

Leader: We worship you, Lord, and magnify you, God our Savior!

**People: Our hearts will not be afraid! God, you are coming to save your people.**

**Song** *Lift Up Your Eyes*- J. Raney

**All: God in heaven, help us to be people who wait on you, watch for you, and with the help of your Spirit, prepare for you. Continue to shine your light in our lives as we look at all you have done, all you are doing, and all that you will do. Amen.**

*Children dismissed to AWE*

### **Giving of Tithes & Offerings**

Offertory: *Andantino*-E. MacDowell

\*Doxology: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
(sung to *The First Noel* with refrain)

\*Prayer of Gratitude

### **Reception of New Members**

Brad and Jody Lichtenberger, Carol Taylor

Reaffirmation of Faith

**Congregational Response: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the Body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

**Anthem:** *Coventry Carol* - arr. H. Helvey -Annette Hoverman, Scott Turner- piano

**Scripture Lesson**

James 5:7-11

**Series:**

**Christmas Letters**

**Message**

*A Farmer's Letter*

**Prayer Hymn:**

*Lift Up Your Eyes*

**Prayer Moments**

Lord's Prayer (use "trespasses")

\***Closing Hymn:** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

#230 Vs. 1, 4

\***Choral Blessing:** *A Christmas Lullaby (Away in a Manger)*- arr. D. Hustad

**Postlude:** *Hark, the Glad Sound!* - S. Landon

*You are invited to be seated and enjoy the Postlude,  
or leave quietly in peace.*



Pastor Chris Farmer

December 11, 2022

10:45 a.m.

## *A Farmer's Letter*

*“Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near.”*

**James 5:7-8**

# WELCOME

\*Denotes please stand if able

## Gathering in God's Name

### Welcome and Announcements

Marty Burchfield

**Voluntary** *And the Angels Sang*-G. Peterson

Scott Turner

### \*Call to Worship

**Leader:** With joy this day we anticipate the one who is coming, the arrival of the Messiah.

**People:** **The one we call the Word! The one we call the Light. In Our worship, we testify to the light.**

**Leader:** Our testimony contains songs, scripture, and teaching.

**People:** **Our testimony involves our prayers and praise, learning and serving.**

**All:** **May our testimony be a sweet sound in God's ear.**

**\*Introit** *Jesus, the Light of the World*-J. Raney

**Children's songs from** *Arrest These Merry Gentlemen*- Rob Howard, presented tonight at 6:30 pm

*A Peaceful Little Town* Elijah Pollock- narrator

*Look for the Light* Soloists: Maddie & Vivian Laukhuf, Amelia Wagner

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

Mark & Molly Spieles Family

**Leader:** We worship you, Lord, and magnify you, God our Savior!

**People:** **Our hearts will not be afraid! God, you are coming to save your people.**

**Leader:** The blind will receive their sight, the lame will walk, the dead will be raised.

**People:** **Streams will pour forth in the wilderness and the desert filled with the living water.**

**Leader:** God will tear down the mighty from their thrones and lift up the lowly.

**People:** **Strengthen our hearts, Lord. Give us a steadfast and firm faith.**

**Leader:** Sorrow and sighing will pass away, and God will wipe every tear from our eyes.

**People:** **On that day we will be filled with everlasting joy and gladness.**

**Leader:** We wait patiently for you Lord, because you will fulfill your promises.

**People:** **Your mercy is for those who fear you from generation to generation.**

**Leader:** Hear the good news. Christ is coming and will reign forever.

**People:** **Praise the Lord! All our hope is in the Lord our God, come Lord Jesus.**

(light three advent candles)

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:45 AM  
DECEMBER 11, 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 10:45

**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.

**10:45 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.

### Leaders in Today's Worship

**Pastor:** Chris Farmer

**Organist:** Scott Turner

**Acolyte:** Elora Hogan

**Videographer:** Dave Thompson

**Usher/Greeter Coordinator:**

Neil Shaffer

**Liturgist:** Marty Burchfield

**Choir Director:** Paul Hoverman

**Sound Engineer:** Ron Allison

**Projectionist:** Noah Carter

**Graphics:** Cheri Oechsle and

Sherri Arn