



Joy

December 12, 2021



**WASHINGTON
STREET**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The congregation of Washington Street UMC praises and serves God from the heart of the city in ways that reach our neighbors near and far.

We welcome and affirm all who seek the love and mercy of Christ regardless of race, creed, age, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic status. We honor traditions as rooted in our history, our expression of worship, and our respect for theological curiosity. We nonetheless see vital change and ongoing renewal as essential for spiritual growth.

WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent
December 12, 2021

11:00 AM - Sanctuary

Liturgical Color: Purple, symbolizing the third Sunday of Advent
*(As our worship begins, please silence any electronic devices.
Portable hearing devices are available in the Narthex.
Please ask an usher for assistance.)*

GATHERING IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 659

J. S. Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (Focus: John 1:6–8, 8–11) Dr. Michael and Erin Oehler

Reader: We light the third candle of Advent with Joy as we anticipate the Holy Night of Jesus' birth.

Reader: God sent John the Baptizer to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true Light of the World. John called for people to repent of their sins and to live faithfully. He baptized with a cleansing water and proclaimed the new life that Christ, the one who would follow him, would bring. This Advent, we ask for God's mercy and a joyful new beginning.

Reader: We have known people who have challenged us and called us into God's light. They seem, like John, called by God to prepare us for a deeper faith and a deeper joy.

Congregational Prayer: Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. Fill us now with new hope, peace, and joy that we might boldly share the Good News of your love through acts of holy compassion. Amen.

*HYMN 160

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

MARION

Words: Edward H. Plumptre, 1965 (Ps. 20:4; 147:1; Phil. 4:4)

Music: Arthur H. Messiter, 1889

*AN ADVENT AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.**

**For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.**

**We wait for the coming of the One
who is the fulfillment of God's promise,
the fulfillment of hope,
the declaration that we have been redeemed.**

**Even so, we are not a naïve people.
We know that the world in which we live
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.**

**We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.
We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.**

**But because we are an Advent people,
we know that none of these things will win in the end.**

**The Holy One is coming,
to make holy once again
all that was, is, and ever will be.**

**And in our waiting and our hoping,
we work and worship,
pray and play,
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign
in our lives and in our world,
now and forever. Amen.+**

*THE GLORIA PATRI #70

MEINEKE

Words: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.
Music: Charles Meineke, 1844

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

arr. Phil Kadidlo

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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.

LISTENING FOR GOD

OFFERTORY

Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion
Maria Beery

G. F. HANDEL

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON

#Morejoy

Rev. Becky Shirley

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN 224

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Words: 14th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1855
Music: German melody; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

IN DULCI JUBILO

*BENEDICTION

Please remain seated until the pastors have cleared the aisle.
Please remember to practice social distancing when exiting.

*POSTLUDE

Lord Christ, the Only Son of God, BWV 601

J. S. Bach

**Congregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation.
When our worship ends, our service begins!*

+ Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison, 2012

Reverend Becky J. Shirley
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Rick Frierson
Pianist

PRAYER THOUGHT

For unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is given.

PRAYER LIST

Thom Berry
Martha Boynton
Martha Brooker
Sally Christian
Heidi Conte
Mickey Epting

Bud Harrelson
Laura Holladay
Karen Horne
Geneva Hutchinson
Lisa Johnson
Rev. Judy King

Mike LeFever
Paul McClanahan
David Middleton
Lauren, Greg, and Nora
Blair Middleton and
family

Rick Rowe
Boyd Saunders
Stephanie Saunders
Sarah Threatt
Marjorie Tuell
Our homebound



Christmas Cantata
Camille Saint-Saens Christmas Oratorio

Sunday, December 19
11:00 am | Sanctuary

featuring
Louis Shirer, Organ & Rick Frierson, Piano

Strings: Andrew Lynn, Damir Horvat,
Audrey Harris, and Tzu-Ying Liao

Soloists: Maria Beery, Karly Shorter,
Yasmin Bradshaw, Johnnie Felder & Craig Price



*Christmas Eve at
Washington Street*

A Line In Time
(the story of the birth of Jesus)
4:00 pm | Sanctuary
A dramatic presentation for the entire family!

Traditional Christmas Eve Service
5:30 pm | Sanctuary
With communion and candlelighting

SERVING TODAY

Usher Tommy Betenbaugh
Sound/Video Lynn Shirley/Spencer Stevens
Visitor Cards Suzanne Joye
Pew Maintenance Finance Committee
Nursery Gwen Murphy

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Giving to-date (as of 12-5-21)
Church:
Budget: \$808,281
Actual: \$645,571
Soup Cellar: \$74,592
Foundation Gifts: \$131,250
Attendance on 12/5: 124

SCAN TO GIVE!

