

**WELCOME TO  
CHURCH OF THE STRAITS**

Pastor David Wallis

December 24, 2023

10:30 a.m.

*Welcome and Announcements*

*Green Prayer Cards may be filled out with your joys/prayers/concerns. Ushers will collect them during prayer time.*

\*Call to Worship on screen  
"We Adore You"

Advent Wreath Lighting  
-Roy & Meredith Cole

\*Prayer of Confession  
**O God, the journey Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem wasn't an easy one. Our path can be a difficult one at times as well. But you are our Guiding Star, our Hope for All the Ages. Thank you for guiding us on our journey, in Jesus' name, Amen!**

\*Gloria Patri #623

\*Hymn #137  
"What Child Is This?"

First Scripture Reading pg. 627  
Proverbs 3: 5-6  
Liturgist—Elizabeth Zabik

Children's Time  
Sharing our Joys and Concerns  
Silent Prayer and 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**

\*Stand if able: **Bold = congregational response**

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.**

\*Affirmation of Faith in Song on screen  
"Mary Did You Know?"

Giving our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory  
\*Doxology #625  
\*Prayer of Dedication

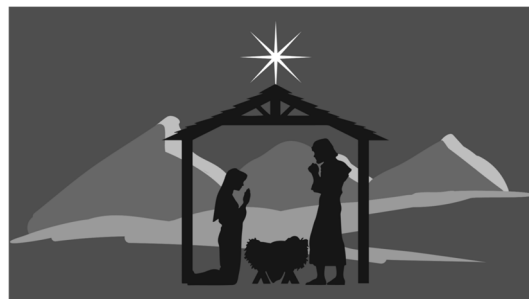
Second Scripture Reading pg. 1015  
Luke 2: 16-20

Sermon  
"Trusting God in Times of Crisis!"

\*Hymn #131  
"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

\*Benediction  
\*Postlude on Screen  
"He Is Able"

.....  
*Please join us for refreshments after the service in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!*



How to become a Christian

1. **Admit to God that you have done things that oppose His desires for you.**

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 3:23

2. **Acknowledge Jesus Christ as God's only solution to your condition.**

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6

3. **Ask God to forgive your sins and invite Jesus into your life.**

"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

John 1:12

What to Pray

"Lord Jesus, I need you. Thank you for coming to earth, living an unblemished life, and dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive you as Savior and Lord of everything I do. Make me the kind of person you want me to be."

What to Do

Go to God in prayer daily.  
Read God's word daily.  
Open your life to other Christian friends.  
Worship God weekly at church.

If God is speaking to you this morning and you desire to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, or desire prayer for a particular matter, we invite you to the front of the sanctuary at the close of the service where Pastor Dave and/or others will be glad to pray and talk with you.

**CHURCH OF THE STRAITS STAFF**

307 N. Huron Street • P.O. Box 430  
Mackinaw City, MI 49701  
231-436-8682 Office  
906-282-7409 Pastor Dave's cell  
[www.churchofthestraits.com](http://www.churchofthestraits.com)  
[cotsoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:cotsoffice@yahoo.com)

Minister Pastor David Wallis  
Youth Director Shannon Cooley  
Head Ushers Todd Kohs  
Carl Strieby  
John Birchfield  
Organist/Pianist Loretta Martinek  
Clerk Laura Jackson  
Treasurer Donna Falor  
Financial Secretary Laura Jackson  
Administrative Asst. Joshua Kuehn

**Nursery is open for 1<sup>st</sup> grade and younger.**

**Liturgists in Coming Weeks:**

Dec 31 10:30 am Michelle Williams  
Jan 7 10:30 am Danna Marvin  
Jan 14 10:30 am Rose LaPointe  
Jan 21 10:30 am Michelle Williams

Sunday Worship Attendance

12/17/23 10:30 am 123  
12/18/22 10:30 am 129

**Flowers:** If you wish to have flowers on the Altar for any occasion, please contact the church office at 436-8682.

**Hearing Devices** are available from the sound booth. Please turn the device off and return it to the sound booth after the service.

The Mission of Church of the Straits  
To worship God faithfully  
To grow together spiritually  
To serve Jesus Christ and  
our neighbor joyfully  
... in the power of God's Spirit.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**  
Dec 24, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023

SUN 12-17	3:00 pm	AA
	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
WED 12-27	10:00 am	Food Pantry
SAT 12-30	9:00 am	Men's Group
	10:00 am	SARM Coat Shopping
SUN 12-31	10:30 am	Traditional Service
	3:00 pm	AA

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sanctuary Window Fund**  
Progress: \$75.9K We have achieved and surpassed our Goal!



**Food Pantry Dec 27th 10-11am**  
The Pantry will run every other Wednesday thru the winter. New faces are welcome to come and join in!!

**New Members Class:** Starting Soon for those who have expressed interest in joining Church of the Straits. Please indicate your interest to Pastor Dave or the church office. Classes will involve two or three Sundays at 9:30am before worship service. If you can't attend then Pastor Dave will make arrangements with you. Because of the holidays approaching we will probably start mid January.

**If you ordered a poinsettia** for the Sanctuary, you may take it home following the Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve.



If you don't need the bow you can return it to Church for future use. Thanks!

**Support and Prayers for Violence in Israel**  
Please pray for those affected by the October 7<sup>th</sup> events in Israel. We recently heard about Michael Levy whose brother Or was kidnapped and Or's wife was killed. The entire family is grieving and hurting deeply. If you would like to express love, support, and prayers you may email: [michael.levy82@gmail.com](mailto:michael.levy82@gmail.com)

**Upcoming Events:**

- Dec 24: Christmas Eve 7pm
- Dec 30: Shopping for Coats for Kids
- Jan 14: SARM at Creation Station
- Jan 28: Annual Meeting
- Feb 11: Bowling and Pizza at SpareTime Lanes



**Change to Make a Change Oct-Dec Coats for Kids**  
Help S.A.R.M (Straits Area Resort Ministry) and the Salvation Army keep kids warm this winter! S.A.R.M is accepting donations of new coats and monetary donations for our youth group to go shopping for coats. Drop off location at Church of the Straits. Monday-Friday 10am to 2pm. Thank You! For all of your generous donations so far!

SARM will be shopping for Coats on Dec 30th

**No Bible Journaling Dec 27th.**

**Youth Sunday School Returns Jan 14th**

**Christmas Eve Service 7pm**

We will be having our Christmas Eve candle light service tonight at 7pm. Please plan to attend.



**Christmas Offering Envelopes**

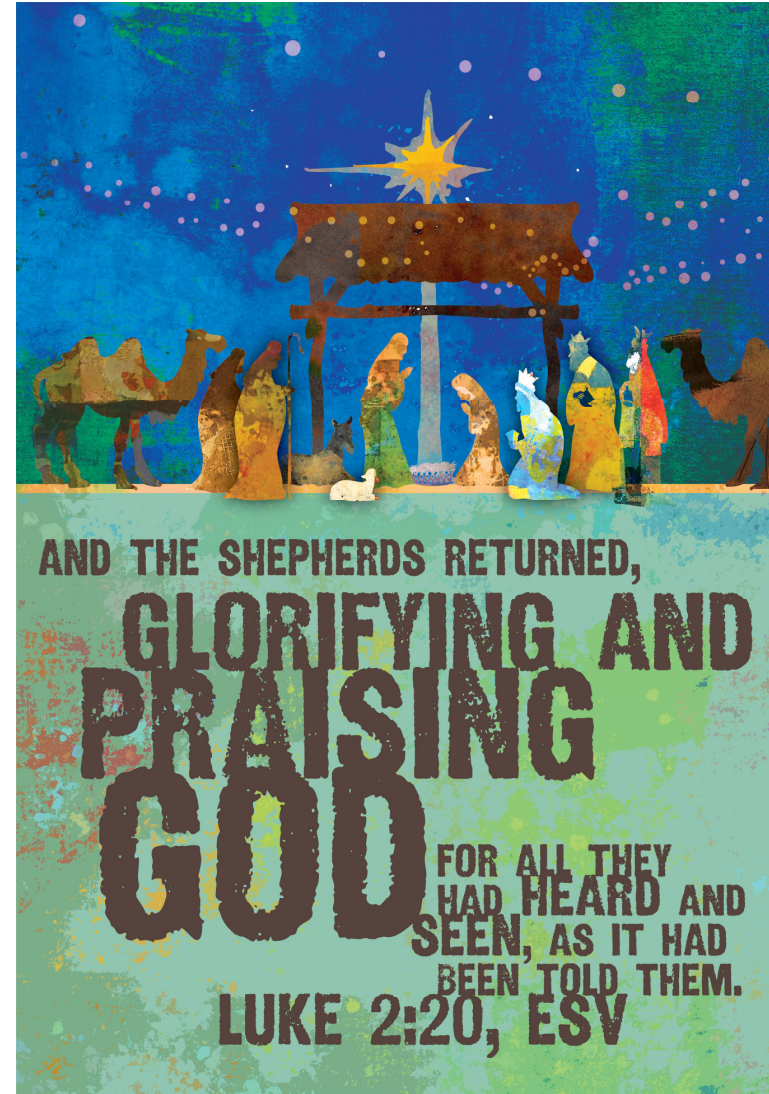
Will be for Pastor's Discretionary Fund

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray for the following persons from our prayer cards: Michael Levy, Ellie Hollars, Patricia Ruth Pumanca Medina, Susan Rene, Lynda, Terri, Samantha Cooley, Mary Lou Peters, Carl Strieby, Bob Steward, Roger Moore, Stephanie Valentine, Roseanne Ron Cooper, Sheldon, Karen Valet, Kim Fetera, Sue Shemanski, Harmon Family, Becky Jankowski, Jerry Archer, Cheryl Newman, Carol Harper, Jon Cool, Don Hawver, Mike Cool, Jim Churchill, Gussie Williams, Mike Churchill, Evelyn Canales, Alvina Williams, our Military and All First Responders.

Updates or additions? Contact the Church Office.

**Church of the Straits**  
Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO)  
and  
Global Methodist  
Federated



Welcome to Our Service

