

🌿 HYMN: "Joy to the World" #246

🌿 BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC

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**WELCOME CENTER:** First time at Asbury? Stop by our welcome center if you have questions or if you would like a copy of our latest newsletter or other brochures!

**WEEKLY INFORMATION:**

Attendance Last Sunday: In Person: 95

Online: 35

Food Pantry Items Donated and Purchased Last Week: N/A

2024 Year-to-Date Total: N/A

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY**

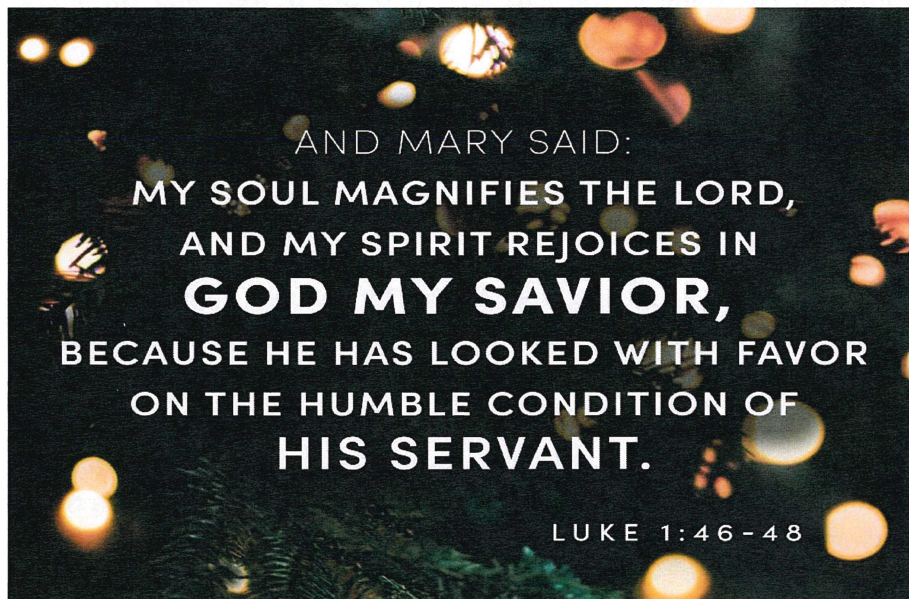
**Organist:** Lynn Morgan

**Chapel Service:** Jane Eastham

**LET US PRAY THIS WEEK FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:**

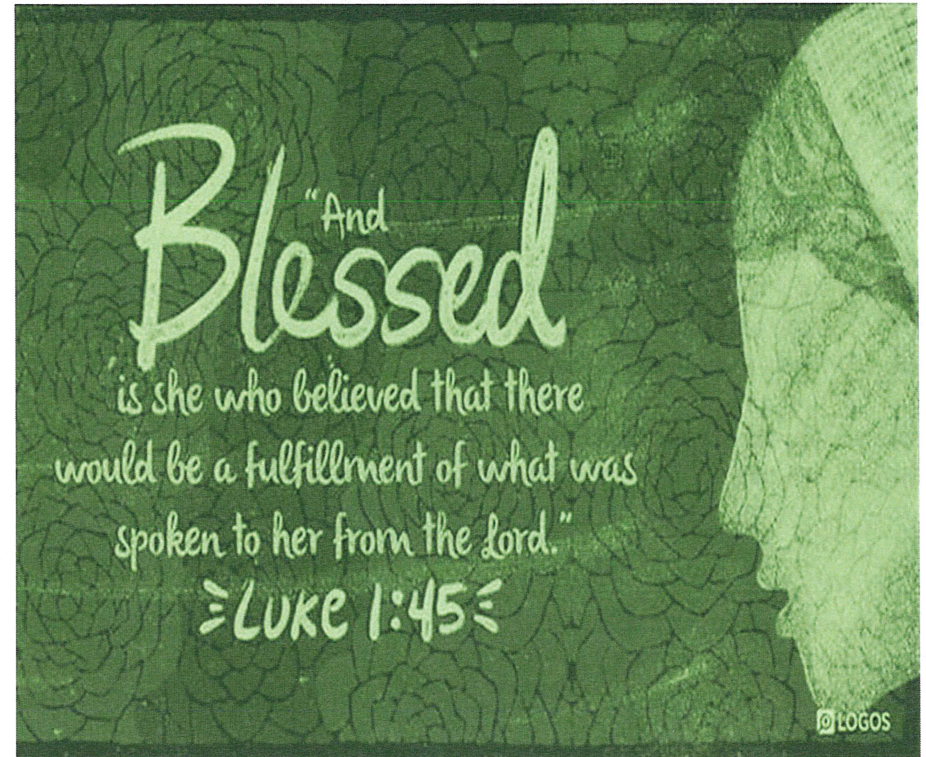
**Our home bound and nursing home residents:** Linda Bennett, Lois Berry, Shirley Berry, Ellie Cerow, David Heasley, Bill Hickox, and Bill Lennon.

**Others:** Dawn Baum, Theresa Bierman, Max & Greeta Bovee, Jerry & Dodie Bretsch, Tom Carlisle, Yvonne Cornell, Deb Der, Barbara G., Mike Hill, Keri Morris, David, Frank, Gordon, Kevin, and Patty.



ASBURY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
DECEMBER 22, 2024; 8:15 A.M.

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



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Watertown, NY 13601

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**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CCLI#:** 1653199

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Jane Eastham is preaching.

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Lynn Morgan, Organist

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND PRAYER FOR PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here!

**We wait as people of God's promise.**

The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary's womb call to us today.

**We listen as people of God's promise.**

Mary's "yes" and Elizabeth's faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God's Good News into the world.

**We follow as people of God's promise.**

This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, and the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today – God is with us!

**God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

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

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Today we light four candles – the first candle is called HOPE, a reminder that God's promises are true.

**The second candle is called PEACE, God's gentle loving peace for our lives.**

The third is called JOY, because of God's absolute presence in our lives.

**The fourth candle is called LOVE, because of God's great love for us.**

Come, all is ready. Let the light of these candles, called HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE, bring brightness to our spirits.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, even in the midst of this season of goodwill, there is much to confess. In spite of holiday cheer, stress and anxiety rule our lives. We miss the reason for the season, focusing instead on Christmas parties, long to-do lists, and trying to get the shopping done. We fail to think about your reordered world – a world where the lowly are lifted**

**up and the hungry are filled with good things. Help us adjust our Christmas priorities, that we might join with you, O God, in preparing a world that welcomes the one who brings us peace.**


*(A moment of silent prayer)*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The ancient promises of God are fulfilled. God does not forget us. God's mercy extends from generation to generation. Let our souls rejoice in God! Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1: 39-55

MESSAGE: "Yes, and..."

 HYMN: "Like a Child" TFWS #2092

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

As God has so richly blessed us, let us return a portion of our blessings to God, asking that these gifts may be used in service to others through the ministries and mission of Asbury church.

 DOXOLOGY

**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

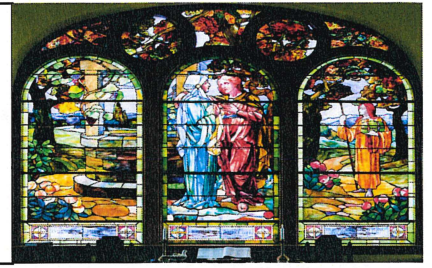
 PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, we thank you for our present abundance and for the many blessings you have bestowed upon this community. We thank you for our faith, for our knowledge of you, and for the assurance of your love. May all these gifts be a blessing to those in need. Amen.**





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



*This Week*

*December 22 - December 29, 2024*



**Meetings**

**Asbury Staff Meeting @ Parlor**  
- Monday, December 23: 10:15 A.M.

**Opportunities to Share**

**Advent Bible Study w/ Pastor @ Parlor**  
- TODAY, December 22: 6:30 P.M.  
**Asbury Ringers Rehearsal @ Sanctuary**  
- Monday, December 23: 6:15 P.M.  
**Christmas Eve Service @ Sanctuary**  
- Tuesday, December 24: 6:30 P.M.

*Scripture of the Week*

“Love means that we do what God tells us.”  
- 2 John 1:6 -

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**



**William and Lisa Smith**  
December 27, 1997



**Rev. Peter and Catherine Mowers**  
December 29, 2001

*Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service*  
*Tuesday, 12/24*  
*6:30 pm*  
*Asbury  
UMC*

*Love*  
IN THIS WAS MANIFESTED THE LOVE OF GOD  
TOWARD US... GOD SENT HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN  
SON INTO THE WORLD.  
1 JOHN 4:9

**Help Make Goodies for Christmas Eve!**

There will be a sign-up sheet in the rotunda for anyone who would like to sign up to make goodies for our Christmas Eve service at 6:30 P.M.

We greatly appreciate any contributions!





## ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
FAITH KIRCH

BROADCAST MINISTRY  
BOB KURTZ

CLEANING SERVICES  
FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE  
PAMELA QUIMBY  
DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
DAN WEBB

TREASURER  
FAITH KIRCH

MAINTENANCE  
WILLIAM NOVISKI

MUSIC PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
CATHERINE MOWERS

MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF  
GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA  
LYNN MORGAN  
BOB MUNTZ  
MICHELLE RUDD  
LISA SMITH  
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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

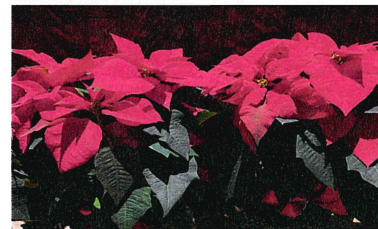
*No Matter Where You Are  
on Life's Journey,  
You Are Welcome Here!*

## Join Us Next Sunday, December 29th

### Worship Services:

8:15 A.M. in the Chapel:  
Wayne Morris will be preaching.

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



### The Church Office will be closed:

Wednesday, December 25th (Christmas Day) and

Wednesday, January 1st (New Year's Day).

### Sign-Up for Coffee Hour!

Sunday, December 29th is available to  
host! The Coffee Hour sign-up sheet  
is in the rotunda!

Would you like to help serve  
communion? See  
Frances Goutremout  
to sign up!



## 2025 Lenten Study - Mark Your Calendars Now!

How did Jesus teach the Greatest Commandment to his disciples?

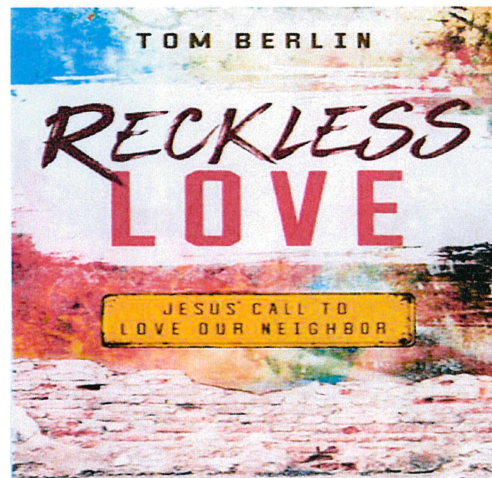
In his latest book *Reckless Love*, author and Pastor, Tom Berlin writes that Jesus taught them to love neighbor first as a way to more deeply love God. In his exploration of Jesus' teaching and travels with his disciples, Berlin suggests that Jesus teaches us how to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength by showing us how to love our neighbor.

While many hope to learn to be better family, friends, leaders, and neighbors by finding a deeper relationship with God, **what if becoming a better neighbor leads you to that deeper love of God?**

In *Reckless Love*, you will consider life, and learn how loving the people around you will completely renew your faith and give you a new experience of loving God.

**This six-week Lenten Bible Study begins on Sunday, March 9th at 6:30 P.M. in the parlor. Additional meetings: March 16th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th, and 13th.**

We celebrate Easter on  
Sunday, April 20th, 2025!  
Mark your calendars now!!



### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY-THURSDAY: 10:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.

### PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY-THURSDAY: 10:00 A.M.- NOON



## 2024 Memorial Tree Ornaments

*Frances Goutremout  
and Mary C. Smith*

*Connie Hewitt*

*Tamara Klock*

*Mary MacAdam*

*Bonnie Peck*

*Pamela Quimby*

*Kathy Ruhm*

*Jean Sayers and  
Virginia Syrotchen*

*Dale and Marianne  
Scott*

*Dr. Glen and Susan Snell*

*Darlene Welbourn  
and Mary MacAdam*

*Suzanne Wrenn*

*Phyllis Sayers*

*Michael Sayers*

*Gerald Hewitt*

*DeWitt Nichols*

*Mary DeYear*

*Muriel Booth*

*Donald and Mary  
Bowman*

*Helen and William  
Quimby*

*Lawrence (Larry)  
Lyndaker*

*Phyllis Sayers*

*Michael Sayers*

*Robert Syrotchen*

*Parents of Dale and  
Marianne Scott*

*Our family and friends*

*Mary Lambert*

*Michelle Coutu Sykes*



## 2024 Memorial Poinsettia Plants

*Brenda P. Harris*

*Ida and James Parker*

*Ellen Harris*

*William S. Harris, Jr.*

*Alvin J. Hasner*

*Mr. and Mrs. George H.*

*Hasner*

*Brother George*

*Mrs. Carol A. Hasner*

*Jim and Krista Juczak*

*Klaus*

*Tamara Klock*

*DeWitt Nichols*

*Pamela Quimby*

*Mary Bowman*

*Dr. Frank and Joanne*

*Pam Shuman*

*Rhode*

*Mark and Christine*

*Clyde and Mary Kay*

*Sutton*

*Scott*

*Darlene Welbourn  
and Mary MacAdam*

*Mary Lambert*

*Bina and Miles West*

*Mr. and Mrs. William N.*

*West*