

December 10, 2023

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

Opening Prayer Pastor John

Peaceful Greeting Congregation

Welcoming New Friends Pastor John

The Advent Candle of Peace Bill and Tina Braucher

*The Apostles Creed Miriam Zech

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 All Ye Faithful" No. 234

*Prayer of Assurance Miriam Zech
Heavenly Father, you have greatly blessed our church, and we thank you for those who came before us, those currently with us, those who have joined us today, and those who will find a home here in the future. We pray that this church will continue to be a place of worship and refuge for many years to come. In Your Sacred Name, we pray. Amen

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession Pastor John

We are weak in many ways, but God is strong in every way. May He equip and empower us to grow stronger and more disciplined in the face of temptation, and may He forgive us for all of our past transgressions so that we can become holy and pleasing in His sight forever and ever, Amen

Prayer of Preparation Pastor John

First Scripture Reading Isaiah 60:1-2 Pastor John

Second Scripture Reading: John 1:1-5 Miriam Zech

Third Scripture Reading John 1:9-14 Pastor John

Response

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

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

*Gloria Patri No. 70

Choral Anthem Choir

*Hymn "What Child is This" No. 219

Message "A Light in the Darkness" Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer Pastor John

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John

*Doxology No. 95

*Hymn "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" No. 196

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. Donations of cookies are also welcome!

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 one of the remaining sessions, please contact Pastor John.

Blue Christmas

If you have lost a loved one during the past year, or if you are mourning the passing of someone long ago and the holidays trigger melancholy memories, you are invited to a Blue Christmas service at Wooster United Methodist Church on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.

Calling all Men

The men of the church are invited to complete the survey insert in today's bulletin. We are looking to strengthen our men's ministry and fellowship in the coming year, so any feedback that you can provide would be most helpful.



Praises and Prayers

Almighty God, we are so grateful for the gift of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Him, we have been redeemed and sanctified. Let us now go forth in a spirit of gratitude and goodwill to share the good news of salvation while we also lift up following praises and prayers before you...

Praises

- *For Kim Domer's successful surgery last week
- *For Michelle Mosley and the help she received from family

Prayers

- *For Donna Anderson and family following David's passing
- *For Wayne Spangler, who is currently at West View Manor
- *For Carol Gasser as she seeks relief from chronic 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 dealing with an illness
- *For the family of Betty Zeiger, who passed last week
- *For Jeff Baker, who is recovering following an amputation
- *For those in our church who are dealing with Covid
- *For safe travels for Sheri Finn as she returns from Syracuse
- *For safe travels for Ted Zech and friends

Upcoming Worship Services

- Dec 17.....Joyful Anticipation
- Dec. 24.....Follow that Star
- Christmas Eve.....Keep It Simple

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

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.

Looking Ahead

Sunday 12/17	Sunday School Class	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Holiday Hymn Sing	2:00 p.m.
Monday 12/18	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Trustees	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday 12/19	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday 12/20	Advent Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
	Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.



Thought for the Day

*Peace rules the day
when Christ rules the soul*

Sunday Smile

*In this era of conference realignment,
let us not forget that Judas was the first to leave the Big 12*

**Oak Chapel
United Methodist Church**



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John Finn, *Pastor*

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

Today's Message...

"A Light in the Darkness"