

Christ Church United Methodist

December 1, 2024

(in - person) 9:00 am
(live-streamed & in - person) 11:15 am

Order of Worship

First Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Peace on Earth
Celebration Ringers
Mark Benz, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

arr. Joel Raney

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(9:00) Nelson Knight, Delaney Carroll and Nelson Carroll
(11:15) Melissa and Georgia Ann McHagan

Leader: The journey to Bethlehem begins, and this candle will help light our way.

People: **God's light goes before us, we are not alone.**

Leader: We long for the Good News of Jesus.

People: **We are becoming a people of more hope.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymn 211

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!

Hymn 213

Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on
until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

***INVITATION**

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live
in peace with one another.
Therefore let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

People: Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Let us all pray silently and confess our sins to God.
(All pray in silence)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Now hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.
That proves God's love for us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
All: Glory to God. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

‡ 9:00

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen
Chapel Choir

arr Philip Kern

11:15

Adoramus te, Christe
Chancel Choir

Eric Barnum

***DOXOLOGY**

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.

Hymn 95

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:25-36

HOMILY

Return of the King

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

*SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (*turn to page 24 in the hymnal*)

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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

People, Look East
Susan Blosser, solo

French Carol

Intermezzo, Op. 118, No. 2
Sarah Patton, piano

Johannes Brahms

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Anna Walton, Matt Walton, Reese Walton, and Eric Ruppel

Wait for the Lord
Wait for the Lord, his day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!

Taizé

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PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*CLOSING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Hymn 196

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Savior, of the Nations, Come, BWV 661
Matthew Vanover, organ

J.S. Bach

‡ Mark Benz, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

***Announcements are located on the following pages*

This Morning

The flowers displayed in the Chancel area today have been given in loving memory of our parents, Julia and Bill Yackey and Kay and Jack Wetzel by Steve and Debbie Yackey and family.

Our Church Family

Christian sympathy is extended to Brian and Amy Moore on the death of Brian's mom, Wanda Moore, who died November 23. Christian sympathy is also extended to grandchildren Chase, Hunter and Ava.

Advent 2024

ccum.net/advent

Advent Kick-Off Gathering: ADVENTure Begins!

Sunday, December 1 | 10 am | Fellowship Hall

Start your Advent with our Christ Church children and youth for breakfast snacks, special music, a festive craft and a SNACKTIVITY!

***The Weary World Rejoices* | An Advent Study**

Study information can be found at *ccum.net/advent2024*

Many of our Sunday Schools Classes are embarking upon a single journey throughout the Season of Advent. *The Weary World Rejoices*, by Kate Bowler offers the opportunity to find ourselves on the same page of scripture and as recipients of the same blessings. While we join this path from our own classes or kitchen tables, we are all part of a collective journey toward Christ.

Friendly Beasts "Live Nativity"

Friday, December 6 | 6 - 8 pm | Back Parking Lot

This holiday season, come gather at the stable as we await the arrival of a King! Beneath a wintry sky, join us for a starlit prayer walk, ornament making, cocoa and coffee, a read-aloud and a Friendly Beasts Meet-n'-Greet with Sunny Acres Farm! The read aloud begins at 6:30 pm and the Friendly Beasts Meet-n'-Greet is open from 6 - 7:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to help in decorating for and cleaning up after the event; email max@ccum.net if interested.

Sanctuary Series presents the **Ballard Madrigal Singers Concert**

Monday, December 9 | 11:30 am | Chapel
The concert is free, and all are welcome.

***This Is Christ The King* | 2024 Christmas Concert**

Join us this Christmas season with one of our church's most treasured traditions! Our annual Christmas concerts feature carols, both old and new, presented by the Chancel Choir, Carillon Ringers, Jubilate Ringers and orchestra. A freewill offering will benefit Dare to Care. Admission is free, and all visiting family, friends and guests are welcome! More information is available at ccum.net.

Sunday, December 8 | 5 pm
Wednesday, December 11 | 7:30 pm
Sunday, December 15 | 9 & *11:15 am
Tuesday, December 17 | *7:30 pm
*Concert will be livestreamed at ccum.net/live

Holiday Hope Service | Sunday, December 15 | 5 pm | Chapel

This is a worship service designed as a gift of love and hope to those who may have experienced suffering or loss. In trying and painful times, we come to God and look to Christ's light for comfort and peace. The service will be live-streamed at ccum.net/live.

The Dwell class will host a **brunch for our college students** while they are home for Christmas break on **Sunday, December 22 at 10 am in Room 150b**. Light snacks and refreshments will be served.

Christmas Eve Worship Services | Tuesday, December 24 | Sanctuary

3 pm | 5 pm | 10:45 pm
3 pm service is designed for families with young children.
5 pm service will be live-streamed at ccum.net/live.
Childcare is only available at the 3 pm and 5 pm services and is for ages 3 and under.

Sunday, December 29 | 10 am

Worship only. No Sunday School. Childcare is available for ages 5 and under.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has granted a renewal leave for Dr. Dan Blosser beginning January 2 through February 27. Renewal leave provides energizing renewal for clergy, staff and the congregation. It is an important part of maintaining focus, commitment, passion and skill for ministry. Dan has prepared the staff and his team well for his absence. We invite you to extend prayers for Dan during this time of renewal.

College-age? Young adult? Wondering where you fit? Visit **Dwell!**

Led by Sarah Patton and Jennifer Goselin, this **brand new gathering** is for **young adults** age 18 - 35 (single or married, no children) in Room 150b on **Sunday mornings from 10 - 10:45 am**. Invite a friend and come to Dwell.

Parking Lot Caution: From time to time, cars are broken into in the church parking lot, even during well-attended events, during daylight, and when the car is parked for a short amount of time. External cameras are mounted around the building, but not all areas of the parking lot are visible. Please be sure not to leave any valuable items visible in your car when parking.

NEW NUMBER! REACH ON-CALL PASTORS | (502) 893-7774

Call or text (502) 893-7774 to connect with a pastor in case of a pastoral emergency (like at emergency room, admitted to the hospital, scheduled for surgery, actively dying, a recent death, suicidal, active family conflict, a move from or to a rehab or nursing facility or some other crisis). A pastor will answer, or you can leave a message and a pastor will return your call shortly. Out of respect, please do not use any individual staff cell phone numbers, no matter how well you know them, so they can truly be off when they are off. All of our pastors care greatly about the congregation members and want to offer care when you need us. Please help us by adding this number to your phone contacts!

FELLOWSHIP

As is our tradition, the Staff Parish Relations Committee wants to give you the opportunity to **show your appreciation to the staff** by making a contribution towards a Kroger gift card for each of them, if you so choose. To **express your gratitude**, you may write a check to CCUM with ‘Staff Appreciation’ in the memo line or give online at ccum.net/give and choose ‘Staff Appreciation’ from the fund drop-down. **Please send your gift by Monday, December 9.** Whatever amount you may be able to give, thank you for recognizing our talented and dedicated clergy and staff at Christmas.

Have you seen the **Christ Church Yearbook**? Check it out for highlights of 2024. You’ll find hard copies on the slat walls around the building and online at ccum.net/yearbook.

Scout Troop 317 Christmas Tree Stand will open this year on Black Friday, **November 29 at 12 pm!** Come pick out your **tree, wreath and garland**, all of the highest quality at bargain prices, while supporting a great cause. The sale is in the **church’s back parking lot** - come early for the best selection! Open weekday evenings from 6 – 8 pm and weekends, 12 – 8 pm until sold out.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Laudate Winter Retreat | January 24 - 25, 2025

Registration is now open! Join us for two days of food, fun, fellowship, and opportunities to sing for several organizations around the Louisville metro area. This event is **FREE!** Questions? Contact Ben Williams at ben@ccum.net. For more details and registration, visit ccum.net/youthmusic.

SENIOR ADULTS

SAM Luncheon | Monday, December 9 | 11:30am | Chapel and Fellowship Hall

As part of our **Sanctuary Series**, we’ll welcome the **Ballard Madrigal Singers**. This holiday concert is always a crowd pleaser and will include nearly two dozen songs in a variety of musical genres and languages. Then, join us in Fellowship Hall for a tasty box lunch from Gracious Plenty and a wee Christmas gift from Santa SAM. Register for lunch at ccum.net/SAM, \$15 due by 12 pm on December 6.

SERVE

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is **providing support** to people impacted by the recent hurricanes. You may donate in one of three ways:

- Make an **online donation** at ccum.net/give and select the UMCOR - Hurricane Relief.
- Write a **check** to CCUM with UMCOR in the memo.
- **Donate directly** to UMCOR at umcmmission.org/umcor/

Children’s Ministry Seeking Adults Willing to Serve.

The Children’s Ministry has about 90 active Sunday participants and we **need loving Sunday morning leaders, mentors and subs**. We are seeking folks willing to serve **at least one Sunday a month**. If being a “last minute” sub works for your schedule, great! Let us know that. You may serve during the 10 am Faith Formation hour or during the 9 or 11:15 am Children’s Worship Time. Please visit ccum.net/ccumkids to indicate your interest or reach out to Max Childers at max@ccum.net.

Have you wondered what it's like to **volunteer at the front desk** during the week? We'd love for you to **join our group!** For information, contact Gina Perry at 882-9685 or gina@ccum.net.

Help People Worship at Home

Each week there are 100+ people who worship with us live even though they are unable to be present with us on Brownsboro Road. It takes a **team of five each week** to deliver this high quality worship experience. Please **consider serving once a month** on this important team. **No experience necessary and training is provided.** Ages 14 and up are welcome! Email help@ccum.net or stop by the balcony any Sunday morning to learn more.