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."









2025 Offering Envelopes

are available on the table



outside the church office **Church Conference**

December 18th, 6PM-7PM

FIRST united methodist CHURO

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

Martin Burchfield Announcements

*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)

Martin Burchfield Life in the Church

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

*Scripture Zephaniah 3:14-20

Come, Let Us Adore Him Series

Pastor Christian Taylor Message Presence

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

Gloria Wendel, accompanist

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

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)

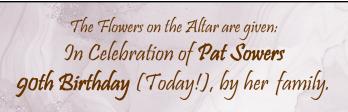
*Prayer of Gratitude

*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 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 Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf **Director of Music:** Scott Turner

Acolytes: Vivian Laukhuf/Heather Keen Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle &

Melody Taylor

Projectionist: Noah Carter Sound Technician: Kyle Wendel Videographer: Kurt Massillo **Usher Coordinator:** Neil Shaffer &

Dave Lichtle, Assistant