

December Prayer Partner *prayer*

*Be Kind and Compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32*

Dear Lord, I pray that you fill (_____) heart with compassion. Give them compassion for the people they will come in contact with at school-friends, teachers, classmates, etc. I ask that you would help (_____) see these people through your eyes and show them the love of Jesus. I also ask for those working with and surrounding this child to have compassion as well. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Considering a last minute gift???

Gift a family
a meal
through the
Food Pantry



Contact
the office
if
interested

REMINDER:

Angel Tree gifts are to be returned
December 22nd.



Thank you for your
continued support of this outreach.

The Church & Office
will be closed
Dec 25th & 26th

Christmas Eve

Family Service - 5:30pm

Family Communion - 6:15pm

Candlelight Service:

Music - 9:30pm

Service - 10pm

Heritage POTLUCK

Sunday, January 12th
5:00pm - 7:00pm

*bring a dish to share
that tells about you

Women's Event
all women are invited
from the
youngest to the oldest

2025 Offering Envelopes
are available on the table
outside the church office



Church Conference
December 18th, 6PM-7PM

FIRST united methodist CHURCH

113 West Central Avenue | Van Wert, Ohio 45891 | 419-238-0631 | vanwertfirst.net



December 15, 2024

Our Vision Statement:

Enlarging the circle of disciples through Jesus

Thanks for joining us today! If you have any questions while you are here this morning, you can find an answer at the Welcome table, which is inside the doors off Jefferson Street.

Whatever your circumstances, and no matter where you've been, you matter to God, and you matter to us. We are glad you are here! If you are a first time guest with us this morning, **Welcome!** Please stop by the welcome table and pick up a welcome packet.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid, for the LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.” Isaiah 12:2

**indicates please stand if you are able*

Please fill out the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor

Welcome & Scripture Martin Burchfield

Prelude *Nocturne on O Little Town Bethlehem* arr. Shelly Hamilton

Announcements Martin Burchfield

***Gathering Meditation** Martin Burchfield
Express gratitude to God, invoking God by name.
Make God’s deeds known worldwide, declaring the supremacy of the divine name.
God will bring us home and exalt our name above the earth.

Advent Candle Lighting Osburn Family

Congregational Response *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Verse 3

***Opening Prayer** Martin Burchfield
God of wisdom, God-in-action, and Spirit of inquiry
prompt us to ask not only what we should believe but also what we should do.
Save us from fruitless speculation that does not issue in obedient action
to fulfill our vocation to serve you in the serving of others. Amen.

Special Music Children’s Musical Cast

Chat with the Children Scott Turner
(Children are dismissed to AWE - Preschool through 5th Grade)

Life in the Church Martin Burchfield

***Song** *We Sing (Joy to the World)*

***Scripture** Zephaniah 3:14-20

Series **Come, Let Us Adore Him**
Message Presence Pastor Christian Taylor

Anthem *A Voice Cries Out, "Prepare the Way of the Lord"* arr. Lloyd Larson Chancel Choir
Gloria Wendel, accompanist

Prayers of the People Pastor Christian Taylor
The Lord’s Prayer

Giving of Tithes & Offerings *(Children return from AWE)*

Offertory *Advent Improvisation* arr. Scott Turner

***Doxology** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* (Tune: Greensleeves. See Insert)

***Prayer of Gratitude**

***Spoken Benediction**

Postlude *Bouree on "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* arr. Shelly Hamilton

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

Thank you for worshiping with us!



*The Flowers on the Altar are given:
In Celebration of Pat Sowers
90th Birthday (Today!), by her family.*



The Organ Concert
can be viewed on our
website:
VanWertFirst.net
*Under Watch Tab

KID’S MINISTRY AWE

Children preschool through 5th grade have an opportunity to build their relationship with Jesus through uplifting songs and impactful Bible lessons by attending our Alternate Worship Experience. Children will be released to AWE after praise and worship and return during offering time.
AWE will not meet Communion Sunday which is the first Sunday of the month.

Leaders in Today’s Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor	Projectionist: Noah Carter
Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf	Sound Technician: Kyle Wendel
Director of Music: Scott Turner	Videographer: Kurt Massillo
Acolytes: Vivian Laukhuf/Heather Keen	Usher Coordinator: Neil Shaffer & Dave Lichtle, Assistant
Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle & Melody Taylor	