



United Methodist Church of Antioch

4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

PRELUDE

Handbell Choir

Still, Still, Still

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sun, Dec. 22 Worship 8am & 10:30am
Choir/Sunday School 9:15am
Confirmation Class 3-4pm/Wesley Hall
AA 8-9pm/White Rm 102
- Mon, Dec. 23 AA 8-9pm/White Rm 102
- Tues, Dec. 24 Worship 5pm & 7pm
AA 6-7pm/White Rm 102
- Wed, Dec. 25 Christmas Day- **Office Closed 12/25-1/1**
AA 8-9pm/White Rm 102
- Thurs, Dec. 26 Office Closed
AA 6-7pm/White Rm 102
- Fri, Dec. 27 AA 6:30-7:30pm/White Rm 102
- Sat, Dec. 28 Feed My Starving Children 9-10:45am/
Libertyville Location
AA 6-7pm/White Rm 102
- Sun, Dec. 29 Worship 9:15am- 5th Sunday UVC
AA 8-9pm/White Rm 102

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Please note: Pastor Katie will be on vacation from December 25 through January 1. The office will be closed during this time. If you need pastoral assistance while Pastor Katie is away, please contact Beth Stahl, Jim Menzer or Cheryl Collins. Also, please know Pastor Katie turns her cell phone off while on vacation, so she will not receive your calls, voicemail, texts, or email until she returns. Merry Christmas to all, and let us rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior!

-Please note: Sunday December 29th, there will only be **one** worship service at **9:15am**.

-Planning to make an end-of-the-year gift? Please have it turned in by December 31st to ensure it is counted in the correct year.

-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 **TODAY** (Dec. 22). Plants will be available to take home following the 7pm Christmas Eve service.



-Joy Camp Winter Weekend is coming! This weekend camp is for 4th-12th graders on January 3rd-5th in Dixon, IL. The schedule includes outdoor activities, arts/crafts, church service on Sunday, and fellowship with other campers. Registration is \$65. To register or learn more visit: <https://www.joycamp.org/>

-Save the date! 2025 Prairie Central Leadership Training is coming January 18th to Grace UMC in Naperville, IL! It is \$15 per person (includes lunch), or total of \$60 per Church (4+ people). There are a wide variety of classes, and you have the opportunity to take 3 per day. For more information, the list of classes, or to register visit:

<https://www.umcnic.org/calendar/prairie-central-leadership-training-2025>

-The Cookie Walk brought in a total of \$2,798.25 for our Missions Committee. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the Cookie Walk and Christmas Resale Shoppe successful again this year. To the bakers, people who helped set up/tear down, and everyone who donated/came out to shop- the sale would not have been possible without your coming together and helping. Sincerely, Lou Ann Holmes & the Missions Committee.

-MISSIONS: Hopefully all our bellies will be full from the upcoming holidays. Do you wish everyone can have enough food? Join us on Saturday December 28th from 9-10:45am at Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville. We will help package food for others. There are jobs for all. Please see the sign-up sheet in Wesley Hall. We can share rides or drive separately. For more info, contact Carol Cichonski (847) 269-2287.

-Worship Leaders needed! We need an usher for our 5pm service December 24th. Please contact Tom Kessell (224-456-6134) if you can help! We also need coffee servers on January 5th for the 10:30am service and February 23rd for the 10:30am service. Please contact Dawn Vogel (847-395-2758) if you can help!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

L: When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, “But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day.” (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, “But you, O Antioch, from you shall come forth for me...” What? What might God be calling forth from us?

P: God invites us to receive the promise of God’s salvation and the sustenance of God’s mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-bearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God’s invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.

L: We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God’s promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God’s love for all creation.

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: Children of God, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here!

P: We wait as people of God’s promise.

L: The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary’s womb call to us today.

P: We listen as people of God’s promise.

L: Mary’s “yes” and Elizabeth’s faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God’s good news into the world.

P: We follow as people of God’s promise.

L: This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, and the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today – God is with us!

P: God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024.)

***HYMN Red Hymnal #214**

Savior of the Nations, Come

***OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

God of the impossible and unlikely, God of pregnant old women and virgins, you turn our conventional world upside down, where the hungry are fed, and arrogant rich are turned away. Instill in us unthinkable marvels. Make us pregnant with wonder through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen

(Adapted from Bob Eldan. Posted on the Pilgrim Uniting Church website at <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=677>.)

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN 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.

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 – Luke 1:39-55

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Promise

Rev. Katie Voigt

CHORAL ANTHEM (10:30 service)

UMCA Choir

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys/Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

***THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)**

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.

OFFERTORY *Pat-a-Pan*

***DOXOLOGY #95**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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

God of grace and wonder, we offer these gifts in response to your call. As Mary responded with faith, we too say, “Here we are, let it be to us.” Use these offerings to further your kin-dom on earth. Empower us to be bearers of Christ’s presence, bringing hope and love to our community. May our giving reflect the promise of Emmanuel, God with us, and bring light and joy in this Advent season. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN Red Hymnal #206**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

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

L: Go, now, in the blessing of God’s promise.

P: We will trust in the assurance that our expectant joy will find its fulfillment in the God who was, who is, and who will be with us always.

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** *Masters in this Hall*

Red indicates “The United Methodist Hymnal”

Black indicates “The Faith We Sing”

One License # A-739071

Worship Attendance/Giving for Sunday

December 15, 2024

8am- 40 10:30am- 61

General Fund: \$6,251

Missions: \$3,111.07

Building: \$140

Poinsettias: \$450

Boiler: \$130

Christmas Giving: \$275

Advent Readers

December 22

December 24

Readers

8:00am

Walt Cichonski

Carol Cichonski

5:00pm

Dawn Vogel

Denny Sathoff

10:30am

Mary Kay Giebelhaus

Ron Giebelhaus

7:00pm

Tammy Johnson

Becky Johnson

Worship Leadership-

Christmas Eve

December 24

Ushers

5:00pm

(Needed)

7:00pm

Tom Kessell

Soundboard

5:00pm

Isaac Platzbecker

7:00pm

Walt Cichonski

Communion

Stewards

7pm ONLY

Carol and Walt Cichonski

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

December 22

**December 29
(9:15am ONLY)**

Greeters

8:00am

Leta Sathoff

9:15am- Dawn Vogel

10:30am

Joanne Rae

Ushers

8:00am

Wayne Buck

9:15am- Walt Cichonski

10:30am

Chris Shannon

Soundboard

8:00am

Walt Cichonski

9:15am- Chris Shannon

10:30am

Mike Lapke

Liturgists

8:00am

Wayne Buck

9:15am- Mary Geier, Ardy

10:30am

Phil Georgia

Lange, Tom Kessell, Nikki
Georgia, Judy Tetour, Denny
& Leta Sathoff, Joshua
Shipow, Alvera Morgan

Coffee Servers

8:00am

LouAnn Holmes

9:15am- Leta Sathoff

Pat and Irv Metz

Jeannine Leonhart

10:30am

Nikki Georgia

Phil Georgia

Openers

Metz Family

9:15am- Cichonski Family

Prayer Card

8:00am

Nancy Colby

9:15am- Nancy Colby

10:30am

Mary Kay & Ron

Giebelhaus

Notes

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ANTIOCH

848 Main Street, Antioch, IL 60002

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-2:30pm

Phone: 847-395-1259

Email: umc.antioch@att.net

Website: umcantioch.org

Follow us on Facebook!

Watch us on YouTube!

Pastor- Rev. Katie Voigt

Music Director/Organist-Debbie Gillette

Choir Director-Nicole Heyl

Custodians- Michelle M. & Kelly K.

Office Administrator- Hannah T.

UMCA Christian Preschool Director- Kim Dodd

(847) 395-1362

Scan below for December's Newsletter



Please Note:

Deadline for the Newsletter is the 15th of each month-for the FOLLOWING month Send info in Word doc or body of email to editorumca@gmail.com

Next deadline is January 15th for the February newsletter.

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.