

## Bethel UMC Announcements

**Advent Giving Challenge-** Today is the last day we will be collecting for families at Byrd Elementary School. All donations will be used to purchase gift cards, which need to be delivered to the school by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for supporting our neighbors this season.

**Book Study-** Our book study group will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Mighty Ducks Christmas Party-** The Mighty Ducks will hold their Christmas Party on December 17 at 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall. They will be doing a Yankee Swap with a gift limit of \$10 dollars.

**Christmas Pageant-** Join us on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, during worship for our Christmas Pageant as the children share the story of Christ's birth. The children will meet at 11:00 on the 20<sup>th</sup> for rehearsal.

**Christmas Eve Service-** Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 5:30 pm. All are invited to join us for a meaningful time of worship and celebration.

**Goochland Cares-** We're still collecting food to support Goochland Cares.

Goochland Cares is especially in need of shelf-stable, high-impact items such as:

- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, Spam)
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Pasta and rice
- Canned or dry beans, canned fruits and vegetables
- Shelf-stable milk and baby formula



## Welcome to Worship Bethel United Methodist Church A United Methodist Faith Community December 14, 2025 | 11:00 am Third Sunday of Advent

### Mission Statement:

Proclaiming God's love through Spiritual Growth, Grace, Prayer, Compassion, and Hope to All People.



Rev. Louis Berkeszi – Pastor

Teri Wootton – Admin. Asst. | Frances Lamberti – Pianist

### **Bethel United Methodist Church**

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## Order of Worship

(\*Please stand as you are able)

\*Processional Hymn – *Hail The Lord’s Anointed* (UMH #203)

Advent Hymn – *We Three Kings v. 3* (UMH #254)

Advent Lighting – The Moore Family

Hymn of Praise – *Angels from the Realms of Glory* (UMH #220)

\*Scripture Reading Matthew 11:2-11 (*New Testament pg.10-11*)

*Read by Pope Reed*

### **Listen for the Word of the Lord**

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?” Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: “‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

### **The Word of God for the people of God**

Hymn – *Send Your Word* (UMH #195)

Sermon – What Do You See?

Hymn - *Dona Nobis Pacem* (UMH #376)

\*Affirmation – *Apostles Creed* (UMH #881)

\*Hymn of Reconciliation – *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (UMH #431)

\*Hymn of Dismissal – *Blessed Be the God of Israel* (UMH #209)

## Prayer List

**Don Chambers** (*Recovering at home; Nephew of Shirley Bishop*)

**Family & Loved Ones of Mary ‘Sissy’ Clarke**

**David Donovan** (*Surgery on Dec. 15*)

**Family & Loved Ones of Diane Hawk**

**Sherry Henley** (*Cancer; Friend of Joy Pickels*)

**Claude Newton** (*Cancer; Friend of Jo Donovan*)

**Kitti Perry** (*Health; Sister of Judi Sheppard*)

**Pam Proffit** (*Heart Issue; Friend of Karen Sadler*)

**Scott Schabach** (*Sepsis; Friend of Debbie Durie*)

**Bonnie Toney** (*Health; sister of John Toney*)

**Janet and John Toney** (*Health*)

**Ernie Wootton and Family** (*Cancer; husband of Teri Wootton*)

• Virginia Cancer Institute      •Peace and reconciliation for our nation.

### **Prayer Focus**

Jeff & Gail Brooks

### **Gochland Christian Churches Association**

Mt. Gilead Baptist Church

### **Metro Richmond at Prayer**

We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For single-parent families, adoptive families, foster families, and for households that are communities of friends. For elderly persons living in their own homes, in retirement communities, and in nursing institutions.

### **We continue to pray for...**

Susan Bass (*Breast cancer*)

Jeff Baird (*Health*)

Jean & Frank England (*Health*)

Alex & Kyle Hayden (*Montgomery PD*)

Claire Hoag (*Spine injury*)

Alex & Kyle Hayden (*Montgomery PD*)

Ronnie Jordan (*Health*)

Betty Martin (*Health*)

Brenda Morris (*Injury*)

Dario Palawan (*Cancer*)

Betsy Pond (*Health*)

Ted & Diane Peterson (*Health*)

Bonnie Swanson (*Health*)

Chic Wells (*Health*)

## 2025 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025



### THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

#### The Moore Family

Reader: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

**All: We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:10).**

Reader: We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

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## Call to Worship

Pastor: Beloved, we gather to rejoice in God who does wondrous things, who promises that someday all manner of things shall be well.

**All: We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

Pastor: We worship with joy now, confident that God will not stop until all creation is at peace.

**All: We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

Pastor: We lift up our voices in song and story, in prayer and praise, as we remember and rejoice in all that God has done and will do among us.

**All: We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.**

Pastor: Come! Let us worship God with joy as we work with God toward the day when all of creation lives in everlasting joy.

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