

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WELCOME

### OPENING MUSIC

*Canticle of the Turning*

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

AUDREY SCHUETZ, MICHAEL, NINA & ALTAN AYRES

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Scan QR code to submit your prayers to display on screen during worship*



### INVITATION TO

### OFFERING

*IN DREAMS - ROY ORBISON*

### MESSAGE

Christmas Pageant "The Nightmare Before Christmas"

Thank you to everyone who helped create our Nightmare Before Christmas program. Our creative team includes Nina Ayres, Zak Ballard, Maddy Davis, Claire Dunn, Emma Erickson, Maddie Kennicut, Katarina Larsen, Abigail Neuvirth, Henry Neuvirth, Annika Ostby, Molly Reynolds, Jon Vanderheiden, Spohie Vanderheiden and Elizabeth White. A special thank you to Oliver Books, Bobbi Nichols, Heidi Smid-Neuvirth and Eric Vanderheiden for helping with rehearsals.

### HOLY COMMUNION

*Midnight Clear (Love Song)*

*All are welcome to receive communion, which is served with bread and nonalcoholic grape juice. Gluten free also available.*

### PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

### CLOSING SONG

*What Child is This*

### BLESSING

#### Congregational Prayers

- For those who are working for peace
- For those who show kindness to strangers
- For those seeking to know God
- For those who find the Christmas season difficult

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

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

Our nursery is adjacent to the church office. There are always two adults in our nursery. You may stay with your child if you like.

Between the 9am and 11am services we invite you to join us for fellowship and coffee. Carmel rolls will be available for purchase to support the Appalachian Service Project.

**Longest Night Service Today** Please join us in person and [online](#) today, December 18th at 4pm for a service of word, music, candles, and peace for anyone who finds the holiday season difficult.

**Saturday Noon Meals** Saturday Noon Meals has begun serving meals in person in Wesley Hall. If you are interested in volunteering, or for more information, please [contact](#) Kathy Lombardo.

**Ushers** are needed for the Christmas services. The sign up sheet is in the ushers closet or you can contact Kathy Davis [kadavis2220@gmail.com](mailto:kadavis2220@gmail.com)

**Thrift on Fifth** Remember to check our December calendar to be sure we'll be open when you visit. Thank you for your generous donations and your loyalty and support as shoppers during the past year. All of us would like to wish all of you joy in this season of Advent and Christmas and peace, health, and wishes come true in the New Year!

**Advent Organ Concert Series** Our last Advent Organ Concert is this Tuesday, December 20th at 12:15 in person or on Facebook & YouTube. Previous concerts can be found on our [YouTube](#).

**The Flower Ministry is in need of volunteers** for delivering 60 plus poinsettias to shut-in and bereaved members on Tuesday December 27 at 9:00 am. Please contact Kathy Davis at 507-269-7287 or [kadavis2220@gmail.com](mailto:kadavis2220@gmail.com) if you are able to help.

**Office Closed** In observance of the Christmas holiday, the church office and building will be closed on Monday, December 26. Please contact Jack Jefferson, Director of Operations, with any questions or for scheduling events.

**Advent Small Group Study Sundays**

Advent Small Group Study Sundays running through Sunday, Dec. 18 from 5-6pm in Room 145 and on Zoom (info below). We are reading the book "The First Advent in Palestine: Reversals, Resistance, and the Ongoing Complexity of Hope" by Kelly Nikondeha.

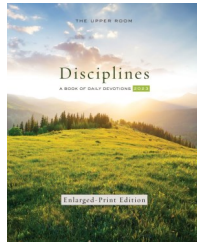


Books are available for purchase in the church office for \$19. Book scholarships available. "The First Advent in Palestine" will also be discussed during in person CU Wednesday Crossroads conversations for adults on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm. Join the Sunday evening discussion group in person or on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3753504116>.

**The 2023 Upper Room Disciplines Daily Devotional**

is now available for purchase in the church office.

Small print is \$10 and large print is \$12. You can also order it as an eBook for \$9.99 from Cokesbury or Upper Room and \$8.49 on Amazon for the Kindle.



**Giving Tree for Thrive & Saturday Noon Meals** In our commons we are hosting a Giving Tree to support Thrive and our newly returned Saturday Noon Meals in Wesley Hall! Take an ornament with a list of items and return those to the CUMC office before Christmas Eve. Check out the Thrive Facebook page for additional ways to support their Target and Amazon wish list or scan the QR codes below!



Target



Amazon



**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Scan the QR Code (*right*) or head to [menti.com/32bfdowxrh](https://menti.com/32bfdowxrh) to share your prayer request with



Call the church office: (507) 289-4019  
or email us: [email@cumethodist.com](mailto:email@cumethodist.com)

**11am Arise Worship**

**December 18, 2022**



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.

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