

change, and change feels hard. Forgive us, O Lord. Clear a space in our hearts for your peace to dwell. Teach us to walk in your ways, to seek reconciliation, and to be peacemakers in your world. Amen.

Words of Assurance
Hear the good news: Christ himself is our peace. The clutter of sin is cleared away, and the way to God is made open. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to walk in peace.

Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

*SONG OF PROMISED COMING “Hail to the Lord's Anointed” #203

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Joys and Concerns
Silent Prayer ~ Pastoral Prayer

MUSIC FROM THE CHOIR “Come, Emmanuel” by Don Besig & Nancy Price

SCRIPTURE READINGS Mark 1:1-18

SONG OF PREPARTATION “Sanctuary” TFWs 2164

MORNING MESSAGE Sanctuary: Room For All Rev. Melissa Rusler
 “Room In Your Heart”

OFFERING OF OURSELVES TO GOD

GIFT OF MUSIC “Advent Reflection” by Mark Patterson

*SINGING OUR PRAISE “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*OFFERING PRAYER (Unison)
Prince of Peace, bless these offerings. May they unclutter lives burdened by need. May they create pathways for your justice, your mercy, and your peace to flow freely. It is in the name of the One who is our Peacemaker that we pray. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation
Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him and desire to grow in their relationship with him. With humility and faith let us prepare to receive this sacrament of grace.

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

Pastor continues... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of you glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*Pastor continues...*as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

*Pastor continues...*All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

Breaking of the Bread
Giving and Receiving of the Bread and the Cup
In the United Methodist Church, we celebrate "open" Communion. All who come seeking Jesus Christ, regardless of age, are welcome to participate in this meal. No membership is required for God's love in Jesus is for all.

Communion Special Music “Let us Break Bread Together” #618 Liz Sabicer
Prayer Following Communion

*SONG OF DEDICATION “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” #213

*BLESSING

CLOSING MUSIC "Gesu Bambino" by Pietro A. Yon, arr. by Dan Coates

OUR CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Melissa Rusler—Senior Pastor
Rev. Tom Rothhaar—Visitation Pastor
Michelle Dewey—Nursery Coordinator
Bryce Russell—Accompanist
Parker Russell—Tech Team Leader
Liz Sabicer—Worship Leader
Sandy Selby—Office Administrator
Joe Wilson—Custodian

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY
Rev. Fred Smoot—Liturgist
Tom Hanlon, Mike Knowles, & Eric Rusler—Tech Team
Carole Nichols and Ina Mae McAfee—Greeters
Jayda, Maverick, & Savannah Recor, Tom & Laura Rothhaar, DeeDee Warden, & Sunny Watkins—Communion Servers
Guy & Patricia Jenkins, Donna McCullough, & Sai Noa—Ushers
Scott Woodbury & Mark Medin—Praise Music
Wes Scott—Choir Director

RESPONSE CARD
Please print & place in the offering plate. Thank you.
Today's Date: ____ / ____ / ____
Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss
Name_____
Children_____
Email_____
Address_____
City/ZIP_____
Phone_____
____ First Time Attendee
____ Member(s) of MUMC
____ Regular attender(s) not members
____ Guest of_____
____ I'd like to be on your mailing list
____ I'd like more information on becoming a member

Next Week at MUMC:

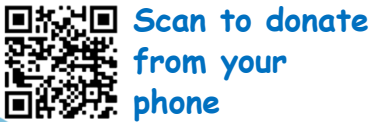
Rev. Melissa Rusler

Sanctuary: Room for All
"Room In Relationships"

Luke 1:24-38
Luke 1:46b-55

10:00 AM
December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent



ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

TODAY is our 4th Annual CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP! It will be held in **the Fellowship Hall** following worship service. Get ready for games, crafts, puzzles, cupcakes, goodies, and Mrs. Claus. ALL are welcomed.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT BY BRYCE RUSSELL
DECEMBER 14TH 2PM

Our very own Bryce Russell will be holding a Christmas Concert in the sanctuary on December 14th at 2:00 PM. Come get into the Christmas spirit as Bryce shares some Christmas classics with the special magic he brings to every piece!

ALL CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE will be held **December 14th at 3:00 PM in the Sanctuary.** Come meet our District Superintendent, Rev. Luis Garcia, as he presides over this time of worship and annual meeting.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

This service, also known as a Blue Christmas Service, is an opportunity for anyone who is struggling with the holiday season this year. For some it is due to the loss of a loved one, while others are dealing with job loss or relationship issues. Whatever the reason, this service acknowledges our pain and that God is with us throughout. We will hold this service on **Saturday, December 20th, at 5:00 PM.**

FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS BAGS

If filling the bag is a tradition in your family, you can pick up one of our bags to fill. If this is an extra busy time, or if you went overboard at Thanksgiving, we would love to have you help us convert the extra bags we have to Christmas bags. Our Christmas Wish List includes: Scalloped potato mix, Instant cocoa mix, Canned dip or chili, Crackers or chips, Canned fruit cocktail, Chocolate chips & Cookie mix, Cornbread or muffin mix, Canned vegetable, Jelly or syrup, and Pancake mix (Complete).



Second Sunday in Advent December 7, 2025

(An "*" indicates when to stand in body or in Spirit.)

OPENING MUSIC "O Tannenbaum (O Christmas Tree)" arr. by Dan Coates Bryce Russell
John the Baptist went ahead of Jesus to make way for him and his ministry. In our own season of Advent preparation for Jesus, may we find ways to make room for Jesus in our minds and hearts.

WELCOME & INVITATION TO WORSHIP

*SINGING OUR PRAISE "Here I Am to Worship" CCLI #3266032 Liz Sabicer
Scott Woodbury

*CALL TO WORSHIP (One Voice, **All Voices**) Wes Scott
Prepare the way of the Lord!

We come, ready to clear the clutter of our minds and hearts and make room.

In the wilderness, a voice cries out.

We hear the call to repent, to release what weighs us down.

Make room in your hearts, for Christ is drawing near.

Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell among us.

LIGHTING OF OUR ADVENT CANDLE The Nyan Family

We relight the first candle, the candle of Hope that reminds us that Jesus is our hope. Today, we light the candle of Peace. God calls us to prepare the way by uncluttering our hearts and making space for Christ.

In Christ, our burdens are lifted and our paths made straight.

As we light this candle, we welcome the One who is our peace.

Come, Lord Jesus, our Peacemaker.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Prince of Peace, we confess that our lives are full of clutter. We carry grudges that weigh us down. We let divisions grow between neighbors, coworkers, and even family members. We fill our days with noise and hurry, leaving little room for your still, small voice. We resist your call to prepare the way, because preparing requires