

MEDITATION: Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem by Dr. Maya Angelou

OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Behold, a Rose Is Blooming" by J. Brahms

✿ 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.

✿ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✿ HYMN: "There's a Song in the Air" #249

✿ BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Anonymous

POSTLUDE: "Rejoice Greatly in the Lord" by R. Koury

LET US PRAY THIS WEEK FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Our home bound and nursing home residents: Jane Alteri, Linda Bennett, Lois Berry, Ellie Cerow, David Heasley, Bill Lennon and Stevie Mider.
Others: Mike Hill

WEEKLY INFORMATION:

Attendance Last Sunday: In Person: 83

Online: 15

Food Pantry Items Donated and Purchased Last Week: 418

2023 Year-to-Date Total: 14,716

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY

Greeters: Carol Plemons, Patrick Town, and Deb & Herb Van Houten

Liturgist: Lindsay Webb & Jaelah Liriano

Organist: Ghilyana Dordzhieva

Chapel Service: Paul Simmons

Coffee Hour: Snell and Friends

Acolytes: Jaydon Ives, Olivia Lehman, Jaelah Liriano, Anthony Patrick, Abigail Patrick, Alexander Patrick, Michael Rudd and Ruzena Rudd

Shepherds: Bonnie Peck and Pam Quimby

Ushers: Lorraine Irwin

Frank Massa

Wayne Morris

Orie Phillips

Bill Plemons

James Rafferty

Dale Scott

Bill Smith

Lisa Smith

Glen Snell

Carol Stoodley

Darlene Town

Patrick Town

Leon VanWie

Dan Webb

ASBURY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOVEMBER 26, 2023; 10:15 A.M.

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*



MINISTERS: ALL the people

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ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CCLI#: 1653199

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Michael Terrell is preaching.

( - Indicates please stand, if able, in posture or in spirit.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "The Advent of Our God Is Nigh" arr. by R. Warner


CHOIR INTROIT: "He Is Exalted" Paris

PRAYER FOR PEACE

 PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MEANING OF THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

(adapted from Slettom, Jeanyne)

 CALL TO WORSHIP (by Slettom, Jeanyne)

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength.

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ?


People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Leader: How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God.

 HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #196
(As this hymn is being sung, individuals will walk down the aisle to place the items below in the sanctuary.)

The Paraments: Advent paraments are placed for the altar, which are purple, a royal color to remind us of the King of Kings, who came to be the Light of the World. *Isaiah 40: 3-5*

The Advent Wreath and Garland: This is a vivid symbol of preparation. The lighting of a new candle each of the four weeks before Christmas reminds us that something is happening, but more is yet to come. The circle of evergreens reminds us of the everlasting covenant offered in the birth of Jesus. The four candles symbolize HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE. Next Sunday, we will light the first candle as a symbol of Christ, our HOPE. May the light

sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. From ancient times, evergreens have been considered a symbol of eternity, a sign of God's everlasting nature. Isaiah tells us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah. Therefore, we hang wreaths shaped in circles and place garlands of green, as a sign of everlasting life. These are symbols of Christ's gift of eternal life and of the celebration of Christmas itself. *Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7*

The Poinsettia: Speaks to us symbolically in several ways. The star shaped formation of ten leaves calls to mind the star which shone the first Christmas. In a less joyous sense, the color of the flower is blood red, reminding us of the male infants killed because King Herod wanted to eliminate any threat to his throne. We sometimes forget this part of the story, which made it necessary for Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child to flee to Egypt. *Numbers 24: 17*

The Manger/Creche: Placed on the piano as a reminder that Jesus Christ was born in the humblest of places, because humankind would not make room in their heart to hold the Son of God. Jesus, who was born in this most modest beginning, has compassion on all God's children – from the humblest to the richest. We will wait to add the Baby Jesus until Christmas Eve as a visual reminder of our expectant waiting during Advent. *Luke 2: 6-7*

 PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Good-Gift-Giver, help us receive the gift of your Truth and fill us with your Light so that we might bring your love to all the world. Following Christ, we live and pray. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. D. Mengel

TEACHING OUR CHILDREN: Assembling Advent Wreath & Decorating Tree

THE EVERGREEN TREE: In ancient times the cedar was revered as the tree of royalty. It also signified immortality, and was used for purification. We have placed this tree in the sanctuary as a symbol of Christ, who reigns as King forever, and whose coming will purify our hearts. The children will add decorations as the congregation sings:

 HYMN: "Once in Royal David's City" #250

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

MISSION MINUTE



ASBURY UMC

*Opportunities
to Share Our Love
for God
and Each Other*



This Week

November 26 - December 3, 2023

Meetings

- Church Council Meeting @ Parlor**
- TODAY, November 26: After Worship
- Staff Meeting @ Parlor**
- Monday, November 27: 10:15 A.M.
- Worship Committee Meeting via Zoom**
- Tuesday, November 28: 7:00 P.M.
- Annual Charge Conference @ 236 Mullin Street**
- Saturday, December 2: 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.



Opportunities to Share

- River Ringers Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**
- TODAY, November 26: NOON - 2:00 P.M.
- Northern Choral Society Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**
- TODAY, November 26: 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
- Asbury Ringers Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**
- Monday, November 27: 6:15 P.M.
- Advent Study w/ Pastor @ Parlor**
- Monday, November 27: 7:15 P.M.
- Wreath Pick-Up @ Wesley Hall**
- Tuesday, November 28: NOON
- Quilting Ministry @ Sunday School Room**
- Wednesday, November 29: 9:00 A.M.
- Prayer Circle @ Parlor**
- Wednesday, November 29: 11:00 A.M.
- Junior Ringers Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**
- Wednesday, November 29: 4:00 P.M.
- Praise Band Rehearsal @ Choir Room**
- Thursday, November 30: 5:30 P.M.
- Agape Ringers Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**
- Thursday, November 30: 6:15 P.M.
- Choir Rehearsal @ Choir Room**
- Thursday, November 30: 7:15 P.M.
- Northern Choral Society Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**
- Friday, December 1: 2:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
- Men's Fellowship Breakfast @ IHOP**
- Saturday, December 2: 8:00 A.M.
- Northern Choral Society Concert @ Sanctuary**
- Saturday, December 2: 3:00 P.M.
- Sunday, December 3: 3:00 P.M.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- Nov. 28 **Darlene Town**
- Dec. 1 **Joanne Rhode**
- Dec. 1 **Paul Simmons**
- Dec. 1 **Lawrence Littell**

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

-  **Charles Mosley and Grace Burke**
November 29, 1986 

Scripture of the Week

"I obtained mercy, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life."
- 1 Timothy 1:16 -

Holy Communion will be celebrated on December 3rd for the Chapel Service at 8:15 a.m. and December 10th for the Sanctuary Service at 10:15 a.m. due to the Northern Choral Society Concert. Thank you for your understanding.

ASBURY'S STAFF

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FAITH KIRCH

BROADCAST MINISTRY
BOB KURTZ

CLEANING SERVICES
FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE
PAMELA QUIMBY
DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
DAN WEBB

TREASURER
FAITH KIRCH

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THE VISION OF ASBURY
*To Make Disciples of
Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.*

THE MISSION OF ASBURY
*To Inspire People of All
Generations to Love, Learn
and Lead Through Worship,
Education, and Service.*

THE ASBURY MOTTO
*No Matter Where You Are
on Life's Journey,
You Are Welcome Here!*

Join Us Next Sunday, December 3rd

Worship Services:

8:15 A.M. in the Chapel:
Pastor Michael Terrell is preaching

10:15 A.M. in the Sanctuary:
Pastor Michael Terrell is preaching




"The Heart That Grew Three Sizes" Advent Study

Rediscover and reinvigorate your Christian faith this Advent and Christmas season and look at this familiar classic through the lens of faith with a DVD/Advent Study called "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes" by Matt Rawle, finding faith in the story of the Grinch!

This study will be led by Pastor Michael on Mondays Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, and Dec. 18 at 7:15 P.M. in the parlor.

You can search online for the study book, but it is not required.



In cooperation with the Salvation Army, Asbury is reaching out and sharing the spirit of Christmas with 25 young boys and girls. There is an ANGEL TREE in the parlor with their names, ages and Christmas wishes.

If you would like to help make their wishes come true, take one of the names from the tree, buy a gift and bring it back to the tree unwrapped by December 10th, so we can get the gifts to the Salvation Army for distribution.

Thank you for caring & sharing!

Annual Memorial Tree Celebration

We invite you to join us in a cherished tradition that holds a special place in our hearts - the Annual Memorial Tree. The back of the sanctuary will be adorned with a memorial tree, symbolizing the enduring spirit of our loved ones. You have the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the Memorial Committee in honor of someone dear to you.

How it works:

Fill out the form included in the Sunday bulletin and return it with your check to the church office by **Sunday, December 10th**. Please do not include it in your regular weekly offering envelope. In return, a beautiful ornament will be placed on the tree throughout the Advent season. Each ornament bears the name of the person you wish to honor, creating a lasting tribute in our sacred space.

This act not only illuminates the beauty of remembrance, but also contributes to the meaningful work of our Memorial Committee. Your participation in this tradition helps us create a sanctuary filled with warmth, love, and the enduring spirit of those we hold dear.

For more information, please contact Lisa Smith at ljsmith2100@gmail.com or (315) 778-4173.

ASBURY MEMORIAL TREE

Again, this year a Memorial Tree will be placed at the rear of the sanctuary to give people the opportunity to remember loved ones during Advent. For each memorial gift, one ornament will be placed on the tree.

Please fill out the form below and return or mail it to the church office by Sunday, December 10th. If you use a check, please make it out to Asbury UMC - Memorial Tree. Please give as you are able. Please do not include this in your regular weekly offering envelope. Thank you.

Given By: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

In Memory of:

Amount Enclosed: _____



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

