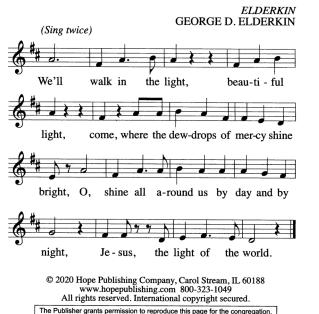
Jesus, the Light of the World Congregational Part





TODAY there will be a special charge conference following the 10:45 service regarding the current national Boy Scout bankruptcy plan. Since our church is a BSA charter organization, ours and other Methodist churches have a vote regarding the BSA bankruptcy plan. The charge conference vote is to give authority to our board of trustees to review the recommendation of the United Methodist lawyers as to whether or not to approve the BSA plan or reorganization, and to vote on the plan on behalf of the church. The chair of the board of trustees is further empowered to execute the plan ballot document. All are welcome to attend this brief meeting, although only Administrative Board members are allowed to vote. Pastor Chris Farmer will lead the session.

Why Christmas...

Why Was There No Room in the Inn?



"....and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them>. Luke 2:7

> Pastor Chris Farmer December 5, 2021 10:45 a.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS OFFERING STATEMENT

VOLUNTARY Angels, Tell It! arr. Scott Turner Handbells Jeremy Laukhuf - bass, Evan Sroufe - percussion, Scott Turner - contrabass clarinet

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Let's hear what the Lord has to say.

People: A voice that speaks of a living hope.

Leader: Hope for all people and for God's friends.

People: Yes, for those who turn to God in their hearts.

Leader: Blessings on the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Glory to God in the highest. And hope to God's people on earth.

*OPENING HYMN	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	#196
	My Hope is Built	Vs. 1, #368

Advent Candle Lighting Mitch, Brooke, Nate & Lauren Gearhart Leader: Advent is a time to watch.

People: We watch, with hope for the dawning light

Leader: Advent is a time to watch for hope in our despair.

People: We watch, with hope for the dawning light.

Leader: Advent is a time to watch for grace and forgiveness.

People: We watch, with hope for the dawning light.

Leader: Advent is a time to watch for peace in the midst of conflict.

People: We watch, with hope for the dawning light.

Leader: Advent is a time to watch for the end of darkness.

People: We watch for Jesus, the Light of the World.

Reader: This morning we light two candles. The first candle reminds us that Advent is a time for waiting. The second candle reminds us that Advent is also a time of watching. We watch with expectant eyes, trusting that God is active, present, and constantly at work. As we light the second candle, we ask for faith to watch for God's presence, and to open our eyes to see all that God is doing.

Song Jesus, the Light of the World J. Raney Congregation may join choir as directed. Words on the back of bulletin.

All: God in heaven, as we learn to watch for signs of your presence, open our eyes so that we might see the ways you are at work around us, within us, and through us. Amen.

*Scripture Reading Luke 2:7

Pastor: The Word of God, for the people of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGESeries: Why Christmas?Pastor ChrisWhy Was There No Room in the Inn?SongO Little Town of Bethlehem#230, Vs. 1,3

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you. Leader: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord. Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION OF ELEMENTS

Leader: It is right and a good and joyful thing,...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER

CHORAL BENEDICTION	A Christmas Lullaby	D. Hustad
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*BLESSING

POSTLUDEAway in a Mangerarr. Joel RaneyYou may be seated to enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in Peace

WELCOME

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:45AM **DECEMBER 5, 2021**

OUR MISSION STATEMENT Embracing, equipping & empowering persons to evangelize through Jesus.

CONTACT US

We are so glad you have joined us today! We want you to feel at home here. You can find out what is happening around here on our website: www.vanwertfirst.net and check out 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.

AWE our Alternative Worship Experience is for children, age Kindergarten through grade 5. Children will be dismissed from the service. Children may be picked up at the Scheidt Room (Kindergarten through Grade 5). Preschool Movin & Groovin in Faith (ages 3-5 years) will be upstairs in room 203 and can be picked up there after worship.

Lead Pastor

Choir Director

Sound Engineer

Videographer

Projectionist

Liturgist

Organist

Acolytes

GIVING:

In the wooden boxes around the sanctuary. On line @ vanwertfirst.net Text: 419.963.3557 Thank you for vour faithfulness.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Usher/Greeter Coordinator

REMINDER: Angel Tree gifts are to be returned December 12th.



Thank you for your continued support of this outreach.

December 24

Family Christmas Eve service

5:00pm

Holy Communion

in Krout Memorial

5:45-6:45pm and 8:15-9:00pm

Music Prelude 9:30pm

Candlelight Christmas Eve

at First Church 10:00pm

December 26

One service - 10:30am

No Sunday School



Upcoming Events:

December 12-Messiah @ 7pm December 19—Christmas Musical @ 6:30pm

The Christmas Offering will go to the following funds:

Agape Fund

Preschool

Haven of Hope

You may designate which fund if you like or the money will be divided among the three.



Chris Farmer **Dillon Staas** Scott Turner **Paul Hoverman Ansley Schwab Ron Allison Dave Thompson** Grace Dowler Neil Shaffer

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