

# First United Methodist Church

3rd Sunday of Advent — December 17, 2023  
Christmas Cantata



*Welcome! We pray that worship here at First United Methodist is a blessing for you, even as your presence blesses us. The Church newsletter, large print hymnals, name tags, and refreshments are available in the welcoming area. Children are **always welcome** in worship, and we embrace their presence, their joy, and the fun things they often do and say as we worship God. In the welcoming area we have crayons and children's bulletins available. Please fill out the clipboard at the end of your row to register your attendance and tell us a little more about you.*

**"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

**December 17, 2023**

**10:30 AM**

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## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lee Anne Strickland

*(At this time please register your in-person attendance on the clipboards placed on each pew; or if you are watching on-line register at [www.1umcm.com](http://www.1umcm.com) and continue sending us your comments via Facebook, Twitter, email, etc.)*

## INVITATION TO PASS THE PEACE

“May the Peace of Christ be with you. . . . *and also with you.*”

## TRINITY CHIMES

### ✠ CALL TO WORSHIP “Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

#204/Screen

### ✠ WORDS OF INVITATION

L: Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place.

**P: As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy. Amen. So be it.**

### ✠ HYMN OF PRAISE

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

#196/Screen

### ✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From the United Church of Canada

#883/Screen

### ✠ GLORIA PATRI

#70/Screen

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Joy

The Barr Family

### PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS

Sue Hamilton

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Marlee Tierce

### 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.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Richard Beaubien

### INVITATION TO OFFERING

*During this time we worship by the giving of our gifts and offerings for the work of the church in ministry and mission. For those who are watching online, you may mail your gifts to First United Methodist Church, P O Box 157, Madisonville, TN 37354, or go to our website: **tithing.1umcm.com** for directions and other options.*

## OFFERTORY

Steve Tweed

## DOXOLOGY

#94/Screen

## CANTATA

### **Glorious Impossible**

Created by Russell Mauldin  
led by Sue Hamilton and the 1st UMC Choir

## ✠ CLOSING HYMN

**"O Come, All Ye Faithful"** (vs 1 & 3)

#234/Screen

## BENEDICTION

Sue Hamilton

## RESPONSE

**"O Come, All Ye Faithful"** (Chorus)

#234/Screen

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

## Family Night Supper @ 6:00 p.m. with Children's Christmas Program following:

On Wednesday evening December 20th at 6 pm we will have our annual Christmas covered dish dinner. Then all will be invited to join us in the sanctuary where our IGNITE children will sing and we will have a brief, joy filled, funny, and exciting impromptu nativity that will be put on by our young people. This event is always a fun intergenerational way to remember the powerful story of Christ's birth. We hope that every child & youth in our church will be a part of the program. Bring plenty of covered dishes and join us for this exciting evening.



## Take Note! Our plans for Sunday, December 24th



Christmas Eve is on Sunday this year! So, we will have our normal worship service at 10:30 a.m. in our Sanctuary.

Then at 7:00 p.m. we will have our annual Candlelight & Communion Service to celebrate Christmas Eve. At our evening worship service, we will honor the birth of our Savior through song, scripture, sacrament, and light. We hope you can join us for this beautiful service of worship on one of the most holy nights of the Christian year.

## "Discovery" Sermon Series coming in January...



Beginning on January 7th, 2024, Rev. Chris Black will kick off a 6 part sermon series

called "Discovery: Unearthing Your Spiritual Gifts." Pastor Chris will dive deep into the topic of spiritual gifts from a biblical and Wesleyan perspective. Spiritual gifts is a topic that is often surrounded by controversy and confusion within (and outside) the Church.

This series will equip Christians to explore what their own God given spiritual gifts are, and how they can be used to equip them for discipleship & mission both inside and outside our church. We hope you will join us for what promises to be an exciting and rewarding series.

## December 31st is Pajama Church!

On the first Sunday after Christmas, (which also happens to be New Year's Eve) we want to invite you to join us for pajama church! You are invited to wear your PJ's (church appropriate of course :)), or other festive holiday sweaters or apparel, and join us for a casual & simple worship service at 10:30 a.m. Let's have a little fun, sing some great songs, and prepare our hearts to adore Him!



**December 17, 2023**



**NEW PRAYER REQUESTS**

Susan Sherrer and family  
 Marilyn Atchley (friend of Sue)  
 Unspoken Prayers

**CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS**

Tina Smith and family  
 Family of Gregory Gay  
 (Veronica Venable's cousin)

Quinn Strickland and family  
 Julie Sullivan's friend Zane  
 Calvin and Rose Williams (Alford's neighbors)

Praise that the Tabers are improving)  
 Hibbert neighbors)  
 Sierra Mc (Gabi Tallent's friend)  
 Joy P. (entering hospice—friend of Melanie Slouka))

Mary and Tony Nelson and family  
 Dwight West (friend of Mike Tallent)  
 Vince Maiuri (John's brother)  
 Doug Riddle (Patty Williford Jones' brother)

Mike Cole (friend of Larry Davis)  
 Patti and Jim Leamon and family  
 Kimberly Leamon  
 Our Church (Marlee's request)  
 Betty Hicks and family

John & Judy Maiuri and family  
 Jane Frerichs and family  
 Wayne and Lucille Peery and family  
 Mason family  
 Unspoken Requests  
 Military personnel

*There are more continuing prayer requests in The Flame (our monthly newsletter). The Prayer List is constantly updated live at [1umcm.com](http://1umcm.com)*

**Attendance and Giving Last Week**

In-Person - 106 Online - 10 Youth - 14  
 Ignite - 11 Pastor's Bible Study - 10


Tithing	\$ 6,352
<b><i>Needed in December</i></b>	<b>\$ 23,188</b>
<b><i>*Receipts</i></b>	<b>\$ 10,079</b>
Building Fund	\$ 185
Est. <b><i>Needed in December</i></b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>
<b><i>*Receipts</i></b>	<b>\$ 905</b>
Community Assistance Fund	\$ 125
<b><i>*Receipts</i></b>	<b>\$ 325</b>
Community Café	\$ 0
<b><i>*Receipts</i></b>	<b>\$ 420</b>
Designated /Non Budget	\$ 100
<b><i>*Receipts</i></b>	<b>\$ 215</b>

## Check Out the Event Announcements Listed Below

- **Advent Study for Sunday**- Today, 12:00 Noon, Youth Room
- **Ornament Class** - Today, 12:00 Noon, Community Room
- **Cub Scouts** - Monday, 6:00 PM, Youth Room
- **Scouts BSA** - Monday, 7:00 PM, Community Room
- **Community Café** - Tuesday, 5:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
- **Finance Committee** - Tuesday, 6:00 PM, Conference Room
- **Midweek Communion Service** - Wednesday, 12:00 PM, Main Sanctuary
- **Christmas Supper** - Wednesday, 6:00 PM - Fellowship Hall
- **Children's Christmas Program** - Wednesday 7:00 PM, Main Sanctuary

The trustee for today is Regina Warfel.

Coffee bar today is hosted by Gabi Tallent..

 First  
United Methodist  
Church  
Madisonville  
Tennessee  
143 College Street S.  
Mail to: P O Box 157  
Madisonville, TN 37354  
Call or Text (423) 442-2471  
Fax (423) 442-2434

**Rev. Chris Black**

Pastor

**Richard Beaubien**

Office & Technology Coordinator

**Sue Hamilton**

Director of Congregational Care & Choir Ministries

**Erin Roberts**

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Website: [1umcm.com](http://1umcm.com)



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