

Christ Church United Methodist

November 30, 2025

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

Order of Worship First Sunday of Advent

WELCOME

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard On High
Celebration Ringers; Mark Benz, conductor

arr. Fred Gramann

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(9:00) Welcome Desk Team
(11:15) Sanctuary Care Team

Leader: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when
God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God "shall judge
between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their
spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more"
(Isaiah 2:4)

All: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

Leader: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light
as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Joy to the World
No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.

Hymn 246

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Word of God, Come Down on Earth
Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heaven descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heaven to die, crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love out-pouring.

Word that caused blind eyes to see, speak and heal our mortal blindness;
deaf we are; our healer be; loose our tongues to tell your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken; heal the world, by our sin broken.

Word that speaks your Father's love, one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one Bread feed us.

Hymn 182

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God, begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Gloria Patri

Hymn 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
 world without end. Amen. Amen.

BAPTISMAL COVENANT (9 am)

Phillip Reid Luckett (8/12/2024) son of Tyler and Meredith Luckett
 Dean William Stiebling (4/20/2021) son of Tyler and Clairia Stiebling

Pastor: Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

People: We do.

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Reid and Dean now before you in your care?

People: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround them with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Pastor: Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care Reid and Dean, whom we this day recognize as members of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that they may grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

People: With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that Reid and Dean, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Hymn 609

You have put on Christ, in Christ you have been baptized.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

MUSICAL 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.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Chapel Choir Tenors and Basses

arr. Edwin Childs

‡ 11:15

Brightest and Best
Chancel Choir Tenors and Basses

Shawn Kirchner

*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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*SCRIPTURE

Matthew 24:36–44

(9:00) Beck Meyer
(11:15) John Maynard

SERMON

Vigilant Hope

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

CALL TO PRAYER

Wait for the Lord

Taizé

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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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.

*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,

Hymn 196

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.

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

Tocatta on VENI EMMANUEL
Matthew Vanover, organ

Adolphus Hailstork

◇ Mark Benz, conductor

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

This Morning

The altar flowers this morning are given by Stephanie and Doug Madison in honor of their children and grandchildren.

This morning's Advent Wreath Lighters represent our CCUM Welcome Desk Team and Sanctuary Care Team.

Welcome Desk Team members share the love of Jesus by anchoring our points of entry with kindness, grace, direction, and reassurance.

Sanctuary Care Team members share the grace of Jesus by preparing the seating areas in our worship spaces before we gather together. Members of this team also collect attendance sheets and restore order to the sanctuary spaces after worship. The Sanctuary Care Team made sure the very spot in which you sit was ready and waiting for you.

Advent 2025 | Light From Light Eternal

More information and registration at ccum.net/advent2025

Advent Study | Sundays in December | 10 - 11 am | Chapel

Facilitated by Pastor Amy Chapman, this gathering is a study of Amy-Jill Levine's book, *A Child is Born: A Beginner's Guide to Nativity Stories*. Whether you've read the book or are just curious — to come, reflect, and walk together toward Christmas with renewed insight and hope.

A.W.E. Ministry - Threads of Light: An Advent Art Project

As we wait for the coming of Christ, join AWE in creating a shared textile of light and hope. Visit our table in Gathering Hall and add your piece before the 11:15 am service through December 21.

Chair Yoga – Joy to the Seat! | Tuesdays in December | Fellowship Hall

All are welcome for a Christmas-themed chair yoga series that will offer gentle, seated movement and breath work to increase mobility, reduce stress and nourish your body and spirit. Wear comfortable clothing and join us – no experience necessary!

Light From Light Eternal | 2025 Christmas Concert

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 The Nigeria Well Project. Admission is free, and all visiting family, friends and guests are welcome!

Sunday, December 7 | 5 pm

Wednesday, December 10 | 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 14 | 9 & *11:15 am

Tuesday, December 16 | *7:30 pm

*Concert will be livestreamed at ccum.net/live

Ballard Madrigal Singers Concert | December 8 | 11:30 am | Chapel

As part of the Sanctuary series concerts, we will welcome the Ballard High School Madrigal Singers. The concert is free, and all are welcome.

Intergenerational Event | December 17 | 6 pm | Fellowship Hall

Children of Light (for Kids of ALL Ages!)

Join us for evening tea and desserts, worship, a live radio mini-play, and crafts, all inspired by the popular classic, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, written by C.S. Lewis. Registration is required.

College Brunch | December 21 | 10 am | Youth Center

We are excited to welcome our college students home for Christmas Break! Join us for our annual Christmas Brunch, hosted this year by Youth Ministry. Come enjoy a hot breakfast served by our students.

Christmas Caroling with Open Chord | December 21

Our Open Chord music ministry invites you to join the band as they take the show on the road for some old-fashioned Christmas caroling. All ages and musical abilities are welcome—if you can hum then join the fun! Registration is requested, so we can coordinate transportation and communication.

Christmas Eve Services | Tuesday, December 24 | 3*, 5*, 8 and 10:45 pm

3 pm service is designed for families with young children.

5 pm service will be live-streamed at ccum.net/live.

8 pm service will be in the Chapel; all others will be in the Sanctuary.

*Childcare will be available for children ages 3 and under.

Sunday, December 28 | One worship service at 10 am

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

Announcements

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 8.** Whatever amount you may be able to give, thank you for recognizing our talented and dedicated clergy and staff at Christmas.

Grief Support Group | Tuesdays, through - December 23 | 11 am - 12 pm | Prayer Room

Experiencing the death of a loved one is something **you do not have to walk through alone**. Grieving, transitioning and coping cry out for added support and encouragement. Such **support is essential** to your wellbeing - spiritually, mentally and physically. In response to these ongoing needs, we are offering a time of sharing, learning and supporting one another with care. If you cannot commit to being there every week, then come when you are able. If you have questions email Rev. Karen Lovett at kgklovett49@gmail.com.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Scout Troop 317 **Christmas Tree and Greenery Stand** will open this year on Black Friday, November 28 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 front parking lot - come early for the best selection! **This morning is the last call to pre-order greenery** - visit the Scout's table in Gathering Hall!

Registration is now open for the **Laudate Winter Retreat!**

Join us **January 30 -31, 2026** 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. Register at ccum.net/youthmusic.

SERVE

Our annual **Festival of Stars**, is an opportunity to shop for a **Christmas gift** for a person in need in our community. We have **several stars still available** on the **trees in the Gathering Hall** or if you would prefer to donate toward the cost of gift cards, please visit ccum.net/give and select Festival of Stars from the fund menu. You may also write a check with Festival of Stars in the memo line. Please **drop off your donated gifts to the Gathering Hall by December 1.**

Christmas Concert Parking Volunteers

Our Christmas concerts are a highlight of the season, drawing guests from across our community. We're looking for volunteers to help create a warm, joyful experience for our guests while directing parking and traffic for each concert. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mike Porter at mike@ccum.net.

Christmas Concert Greeters

We are in need of friendly people to help welcome our Christmas Concert guests and help guide them through the building for the concerts. Families are especially encouraged to work together! There will be space reserved in the balcony for our Greeters so that you may enjoy the concert at well. Please contact Mark Coile at mark@ccum.net.

SENIOR ADULTS

SAM Lunch | Monday, December 8 | 11:30 am | Fellowship Hall

With an excellent caliber of singers from the choirs at **Ballard High School**, the **Madrigals** will offer a Renaissance selection of Christmas music. Join us for this incredible opportunity and to support our local high school students. After the program we'll enjoy lunch from Gracious Plenty. Register at ccum.net/sam by December 5 at 12 pm.