmas Handbell Concert on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 1:30 p.m. at Lincoln Way Vineyards (9050 West Old Lincoln Way). "On the Rise" Bar-B-Que Food Truck will be onsite from noon to 8 p.m. Donations will benefit Cancer Research.

Advent Bible Study

Oak Chapel's Advent Bible Study continues this Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. A light meal of soup and bread will be served from 6:00-6:30 p.m. The study will run from 6:30-7:30 p.m. If you would like to provide soup at the second or third session, please contact Pastor John.

An Invitation to Join Us

If you have been worshipping with us recently and would like to enter into membership at Oak Chapel, we would be honored and blessed to have you join our congregation. Just let Pastor John know, and he will make arrangements to officially welcome you into our church on Sunday, December 10.



Praises and Prayers

Lord Jesus, as we prepare to celebrate the anniversary of your birth, we give thanks to you and to the Father for giving us the greatest gift of all time. Inspire and fortify us in our efforts to be a source of comfort, encouragement, and hope for those who are suffering as we lift up the following praises and prayers before you...

Praises

- *For Oak Chapel's many goodwill ministries
- *For Becky Schlund's daughter-in-law's successful surgery

Prayers

- *For Wayne Spangler, who is hospitalized in Cleveland
- *For Carol Gasser, who is dealing with severe pain
- *For Sheila Burckhart, who is dealing with health issues
- *For Jeff Burckhart, who is scheduled to have surgery
- *For Sandy Hower's sister-in-law, who is having treatments
- *For Sandy Treece, who is recovering from illness
- *For David Anderson, who was hospitalized last week
- *For Pastor Dan Wingate, who is having tests in Canton
- *For Sheri Finn's nephews who are dealing with health issues

Upcoming Worship Services

- Dec 10.....Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
- Dec 17.....Joyful Anticipation
- Dec. 24.....Follow that Star
- Christmas Eve.....Keep It Simple

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

Sunday 12/3	Sunday School Class	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
Monday 12/4	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Tuesday 12/5	Retirees Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 12/6	Advent Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
	Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead

Sunday 12/10	Sunday School Class	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Young Adult Class	11:30 a.m.
Monday 12/11	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Administrative Council	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday 12/12	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday 12/13	Advent Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
	Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.



Thought for the Day

*Faith is not a leap into the dark,
But rather a step into the light*

Sunday Smile

*The one who complains about the way the ball bounces
is most likely the one who dropped it*

**Oak Chapel
United Methodist Church**



December 3, 2023

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Wooster, Ohio
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John Finn, *Pastor*

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

Today's Message...

"A Mighty Messenger"