



# United Methodist Church of Antioch

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

## PRELUDE

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Today        | Communion Sunday; Baptism (10:30am)<br>Worship, 8am & 10:30am<br>Choir/Sunday School/Youth Group, 9:15am<br>Handbell Choir 11:45am-12:30pm/Rm 101<br>AA 8-9pm/White Rm |
| Mon, Dec 4   | UMCAP 9am-2pm<br>AA 10-11am; 8-9pm/White Rm  |
| Tues, Dec 5  | UMCAP 9am-2pm<br>Advent Book Study 6:30pm/All Saints Rm<br>AA 6-7pm/White Rm   |
| Wed, Dec 6   | UMCAP 9am-2pm<br>UWF 11:45-2pm/Wesley Hall<br>Madrigals Concert 1pm/Sanctuary<br>AA 10-11am; 8-9pm/White Rm  |
| Thurs, Dec 7 | UMCAP 9am-2pm<br>AA 6-7pm/White Rm   |
| Fri, Dec 8   | AA 10-11am<br>Cookie Walk Setup 4-7pm/Wesley Hall<br>AA 6:30-7:30pm; 8:30-9:30pm   |
| Sat, Dec 9   | Cookie Walk 9am-1pm/Wesley Hall<br>Organ Concert 11am/Sanctuary<br>Antioch Garden Club 12-3pm/White Rm<br>AA 6-7pm/White Rm  |
| Sun, Dec 10  | Worship, 8am & 10:30am<br>Choir/Sunday School, 9:15am<br>AA 8-9pm/White Rm   |

*~Please note, the worship service is recorded and streamed to the internet, and there are large print bulletins and Bibles available. See an usher if you would like one. Additionally, there are handicap accessible restrooms located in Wesley Hall.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-Grief Share: If you, or someone you know, are experiencing grief issues with the upcoming holidays, we hope to provide some help by offering another session of “Surviving the Holidays” on December 14 in the All Saints Room from 1-3 PM. There is no charge for the session. Please call Judy Degand 847-833-1529 or Barbara Cantrell 847-804-0361 to register for either session.

- Christmas Eve poinsettias have been ordered for our sanctuary. As per tradition, you may make an offering toward the flowers of any amount in honor of a loved one. Please print clearly the name and “in honor of” or “in memory of.” Mark your envelope “flowers.” The names of those honored will be in our bulletin on Christmas Eve. Please turn your names into the office by Dec. 17. Plants will be available to take home following the 7pm Christmas Eve service.



-Missions News: Our annual Cookie Walk fundraiser will be on Sat, December 9 from 9am-1pm. All variety of cookies and candy donations are appreciated. Proceeds will go to mission projects. Cookie Walk donations can be brought to the church kitchen on Friday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> between 4-7pm. For more information, contact LouAnn Holmes at 815-675-6552.

-Our Organ Concert Series continues this month on December 9th, at 11:00am. This is the same day as the Cookie Walk, so it will be a great day to invite friends and family for a great festive morning at UMCA.

-The Madrigals will be singing on December 6th at 1pm in the church sanctuary. Please join us as we hear the beautiful voices of our Antioch High School kids.

-Christmas Eve worship will be at 5pm and 7pm. The 5pm service will be family-friendly and the 7pm service will be more traditional with Communion.

The Church Nursery is available for children 4 years and under. Please speak to an usher if you need nursery care. We follow our Safe Sanctuary policy, a copy of which is available in the nursery room. Also, children's activity folders are available by the Usher's stand.

## **LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

8:00am service     Denny Sathoff & Anne Dickson

10:30am service     Ron & Mary Kay Giebelhaus

## **MISSION STATEMENT (Unison)**

**The mission of the United Methodist Church of Antioch is to grow in faith, to worship God following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to be instruments of God's love through the Holy Spirit as we reach out to our community and the world.**

*\* Invites you to stand as you are able or to sit with gusto!*

**\*WE ARE WELCOMED TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

L: Jesus tells us to keep awake to what is going on around us.

**P: Isn't that a Lent story – when the disciples fall asleep in the garden? Aren't we in the wrong season?**

L: Yes, that story appears there, but in what we'll read today, we hear a story of looking for signs of God's Kin-dom to come.

**P: Can we skip talking about the apocalypse? All the images we have of that from Hollywood show us that it will be frightening and terrible.**

L: Well, it might be, but it also might just be getting to meet Jesus and that wouldn't be so bad.

**P: We will wait for Jesus to return, and we will be on the lookout for his arrival.**

**\*HYMN Red Hymnal #213**

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

**\*OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

**Immanuel, God with Us, we pause now to thank you for coming to us once and for planning to come again. Help us take this season to prepare for your arrival in the ways we know, but also to prepare for your arrival in ways we aren't so sure about. In this season of Advent, we prepare for what is to come, whatever that might be. In the name of the One who came for our sake, Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** (10:30am)

Theodore Jacob Lenz

Son of Jacob Lenz & Meghan Burks

Grandson of Mike & Janet Lenz

Susan & Eric Jones

Jim & Kim Burks

Sponsor: Meghan Armeli

**HYMN 8:00am Green Hymnal #3047**

*God Almighty, We Are Waiting*

1. God Almighty, we are waiting for a savior to appear.  
Meet us in our desert journey; give a sign that you are near:  
burning bushes, parted waters, food aplenty in the wild.  
As we look for signs and wonders, help us see you in a child.

2. God Incarnate, we are waiting for the feast day of your birth.  
Looking back and looking forward to the Christ's return to  
earth. Help us to proclaim the gospel, 'til the world is  
reconciled.

Let us set your holy table for each woman, man, and child.

3. God, the Spirit, we are waiting for your presence here and  
now.

Humbled by our sinful weakness, at your mercy we will bow.  
Search our hearts and make us ready, speak in language strong  
and mild,

help each one of us, your people, to receive you like a child.

**10:30am Black Hymnal #2249**

*God Claims You* (use "Theodore" in the refrain;  
words displayed on screen)

## **WE ASK FOR UNDERSTANDING (Unison)**

**Holy Child, the One for whom we are preparing, we ask you to guide our thinking, our praying, and our hoping. Focus our eyes and ears in these moments as we hear your Scriptures read and interpreted so that we might have a greater understanding. May our time together with you help us all to be more prepared for your coming. Amen.**

## **WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS**      -Mark 13:24-37

“But in those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in

the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

L: The word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**REFLECTION**

Keep Awake

Rev. Katie Voigt

**CHOIR ANTHEM** 10:30am Service

UMCA Choir

*An Advent Alleluia*

## **MORNING PRAYERS**

Joys/Concerns

Confession & Pardon

Let us together, confess our sins to God.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

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 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.**

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** *See Booklet*  
**PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING** *See Booklet*

**OFFERTORY**     *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

## **\*DOXOLOGY #95**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

## **\*WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS TO GOD (Unison)**

**Great God of wonderful surprises: we enter this season of preparation for your Son's coming, looking not for just a memory of past events, but anticipating a return. The master is near. We strive to get our lives in order and pray that our giving of ourselves to these preparations might reflect the earth-shaking importance of his coming. Help us to give of ourselves generously, for we do not know the time. We pray in the name of the one who will come. Amen.**



**\*CLOSING HYMN Red Hymnal #209**

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

**\*WE GO FORTH WITH BLESSING (Responsively)**

L: Keep awake!

**P: We will keep awake for Jesus!**

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

**P: And also, with you. Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

*Red* indicates “The United Methodist Hymnal”

*Black* indicates “The Faith We Sing”

One License # A-739071

**Worship Attendance/Giving for Sunday Nov 26, 2023**

8:00am -26

10:30am -55

General Fund: \$2,422

UM Student: \$186

Building: \$10

Boiler: \$100

# WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

**Today**

**Dec 10**

## **Greeters**

|         |               |               |
|---------|---------------|---------------|
| 8:00am  | Becky Johnson | Shelby Wais   |
| 10:30am | Joanne Rae    | Sally Rodgers |

## **Ushers**

|         |              |              |
|---------|--------------|--------------|
| 8:00am  | Dick Paddock | Irv Metz     |
| 10:30am | Tom Kessell  | Jerry Topcik |

## **Soundboard**

|         |                |                |
|---------|----------------|----------------|
| 8:00am  | Walt Cichonski | Walt Cichonski |
| 10:30am | Chris Shannon  | Phil Georgia   |

## **Liturgists**

|         |              |                   |
|---------|--------------|-------------------|
| 8:00am  | Leta Sathoff | Denny Sathoff     |
| 10:30am | Phil Georgia | Jeannine Leonhart |

## **Coffee Servers**

|         |                                  |                                   |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8:00am  | Ken Graesser<br>Irv & Pat Metz   | Dave & Dawn V                     |
| 10:30am | Chris Hofius-K<br>Cheryl Collins | Margaret Zaller<br>Caroline Adams |

## **Church Openers**

|  |                  |            |
|--|------------------|------------|
|  | Mike DeBenedetto | Cichonskis |
|--|------------------|------------|

## **Communion Stewards**

|         |                 |       |
|---------|-----------------|-------|
| 8:00am  | Nancy Colby     | ----- |
|         | Wayne Buck      |       |
| 10:30am | Lisa Shannon    | ----- |
|         | Margaret Zaller |       |

## Notes:

# UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ANTIOCH

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Website: [umcantioch.org](http://umcantioch.org)

See us on Facebook!

Pastor- Rev. Katie Voigt

Music Director/Organist-Debbie Gillette

Choir Director-Nicole Heyl

Custodians- Michelle Mennes & Kelly Kiple

Office Administrator-TeKeesha Fisher

UMCA Christian Preschool Director- Kim Dodd

(847) 395-1362

Scan below for December's Newsletter



## **Please Note:**

**Deadline for the Newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month-for the FOLLOWING month Send info in Word doc or body of email to [editorumca@gmail.com](mailto:editorumca@gmail.com)**

Next deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup> for the January newsletter.

*Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.*