

# Christ Church United Methodist

December 31, 2023

(live-streamed & in - person) 10:00 am

## First Sunday After Christmas Order of Worship

WELCOME

Liz Curtis Higgs

PRELUDE

*Pastorale, BWV 590*  
Shawn Dawson, organ

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

Leader: You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.

**People: The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders.**

Leader: Where morning dawns, where evening fades,

**ALL: You call forth songs of joy!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

Hymn 220

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: [Refrain]

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;  
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: [Refrain]

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified dead and buried;

the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Hymn 238

See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO PRAYER

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

Hymn 221

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

*What Is This Lovely Fragrance?*  
Jeannie Barrick, soloist  
Daniel Light, piano

arr. Daniel Light

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*SCRIPTURE

*Luke 2:25-38*

Elizabeth Gibbs

SERMON

*Aged to Perfection*

Liz Curtis Higgs

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

Hymn 240

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729*  
Shawn Dawson, organ

J.S. Bach

*\*\*Announcements are located on the following pages*

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**THIS MORNING**

The flowers have been placed on the altar this morning in loving memory of Rusti Silverthorn's parents, Agnes and Russell Cofer and Bob Silverthorn Jr's parents, Robert and Marilyn Silverthorn.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is Shawn Dawson's last Sunday with us! We have been so blessed by his talent and promise to pray for Shawn and his family as they move to their new home.

### Holiday Closure

Our church office and building will be closed after worship today and Monday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

### Fifth Sunday Offering

In the face of challenge, the **Kentucky United Methodist Children's Home** family has always continued to have a generous and compassionate heart for vulnerable Kentucky children. This **offering represents 25% of critical income for the kids**. They are dependent on these gifts to find healing. If donating by check, please write Fifth Sunday in the memo line, or you can give online at [ccum.net/give](http://ccum.net/give).

The K-5th graders and their families are invited to a **Starlight Walk to celebrate Epiphany** and conclude the Christmas season! We will gather on **January 7 at 6:30 pm** in room 005, then move outside to walk a lantern-lit trail, discuss the meaning of Epiphany, sing together, and enjoy being in the stillness of God's creation! The children will also receive gifts of lanterns to carry with them and remind them that they always have the power to bring light wherever they go. Please bundle yourself and your little ones and join us for this final Christmas celebration! Please contact Max Childers, [max@ccum.net](mailto:max@ccum.net), with questions.

**American Red Cross Blood Drive** | Tuesday, January 9 | 1 - 6 pm | Fellowship Hall

Please make an appointment by contacting Kim Brice at 502-727-2581 or [kim.brice@icloud.com](mailto:kim.brice@icloud.com).

**Charge Conference** | January 28, 2023 | 12:30 pm | Room 158

All Administrative Council members are asked to attend and all church members are invited to attend this annual church business meeting. Childcare is available upon request by January 21 to [gina@ccum.net](mailto:gina@ccum.net).

### Christ Church Connect

Three-week, in person class: January 10, 17, 24 | 6:30 - 8 pm | Café

Led by Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant and Rev. Amy Chapman, Christ Church Connect is for **anyone who is interested in learning more about Christ Church** and how you can get connected to the people and ministries. This class is open to everyone, but is most appropriate for those considering membership or who have joined in recent years. Childcare is available upon request. Registration is requested, [ccum.net/connectclass](http://ccum.net/connectclass).

### Adult Study: DISCIPLE

A much-loved Bible study, DISCIPLE, returns to Christ Church, with **two options to choose from!** Whichever option you choose, you'll read, watch, listen, and discuss, as you grow in your knowledge and faith. **Register** at [ccum.net/classes](http://ccum.net/classes).

**Beginning Thursday, January 11 | 11:30 am | Room 260**

Go deep and wide with a 24-week study of the entire Bible.

**Or, beginning Sunday, January 21 | 5:45pm | Room 001**

Spend 12 weeks in the Old Testament.

### Registration for the Laudate Winter Retreat is open!

The retreat is happening on **January 26-27**. We will be spending Friday and Saturday together with food, fun, and fellowship and sing for several organizations in the Louisville metro area. Check in at church Friday evening at 6 pm and we'll conclude on Saturday at 3 pm. **This event is FREE!** Please contact Dan Blosser at [dan@ccum.net](mailto:dan@ccum.net), with questions. Register now at [ccum.net/youthmusic](http://ccum.net/youthmusic).

**Register for Created By God, February 2 - 4, 2024.** This weekend retreat is designed to communicate to 5th graders that we are a fantastic creation made by God. The **topics of human sexuality, values and relationships are approached in a frank, honest and Bible-based manner**. Parents are required to attend an information meeting in

order for your child to participate. For more information, please contact Amy Chapman at [achapman@ccum.net](mailto:achapman@ccum.net), or you can register at [ccum.net/createdbygod](http://ccum.net/createdbygod).

### **Weekly Fitness Classes**

Looking to improve your fitness while having fun? We have 2 types of classes every week in the Gym, open to all ages and fitness levels, and they're **free!**

- REFIT® combines movement and positive music for a cardio-based workout that is challenging, effective and fun for everybody. Classes are Mondays at 6:15 pm and Saturdays at 9 am.
- REV+FLOW® is a low impact, high intensity workout focused on building strength, balance, flexibility and mobility. Classes are Tuesdays at 6:15 pm.

### **College Aged/ Young Adult Contact Information**

If you have a loved one who has taken their first steps into adulthood, whether that be attending college or trade school, entering the workforce, or taking time for themselves, **we want to stay in contact with them** as they transition into becoming adults. Please fill out the information form at [ccum.net/youngadults](http://ccum.net/youngadults) so we can ensure those who are adapting to a new chapter in their lives **feel God's love** through Christ Church.

### **Men's Ministry: Just for Men** | Wednesdays at 7:30 am via Zoom

Join Rev. Mike Porter, Director of Men's Ministries and Discipleship, as he shares scripture and discussion for men during these trying times. Drop-in to our weekly gathering. If interested, please email [katie@ccum.net](mailto:katie@ccum.net) to be sent the Zoom link.

### **Men's Morning Coffee** | Tuesdays | 7 - 8 am | Fellowship Hall

We invite you to come join other men on Tuesday mornings anytime between 7 - 8 am. Stop in grab a coffee and donut, connect/reconnect with old and new friends and listen to a short devotional.