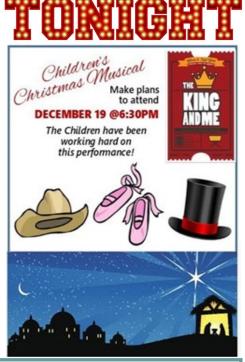
Uptown Kid Praise Packs are available in the Narthex (near the Welcome Table) for your children to use during worship. Please return the bags after worship.

If you are thirsty, coffee is available in the Kitchenette outside Krout.

- All 2021 donations need to be in the office by Thursday, December 30 if you want 2021 tax credit. If you want to know your current giving, please call the office. 419-238-0631
- There will be no food pantry or Bread and Bowl the week of December 27, 2021
- ◆ The church office will be closed December 24 & December 27.





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.



Suddenly, a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:13-14

WELCOME

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15AM DECEMBER 19, 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

KIDS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITES 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.

AWE our Alternative Worship Experience is for children, age 3 through 5th grade. Children will be dismissed from the service. Children may be picked up at the Scheidt Room following the worship service.

GIVING:

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

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP
Lead Pastor Chris Farmer
Worship Leader Jeremy Laukhuf
Sound Engineer Ron Allison
Videographer Dave Thompson
Projectionist Jill Smelser

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
OFFERING STATEMENT
*WORSHIP THROUGH PRAISE

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLEAaron, Kristen, Elijah, Jovie Pollock

Leader: Advent is a time to praise.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.

Leader: Advent is a time to remember God's faithfulness.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.
Leader: Advent is a time to remember God's blessings.
People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.
Leader: Advent is a time to remember God's promises.

People: Praise the Lord and rejoice in his goodness.

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

People: Prepare for Jesus, the Light of the World.

Reader: This morning we light four candles. The fourth candle reminds us that Advent is a time to give praise for what God has done, for what God is doing, and for what God will bring to completion. As the light of Advent grows brighter, it reminds us that we move closer to receiving the gift of a Savior - Jesus, the Light of the World.

All: Father in heaven, we look to you from a distance, from a world filled with darkness. Help us seek the light of your truth, as we remember your promises and offer our praise for your amazing gifts to us. Amen.

SONG Jesus, the Light of the World J. Raney

CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN Brooklyn Laukhuf

Children dismissed to AWE

Song Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #213, vs. 1 & 3

***SCRIPTURE** Luke 2:13-14

MESSAGE Series: Why Christmas? Pastor Chris

Why Music at Christmas?

In the Bleak Midwinter #221, vs. 1 & 4
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing #240, vs. 1-3
Joy to the World #246, vs. 1 & 4

PASTORAL PRAYER
The Lord's Prayer

*BENEDICTION