



First United Methodist Church
 504 Jackson Street
 Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania 15851
 814-653-8593
 www.fumcreynoldsville.org

December 2, 2018

Purple

First Sunday of Advent

To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas. ~Calvin Coolidge

**Please stand if able.*

Morning Offering: No offering plates are passed. Instead, there are offering boxes located on the wall at each of the rear entrances of the sanctuary.

If you have a prayer card for the pastor, please hand it to the pastor after the service.

As the music begins, be silent, be thoughtful, and be reverent, for this is the House of the Lord. Before the service, speak to the Lord. During the service, let the Lord speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.

PRELUDE "Christmas Bell Rejoicing" Handbell Choir
 Arranged by Michael Ryan

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH (L)

* CALL TO WORSHIP (L)

L: Have you seen it? The Spark of Hope which God is placing among us?

P: All we can see is hectic lives, crowded stores, darkness, chaos, and fear.

L: Look again! The Spirit of God is moving, bringing Hope.

P: We long to place our hope in God, but we are afraid.

L: A long time ago, people were afraid, but God brought to them the Light of Hope.

P: May God bring that light to us today!

* HYMN OF PRAISE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" UMH No. 211

OPENING PRAYER (L)

God of Hope, we exist oppressed by the tyranny of the here and now: it engulfs us in the murky waters of chaos and despair, fear and foreboding, dismay and confusion, where the hungry and homeless are turned away empty. Grant us the clarity of your Light that we may be set free to live with hope and possibility, confidence and joy, blessing and peace, which feeds and welcomes the lowly, the empty, and the displaced. In the name of the One who is our Righteousness, we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM "Come, Emmanuel" Chancel Choir
 Nancy Price and Don Besig

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Kristen Benson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

All (singing): "Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart."

Reader 1: God of hope and promise, protection and strength, you made covenant with us to send your presence to earth.

Reader 2: God of hope and endurance, you foretold the coming kingdom of God.

All: We, God's people, affirm your covenant with us. We stand ready, hearts full of hope for God will fulfill the promises made to God's people. As the psalmist declares, so do we: "All the Lord's paths are loving and faithful for those who keep his covenant and laws."

Reader 1: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle of hope to remind us to stand alert and seek the kingdom of God in our midst.

Reader 2 lights the candle of Hope

All (singing): "Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart."

* PRAYER HYMN "He Made a Way in a Manger/Away in the Manger"

MORNING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Luke 21:25-36

SERMON "Prepare the Way: Stand" Rev. Thomas D. Carr

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE BREAD AND THE CUP

* CLOSING HYMN "Blessed Be the God of Israel" UMH No. 209

TAKING OF THE LIGHT

BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" Organ
 Afro-American Spiritual/Arranged by William Farley Smith

† † † † † † † † † † † †

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

The flowers in the Chancel area are given to the honor and glory of God.



Maddox Hyde
 333 Ohio St.
 Reynoldsville, PA 15851

Maddox has been given a very short time left to live, and has requested Christmas cards. Please keep Maddox and his family in your prayers.

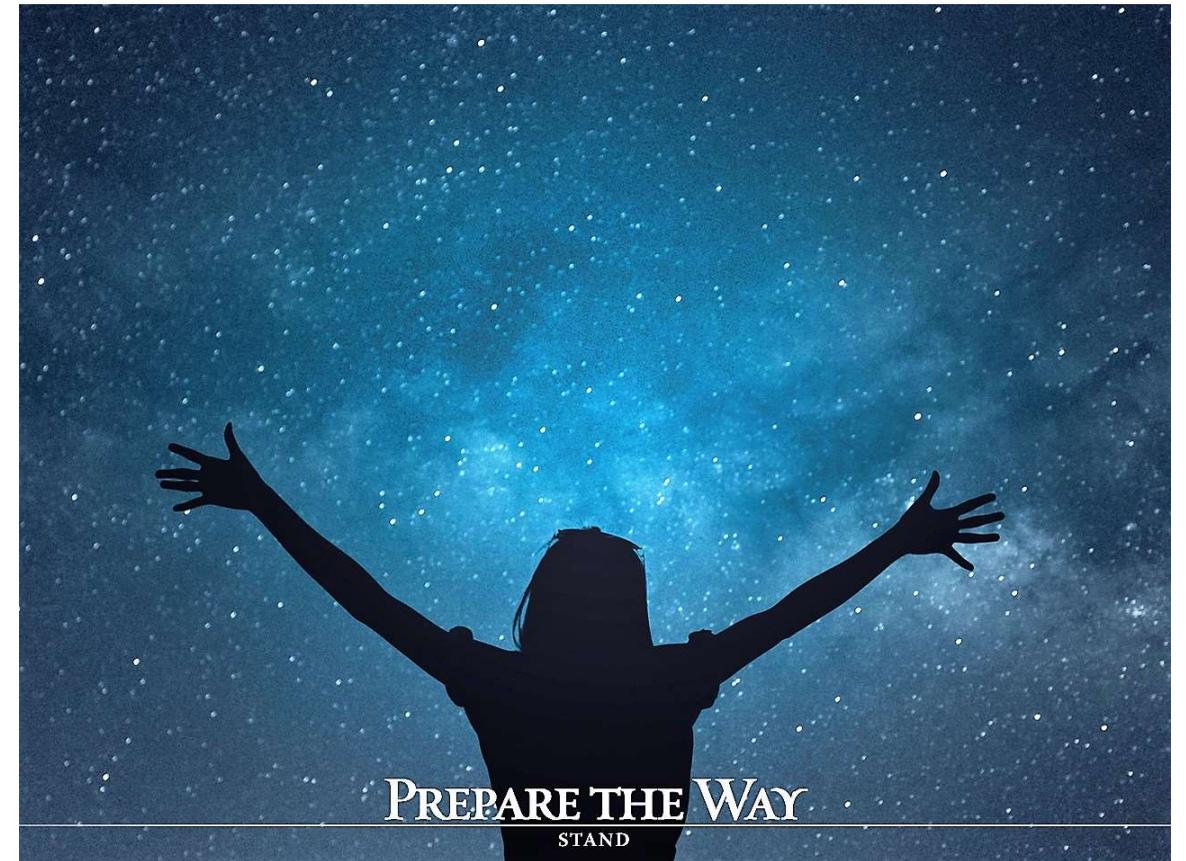
Greeters this morning are: Candy and Ed Reighn, Cindy Remaley
 Acolyte: Candy Reighn
 Liturgist: Kristen Benson
 Ministers: Every Member
 Pastor: Thomas D. Carr
 Pastor Emeritus: Leo C. Cramer
 Lay Leaders: Kim Tagliaferre
 Handbell & Chimebar Director & Pianist/Organist: Mona Cramer
 Chancel Choir Director: Jackie Stitt
 Administrative Assistant: Leah Carr

Attendance Last Week:
 Sunday School 52
 Communion Service 35+Morning Worship 81=116

Budget Report

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget	\$3,109.17
Funds Received Last Week Available for Budget	\$3,811.35
Funds Received Last Week NOT Available for Budget	\$351.75
Total Amount Received Last Week	\$4,163.10
Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget	\$146,131.13
Total Received Year-to-Date Available for Budget	\$144,010.67
Funds Received Year-to-Date NOT Available for Budget	\$19,277.82
Total All Funds Received Year-to-Date	\$163,288.49

One Faith – One Hope
 One Church Worship
 9:30 am



The First United Methodist Church
 Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania
 Rev. Thomas D. Carr, Pastor
 Rev. Leo Cramer, Pastor Emeritus

Sunday, December 2

- 9:30 am Morning Worship
- 10:45 am Sunday School for All Ages

Poinsettia Orders Due!

- 2:00 pm Cantata Rehearsal
- 6:00 pm Youth Group at Grace UMC, Sykesville Bible Study

Tuesday, December 4

- 9:00 am Knitting with Friends
- 2:00 pm Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Senior Girl Scouts' Pine Wreath Class*

Wednesday, December 5

- 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at The Foundry
- 6:00 pm Handbell Choir
- 6:30 pm Cadet Girl Scouts
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 6

- 7:00 pm **Staff-Parish Relations Committee**

Saturday, December 8

- 2:00 pm Cantata Rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Christmas Dinner*

Sunday, December 9

- 8:15 am Communion Service
- 9:00 am Fellowship Breakfast
- 9:30 am Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:45 am Morning Worship
- 4:00 pm **Christmas Cantata***
- 6:00 pm Youth Group Christmas Caroling

Volunteers are needed to **ring the bell** for the Salvation Army kettle at BiLo, beginning November 13 and ending December 23. The bell is usually set up between 9am and 7pm each day. You can volunteer to ring for time periods from 30 minutes to an hour, or even—it's up to you. The proceeds from the Salvation Army kettle each year go to help low-income people in our area with various financial needs. Please contact Cindy Remaley to schedule a time to ring.

*Girl Scout Senior Troop 16409 will be teaching a **pine wreath making class** on Tuesday December 4, 6pm - 8:30pm, at First United Methodist Church, Reynoldsville to support their winter camping trip. The Senior Troop will be using fresh pine wreaths from pine branches that would otherwise be thrown away. Guest are welcome to bring anything they want to attach to their wreaths, there will be ribbon and pinecones available. We will be serving hot chocolate and cookies. 20 tickets for the class are available for sale. 5 additional tickets for premade wreaths, they will be made at the class and delivered the week after. Tickets are \$30 each. Please RSVP & pay in advance. Contact any of our Senior Girl Scouts, or Amanda Zernell at 814-771-4886, for a ticket and join us for a fun evening learning a new skill!

*Our annual **Christmas Dinner** will be Saturday, December 8. The dinner will be at 5pm, followed by Christmas caroling and a visit from a VIP in the sanctuary. Please call the church office to **make your reservation** to attend. The dinner is free. If anyone is willing to volunteer with cooking, serving, and cleanup, please contact Barb Holcombe.

*This year's **Christmas Cantata**, *A Time for Love and Joy*, will be presented on Sunday, December 9 at 4pm. Please join us as the choirs present the Christmas story in music, word, and song. There is no charge for admittance to the cantata. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Reynoldsville Ministerium.

Treasures for Children is in full swing, again. If you are able, please take a tag and return the unwrapped gifts no later than December 16.

Once again there will be a **Blue Christmas worship service** on the longest night of the year, Friday December 21 at 7:00 PM. Sometimes called *Longest Night*, this is a service which recognizes that for many Christmas is a time of grief each year. This service allows us to acknowledge our grief while hearing the hope of the gospel proclamation, yet in a quieter setting.

If you're looking for a service that allows you to worship without all the happy carols of Christmas because your heart just isn't in it, then this service is for you! If you want to offer your prayers and your love by being present with those who are struggling in this season of both darkness and light, then this service is for you! If you simply feel the need for a time of gentle worship in preparation for Christ, then this service is for you! All from our church and community are welcome to join us on Friday, December 21 at 7 o'clock for a *Blue Christmas* worship service!

The *Grace-First Youth Group* will hold a **Rock-a-thon** on Friday, December 28 from 6 PM until 9 AM Saturday, December 29. You may support the Youth as they raise funds to attend SPARK the weekend of January 11-13 in Pittsburgh by pledging a donation to any of our youth. This will be a 15-hour rock-a-thon, so you might consider pledging a dollar an hour (\$15 total), or if you choose, you may make a simple donation of any amount.

December 30 we will once again be having our Fifth Sunday Hoss's Fundraiser. Pick up a green fundraiser card at the back of the sanctuary (They are on the radiator by the entrance.) and take it with you to Hoss's on Sunday, December 30. Give the card to your server when you pay for your meal, and Hoss's will donate a portion of the cost of your meal to our church. You have a delicious meal and help the church, and there are no dishes to wash; sounds like a win-win!

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

8:30 (or 9:00) until Noon (or 12:30)
Email: pastor@FUMCreynoldsville.org

Administrative Assistant's Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

8:30 until Noon and 12:30 until 3:00
Email: secretary@FUMCreynoldsville.org

Lord Jesus, master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" ~Henri Nouwen

Reverse Advent Calendar

Help those who struggle to put enough food on the table by adding a food item to a box each day in Advent. Bring the box to the church for the Helping Hands Food Pantry when you come for the Christmas Eve Service, or any time that is convenient for you.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| December 1 | A box of cereal |
| December 2 | Peanut butter |
| December 3 | Stuffing mix |
| December 4 | Boxed potatoes |
| December 5 | Macaroni and cheese |
| December 6 | Canned fruit |
| December 7 | Canned pasta |
| December 8 | Canned tuna |
| December 9 | Dessert mix |
| December 10 | A jar of applesauce |
| December 11 | Canned sweet potatoes |
| December 12 | Jelly |
| December 13 | Canned beans |
| December 14 | A box of crackers |
| December 15 | A package of rice |
| December 16 | Hamburger Helper |
| December 17 | A package of pasta |
| December 18 | Spaghetti sauce |
| December 19 | Chicken noodle soup |
| December 20 | Tomato soup |
| December 21 | A can of corn |
| December 22 | A can of mixed vegetables |
| December 23 | A can of carrots |
| December 24 | A can of green beans |



ORDER
YOUR
POINSETTIAS

Don't Delay!

Once again we plan to decorate the church with beautiful poinsettias this year at Christmas time, and you are invited to share in this. These will be on the altar in the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve Service. After the Service you may take your plant home with you. Please complete the form below and drop it in an offering box, or bring it by the church office, along with your check. The cost is \$8.50 per plant. The **DEADLINE** for ordering is Sunday, December 2.

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Presented by _____

Number of Plants _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Reception

There will be a sandwich and cookie reception following the Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 9. The choir is asking for volunteers to either provide sandwiches or cookies. If you would like to volunteer, please fill in your name below and choose which item you would like to bring, then put this form in an offering box. Thank you!

Name _____

Phone Number _____

_____ Sandwiches

_____ Cookies