

January 5, 2025

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

Opening Prayer Pastor John

Responsive Proclamation (Psalm 51:10 & 12) Pastor John

Pastor: Create in me a pure heart, O God,

People: And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

People: And grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

\*Apostles' Creed Tom Rife

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, 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.

\*Passing of the Peace Tom Rife

\*Hymn "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" No. 218

\*Prayer of Assurance Tom Rife

As the pace of life grows ever faster and the presence of temptation grows ever stronger, we ask you, Lord, to give us the wisdom to rest from our labor and focus not on the things of this world but on the world to come. May the new year cause us to pause and reassess our priorities, so that we can follow your light on the pathway of righteousness. This we pray in your Holy and Precious Name. Amen!

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession Pastor John

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Despite our failings we take heart in the fact that you are full of compassion, rich in mercy, and abundant in grace. Bind up that which is broken and restore in us the joy of your salvation, now and forevermore. Amen.

Prayer of Preparation Pastor John

Scripture 1 Matthew 5:29-30 Pastor John

Scripture 2 Luke 10:25-29 Tom Rife

Scripture 3 11 Timothy 3:15-17 Tom Rife

Scripture 4 Revelation 22:18-19 Pastor John

Response

One: Let us rejoice in God's Holy Word

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

\*Gloria Patri

\*Hymn "Lord, Speak to Me" No. 463

Chancel Choir "A Spiritual Christmas"

Message "Lost in Translation" Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer John Finn

Sacrament of Holy Communion Pg. 15

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John

\*The Doxology

\*Prayer Over Our Offerings Pastor John

\*Hymn "O For a Heart to Praise My God" No. 417

Benediction Pastor John

Postlude Jen Moser

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

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

Post-Holiday Clean-Up

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations after the service this morning. If you could spare 20-30 minutes, we would be most grateful. Many hands make light work.

Take Out Meal—Ham Loaf

United Women of Faith will offer a take-out ham loaf meal on January 12. Each meal will include a generous slice of ham loaf, green beans, and scalloped au gratin potatoes. Each meal will be \$12 and must be pre-ordered, but you may pay at pick-up after worship.

Acorn Society is a group of women who enjoy going out to lunch once a month. On Wednesday, January 8, we will go to the Pine Tree Barn. It is important for us to know who is coming. Please mark the attendance sheet or tell Phyllis or Elizabeth this morning, if you haven't already.

Senior Social

United Women in Faith invites you to a Senior Social on January 21, from 1:00—3:00 p.m. at Oak Chapel. The Community is invited. There will be snacks, puzzles and games. We intend to offer this once a month for casual fellowship. The program may vary according to wishes of those attending.

Grief Share

Those who have experienced the death of a family member or friend are invited to attend the GriefShare program held at Shreve Community Church (430 North Main Street, Shreve, Ohio). Sessions will be held on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m., beginning on January 11 and continuing through April 11. More information is available by phone (330-567-2051, ext. 117) or e-mail (griefshreshreve@gmail.com). The cost is \$20 to cover the book.



**Praises and Prayers**

God of abundant grace and infinite mercy, we bow before you in humble adoration, praising your Blessed Name and lifting up the following praises and prayers...

**Praises**

- \*For God’s presence in our church and our world
- \*For the compassion of our caregivers
- \*For our warm and welcoming church
- \*For the visitation ministry of our church
- \*For Jennifer Adair as she continues to recover
- \*For Caroline Lilburn as she recovers at home

**Prayers**

- \*For Bob Sprang who is in intensive care at Wooster Hospital
- \*For Gene Varns as he deals with vision issues
- \*For Bill Braucher as he prepares for an upcoming procedure
- \*For Brad Kitchen as he prepares for surgery in February
- \*For Lori Hauser as she recovers from a fall
- \*For Dick and Carol Gasser, as they deal with health issues
- \*For Dana Best, who suffered a slight stroke
- \*For Sister Pat, who was injured in a fall

**Art and Soul** meets on the first Monday of the month.

Tomorrow we will be painting a snowman. Cathy Shallenberger is leading. This is a good time to try a new craft. All are welcome at 7:00.

**Fellowship Dinner**—Please join us for a hearty meal and great fellowship immediately after worship on January 19. Please bring a dish or two to share and your table service.

*Choose the way of the cross, not the way of the crowd.*

**Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...**

Sunday 1/5	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
	Worship	10:30 a.m.
Monday 1/6	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Art and Soul	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday 1/7	Retirees’ Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
	Girl Scouts	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 1/8	Acorn Society	11:30 a.m.
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 a.m.

**Looking Ahead**

Sunday 1/12	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
	Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Ham Loaf Take-Out	11:45 a.m.
Monday 1/13	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Tuesday 1/14	Evangelism Team	1:30 p.m.
	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
	Girl Scouts	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 1/15	Acorn deadline	
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Saturday 1/18	Men’s Breakfast	7:30 a.m.
Sunday 1/19	Fellowship Dinner	11:45 a.m.

**Last Week’s Attendance:** ..... 40 in person..... 24 online

**Last Week’s Offering:** ..... \$3873.15

**Morning Bible Study**

Our morning Bible Study in Exodus continues on Mondays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. New members are always welcome. You may join in person or online. Let us know if you would like the link.

**Upcoming Worship Services**

January 12.....	A Quiet Voice
January 19.....	Sick and Tired
January 26 .....	Staying Grounded
February 2 .....	Happy Together

# Oak Chapel United Methodist Church



**January 5, 2025**

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John Finn, *Pastor*

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

**Today’s Message**

***“Lost in Translation”***