

First United Methodist Church

December 24, 2023
Celebrating the 4th Sunday of Advent



My soul
magnifies
the Lord!

Luke 1: 46 -55

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 24, 2023

10:30 AM

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Black

(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.Tumcm.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 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Chorus) #234/Screen

✠ WORDS OF INVITATION

L: My soul magnifies the Lord.

P: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

L: For the Mighty One has done great things.

P: Holy is God's name!

✠ HYMN OF PRAISE "Angels We Have Heard On High" #238/Screen

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From 1 Corinthians & Colossians #888/Screen

✠ GLORIA PATRI #70/Screen

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Love Laity

PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS Rev. Chris Black

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Chris Black

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC **"Heaven's Child"** Jennifer McKenzie

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Rev. Chris Black

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 **"The Miracle of Christmas"** Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY #94/Screen

SCRIPTURE **Luke 1: 46-55**
Leader: The Word of God, for the People of God
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON **"Starting Christmas Off Right"** Rev. Chris Black

✠ **CLOSING HYMN** **"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"** #234/Screen

BENEDICTION Rev. Chris Black

BENEDICTION RESPONSE **"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Chorus)** #234/Screen

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Take Note!

The Church office will be closed on Dec. 25th & 26th. However Chris, Sue, and Richard will be around the church some this coming Wednesday and Thursday to get things ready for Jan. 31st worship. The Church office will be closed again on Monday, Jan. 1st in observance of New Year's Day. For Pastoral Care Emergencies this week please text or leave a voice mail at 423-442-2471 or Pastor Chris' Cell Phone.

Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service Tonight

Christmas Eve worship here at First United Methodist Church of Madisonville will be held at 7:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary. We will have communion together and celebrate 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 ser-

mon 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 24, 2023



NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- The Family of Dawson Reagan
- Christine and Joel (Melanie Slouka request)
- The Family of Reverend John Thierbach (friend of Mike Tallent)
- Stan Rice (Sequoyah High School staff)
- Sierra (health issues–friend of Alexis Jones)
- Mary Ann (health) and Ken Nelson (Dopkins friends)
- 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

Attendance and Giving Last Week

In-Person - 106 Online - 4 Youth - 22
Ignite - 16

Tithing	\$ 4,388
<i>Needed in December</i>	<i>\$ 23,188</i>
<i>*Receipts</i>	<i>\$ 13,467</i>
Maintenance/Improvement	\$ 285
Est. <i>Needed in December</i>	<i>\$ 2,000</i>
<i>*Receipts</i>	<i>\$ 1,190</i>
Community Assistance Fund	\$ 125
<i>*Receipts</i>	<i>\$ 325</i>
Community Café	\$ 0
<i>*Receipts</i>	<i>\$ 420</i>
Designated /Non Budget	\$ 0
<i>*Receipts</i>	<i>\$ 1,420</i>

Check Out the Event Announcements Listed Below

- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** - Tonight, 7:00 PM
- **Church Office Closed** - Monday & Tuesday, December 25th & 26th
In case of emergency, text (423) 442-2471
- **Community Café** - Tuesday, 5:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
- **Midweek Communion Service** - Wednesday, 12:00 PM, Main Sanctuary
- **Choir Party** - Wednesday, at Bruce Christopher's house - 5:30 PM
- **UMYF** - Wednesday 6:00 PM, Youth Room
- **Monroe County Animal Hospital Christmas Celebration** - Saturday, 5:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
- **Adult Sunday School** - Sunday, 9:30 AM, Library
- **Pajama Church** - Sunday, 10:30 AM, Main Sanctuary

The trustee for today is Regina Warfel.

Coffee bar today is hosted by Barbara Pennington & Janet Tweed.



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