

Welcome to Christ UMC. We are glad you are here!

Children are always welcome in worship. Activity packs are available near the Sanctuary entrance.

A nursery play space with a live stream of the worship service is open throughout the morning and is adjacent to the church office.

You may find a full list of our Advent and Christmas events on our website cumethodist.com

Longest Night Service Please join us today at 3pm in the chapel for a service for those who find the holidays difficult. This service features music, candlelight, prayer and hope. Cider and cookies will follow in the Hamline room.

UWF Cookie Orders A reminder that your Christmas cookie orders can be picked up today until 12pm in the Commons. Contact [Deedee Odell](#) with questions.

ASP Lefse Sale is Back! Handmade Lefse is for sale in the Commons today. Proceeds go to sponsor our 2024 Appalachia Service Team! Sale will end at 12:15pm (or sooner if lefse sells out!) Contact [Pastor Amanda](#) for more info.

Last Advent Organ Concert Join us December 19 at 12:15pm in the sanctuary & livestreamed on [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#) as organist John Varona shares music of the season.

Share and Deliver Poinsettias We are in need of volunteers to deliver Christmas poinsettias to homebound and bereaved CUMC members and friends. Delivery date is Tuesday, Dec. 26 from 9am-11am. Contact [Kathy Davis](#) (507-269-7287) to volunteer or with questions.

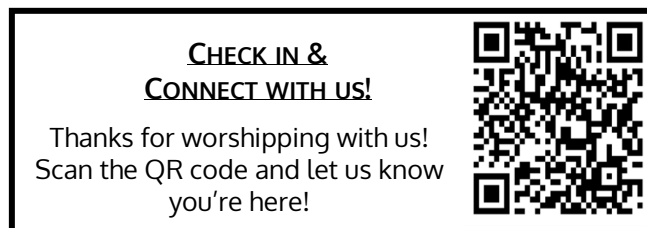
2023 Advent Devotional This year's Advent Devotional is called Maya Angelou and the Freedom Poetry of Advent & will include scripture, reflections and poetry selections. Hard copies are in the church office or email [Samantha](#) to receive the weekly devotional by email.

All Church Read and Study Book for Advent Hope is Here Group conversation will be held today from 4:30-6:00 pm in Room 145 & on [Zoom](#).

Save the Date! You are invited to celebrate Pastor Nancy's retirement on Sunday, January 7, 2024. Starting with the 9am service, we will celebrate with Pastor Nancy and Chuck in worship and during a reception and open house from 10am-12:30pm. We also invite you to share tributes and words of appreciation for Pastor Nancy. Please share your affirmations here: <https://tinyurl.com/pastornancyaffirmations>.

Special Offering We are also collecting a love offering dedicated to Pastor Nancy that will support the CUMC Foundation. You may note "Love Offering" with your gift or choose "Love Offering" from the giving options at cumethodist.com/give.

New Year's Eve Combined Worship Service Please join us on Sunday December 31st at 10am in the sanctuary for a combined worship service. This service will replace our 9am and 11am services.



Christ United Methodist Church

Creating committed Christ followers for the transformation of the world



9:00am Traditions Worship

December 17, 2023

Children's Christmas Pageant



We welcome you and name the sacred power of the Wahpeton people on whose land we stand

Pastor Jenny pastorjenny@cumethodist.com
Pastor Kirkland pastorkirkland@cumethodist.com
Pastor Nancy pastornancy@cumethodist.com
Pastor Amanda pastoramanda@cumethodist.com

507-289-4019
email@cumethodist.com
cumethodist.com

Christ United Methodist Church

With open hearts, open minds and open doors, we welcome people of all races, nationalities, theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect.

Prelude "Passacaglia in d-moll" John Varona, Organ
Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome Rev. Jenny Cannon, Rev. Kirkland Reynolds

***Opening Hymn** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH 206

+Morning Prayer Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon

Lighting the Advent Candles Czarnowski Family

Sung response to the tune of UMH 420

Kindle this flame of joy. May it be bright and true.

Lighting the way that is of God, the journey we pursue.

God's realm is our desire, where peace and justice reign.

Heaven and earth combined as one, when Christ shall come again.

Children's Message Jody Peterson

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music "Toccata on "Adeste Fideles"/"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
Paul Fey John Varona, Organ

***Doxology** "Give Thanks" FWS 2036

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" UMH 216

Hearing the Word Isaiah 61:1, 10-11 Rev. Amanda Larsen
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Responding to the Word

One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God.

Christmas Pageant "Twas the Evening of Christmas"

***Closing Hymn** "Angels We Have Heard on High" UMH 238

Connections & Next Steps

Benediction

Postlude "Fiat Lux" John Varona, Organ
Théodore Dubois

*indicates please stand as you are able

+Morning Prayer from St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Philadelphia

We invite you to join us for coffee and conversation after today's worship service
You are welcome to remain seated or to depart during the postlude

Congregational Prayers

- For those who find the holidays difficult
- For postal service and delivery workers
- For people in need of medical care
- Gratitude for the kindness of strangers
 - For peace



If you would like to sponsor this ministry, please send an email to our Director of Operations, Jack Jefferson at jack@cumethodist.com. The 9am service airs Sundays @11:30am on KOLM radio 1520 AM.