

**Offering Statement**

\*Offering Music: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Scripture Romans 15:4-13 Pastor Chris Farmer

Series Christmas Letters  
Sermon *Letters from the Past*

Song *Agnus Dei*

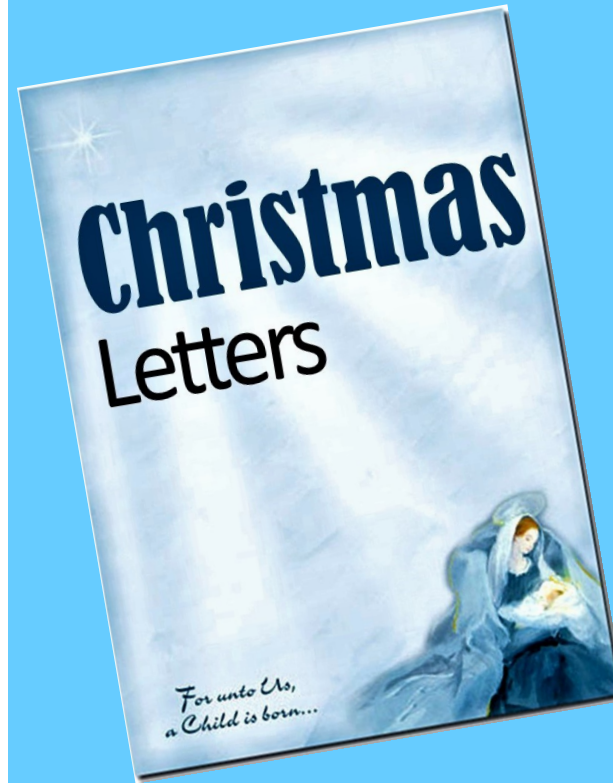
**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Invitation  
The Great Thanksgiving  
The Lord’s Prayer  
Distribution of the Bread and Juice

\*Song of Thanksgiving *O Come Let Us Adore Him*

\*Benediction

MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL  
**JOY & PEACE**  
AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY  
OVERFLOW WITH HOPE  
BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
Romans 15:13



Pastor Chris Farmer  
December 4, 2022  
8:15 a.m.

*Letters from the Past*

*“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

**Romans 15:5-6**

# WELCOME

\*Denotes please stand if able  
Please sign the attendance pad located in each pew.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 AM  
DECEMBER 4, 2022

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**Embracing, equipping & empowering persons to  
know and follow Christ.**

## CONTACT US

We are so glad you have joined us today! We want you to feel at home. You can find out what is happening at First Church on our website: [www.vanwertfirst.net](http://www.vanwertfirst.net). Also, check our Facebook Page for inspiration and information.

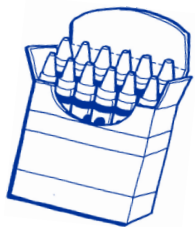
Of course, we do have a telephone: 419-238-0631

And the post office finds us at 113 W. Central Avenue,  
Van Wert, OH 45891

## KID'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT 8:15

**Nursery Ministry** (infant to age 2) is located near the Jefferson Street entrance. You may drop your child off at any time during the service. There are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary for your use.

**8:15 AWE** - AWE is an exciting interactive pursuit of personally knowing God through His Word and embedding all the found treasures into our hearts, minds, and daily lives. This class includes scripture memorization and presentation during service.



**Uptown Kid Praise Packs** are available in the Narthex (near the Welcome Table) for your children to use during worship. Please return the bags after worship.

## The Gathering

**Welcome and Life of the Church**

Matt Krites

**\*Praise and Worship Time**

Cheri Oechsle

*O Come All Ye Faithful/Sing to the King*

**\*Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Jeff & Laura Osburn Family

Leader: We have come to worship the Lord, the God of all nations.

**People: The righteous and faithful judge. Christ the coming King.**

Leader: The Spirit of wisdom and understanding rests upon him.

**People: Under his reign righteousness will flourish and peace will fill the earth.**

Leader: The Spirit of counsel and might rests upon Him.

**People: He will judge the poor with equity and compassion, defending the cause of the needy.**

Leader: The Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord rests upon him.

**People: The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters over the sea.**

Leader: In those days the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid..

**People: The calf and the lion together, and a little child shall lead them..**

Leader: A voice is crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD!"

**People: Repent and bear fruit for the coming Kingdom of God.**

Leader: Christ is coming! May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace as we worship.

**People: May we abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

(Light two advent purple candles)

Song *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

## Opening Prayer

**God in heaven, as we learn to watch for signs of your presence, open our eyes that we might see the ways you call us to bear fruit for your coming kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**