

Advent III

December 16, 2012 +8:30 A.M. +++11:00 A.M.

GATHERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE "When Sinners See Their Lost Condition" Camil Van Hulse

*HYMN OF INTENTION "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" (ELLACOMBE) No. 203

*Call to Worship

Leader: Hail the Lord's Anointed,
Congregation: great David's greater Son!
ALL: Hail...

"Once in Royal David's City" (IRBY) No. 250 v 1
*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed;
Mary, loving mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.*

Leader: He comes!
Congregation: He comes!
ALL: Come...

"In the Bleak Midwinter" (CRANHAM) No. 221 v 2
*Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.*

Leader: He shall come down!
Congregation: He shall come down!
ALL: Come...

"Love Came Down at Christmas" (GARTAN) No. 242 v 1
*Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.*

Leader: Hail, Love all lovely!
Congregation: Come, Love divine!
ALL: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Kathy Schmucker, Director of Christian Education & Spiritual Formation
Lord God, you have called us, each of us, to loose the bonds of injustice and to let the oppressed go free. Almighty God, in the words of Mary's Magnificat, may we magnify the Lord who calls us to do these things, and may we do them joyfully and thankfully. We pray this prayer in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

+ANTHEM "Advent Kyrie" David Lantz III
Chancel Choir William Kaiser, Director

FAITH STORY

OFFERING
OFFERTORY + "Prepare the Way of the Lord" William Rowan
+++ "Candle of Hope" Douglas E. Wagner
Joy Unlimited Steve Moore, Director

DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94
(LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S 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
glory forever. Amen.*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:39-56

SERMON *Mary's Visit to Elizabeth*
Sermon 3 of 5 in "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem"
Rev. Cara Stultz Costello

HYMN OF MISSION "Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin" (IRBY)
Words by C.W. Gillette

Mary gladly told her cousin, "Praise the Lord! My spirit sings!"
Young and humble, she'd been chosen! God was surely changing things!
God of love, her words ring true, As we sing her prayer to you:

"Now my soul is gladly singing, At the greatness of the Lord.
I rejoice, for God is bringing His salvation to the world.
All who live will say I'm blest, Even in my lowliness"

"God is mighty, just and holy, And he's done great things for me.
Those who fear him know the mercy, That God gives us endlessly.
Mighty ones are brought down low; Lowly ones find blessings flow."

"God has filled the poor and hungry, And he's sent the rich away.
God is active here in history, In a real and wondrous way.
God has promised, and I'm blessed, For I know God's faithfulness."

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE "+Two-Fold Amen" Robert C. Bennett
+++ "World Peace Canon" Donald Moore

*ORGAN POSTLUDE "Veni Emmanuel" Van Hulse

**Please stand if you are able* CCLI License #1596957

For further reflection:

Faith UMC is engaged in a church-wide sermon and study series during this season of Advent. Each week we will offer a scripture and reflection question to encourage you to share in your homes and among your friends and families to guide us in further reflection on each week's message.

3rd Week of Advent: Read Luke 1:39-56

*Who has served as a mentor in your life? In what ways have you served as a mentor? What does it mean to magnify the Lord? What line of praise would you add to Mary's words? **Prayer Focus:** May we magnify the Lord as we respond to His call to lift the lowly and fill the hungry with good things and may we do so thankfully and joyfully.*

Read Luke 2:1-7 in preparation for the 4th Sunday of Advent

Next Sunday at Faith Church - Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

8:30 AM- Joy Unlimited

11:00 AM – Chancel Choir

Announcements

Staff In-service Day In an effort to empower our staff and be good stewards of their ministries, the office staff will be having an in-service day on Thursday, December 20. Volunteers will be in the office and you may leave a message.

Wheelchair Accessible Van Available Christmas Eve Do you know someone in a wheelchair who would like to attend one of our Christmas Eve services? Eric Mansfield, a member of our congregation, has access to a wheelchair accessible van on Christmas Eve. He works for MobilityWorks and has 8 years of experience in the mobility industry. He is a Certified Mobility Consultant and is trained in mobility transportation assessment needs and is a certified instructor. Eric has offered to drive anyone in a wheelchair (plus other family members/friends) to any of the Christmas Eve Services. For additional information, Eric may be reached at 330.418.0242.

Gift Cards! Today at 12 noon is the last order deadline until January. Every purchase helps the youth earn money toward their summer Mission Trip and it doesn't cost you anything. Some gift cards are kept on hand for immediate purchase in the office during business hours. Check the Gathering Area or church office for order forms and leave them in Susan Arnold's mailbox with your check.

Stewardship Update Have you made your 2013 financial commitment to Faith UMC? The largest source of income to support the daily operation of the church comes from your gifts and pledges. We are still hoping to receive more pledges before the end of the year. Contact the church office for more information, visit our Resources Tab on the website (www.faithumchurch.org) or pick up an orange 2013 pledge form in the Gathering Area. Total received through Dec. 14: 198 cards returned = \$545,200; Last year by year end we had received 232 cards - \$648,392. Please help us meet or exceed the total for 2012. **Remember it's not too late to turn in your pledge cards.**

Christmas Poinsettias Time to sign up for Christmas poinsettias. Sign-up sheets are available in the Gathering Area and also outside the Youth Room. Cost is \$8.50 a plant. The last day to sign up will be Tuesday, December 18th.

Need Some Stocking Stuffers? Support our Fair Trade Ministry by purchasing coffee, tea, chocolate bars and baking chocolate! We are reminded by the Bishop about the importance of this cause. In addition this is a great way to give two-fold this holiday season. Check it out outside of the church office.

Join Us In Sunday School!

Nursery (Infant – Age 2) – 8:30, 9:45, 11:00 AM in Room 18
Following the Children's Sermon, the following ages/grades will be invited to attend Sunday School:

Preschool (Ages 3-5) – 9:45 & 11:00 AM in Room 20

Grades K-2 – 9:45 & 11:00 AM in Room 6

Grades 3-5 – 9:45 & 11:00 AM in Room 8

Youth (6th-12th together during Advent) @ 11AM Youth Room

Adult Sunday School @ 9:45AM in the Conf Rm & W Parlor

Adult Sunday School @ 9:45 AM in Room 16

Adult Sunday School @ 11:00 AM in Room 16

Experience Advent:

Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

A church wide sermon & study series! Small groups and Sunday school classes are happening this week. Check out the Advent info at the church info center or table outside of the Youth Room & Website! Check out these studies:

Monday @ 7PM, Facilitator: Bob Kuchner, West Parlor

Tuesday @ 1PM, Facilitator: Sam Purses, Rm 16

Sunday @ 9:45AM, Facilitator: Jim Skinner, Rm 16

Sunday @ 9:45AM, Facilitator: Kim Reynolds & Steve Golden, W Parlor

Sunday @ 11:00AM, Facilitator: Sue Bell & Kathy Schmucker, Rm 16

Youth and Children will participate in the study through their Sunday School Classes (listed above).

Longest Night Service - Wednesday, Dec. 19th @ 7PM

We recognize that the holiday season can be a painful & lonely time of year for those who are hurting or grieving. Join us for this special service of hope and remembrance.

Advent Books Available! Check out the 2012 Advent Devotional Book available **ONLINE, through the Spiritual Formation Blog, & in print!** In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, we have a limited number of printed Advent Devotionals. Please visit the website to view the devotional digitally each day throughout Advent and to comment and share your story!! (www.faithumchurch.org) or the blog (www.faithumchurch.wordpress.com)

Advent Resources Along with our Advent devotion book, we also have an assortment of handouts available to help you experience Advent & Christmas in your homes. Check out the display at the Church Info Center in the Gathering Area & the literature stand near the youth room outside the Family Life Center.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Volunteers are invited to assist with our 7:00pm Interactive Family Christmas Eve Service. See Kathy Schmucker or Sandy Vaughn for more information.

Mission Trip Donation Boards are available in the Narthex and by the Youth Room. There are blank envelopes as well as envelopes marked in increments starting with \$5. Thank you for supporting our youth!

Worship Attendance Last Sunday:

8:30	9:45	11:00	Total
139	174	147	460

THIS WEEK AT FAITH CHURCH

Sunday

9:45 & 11

12:00 pm

5:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

Monday

9:00 am

7:00 pm

7:00 pm

7:00 pm

7:00 pm

Tuesday

6:00 am

9:00 am

9:30 am

1:00 pm

7:00 pm

Wednesday

9:15 am

11:30 am

5:00 pm

5:00 pm

6:30 pm

7:00 pm

7:30 pm

Thursday

7:15 am

7:30 am

12:00 pm

1:00 pm

2:00 pm

5:45 pm

Friday

Saturday

December 16

Sunday School for All Ages!

Church Board Meeting, Chapel

Joy Unlimited Youth Choir, Choir Room

Refuge Youth Ministry:

Advent Conspiracy, Session 4

Refuge Parent Group, W Parlor

December 17

Women's Morning Study, Samantha's

Advent Small Group Study, W Parlor

Covenant Bible Study, Rm 16

Meditation Group, Room 8

Men's Open Basketball, FLC

December 18

Men's Prayer Group, Balcony

Quilts to Share, Rms 5 & 6

Celebration Bells – Rm 8

Advent Small Group Study, Rm 16

Boy Scouts, RH, FLC

December 19

Women's Morning Study Group, W Parlor

Church Staff Meeting

Carol Choir, Choir Room

Cherub Choir, Rm 8

Sewing For Missions

Longest Night Service

Chancel Choir

December 20

Retired Men's Breakfast: Susanna's

Working Women's Breakfast, Samantha's

Library Volunteers

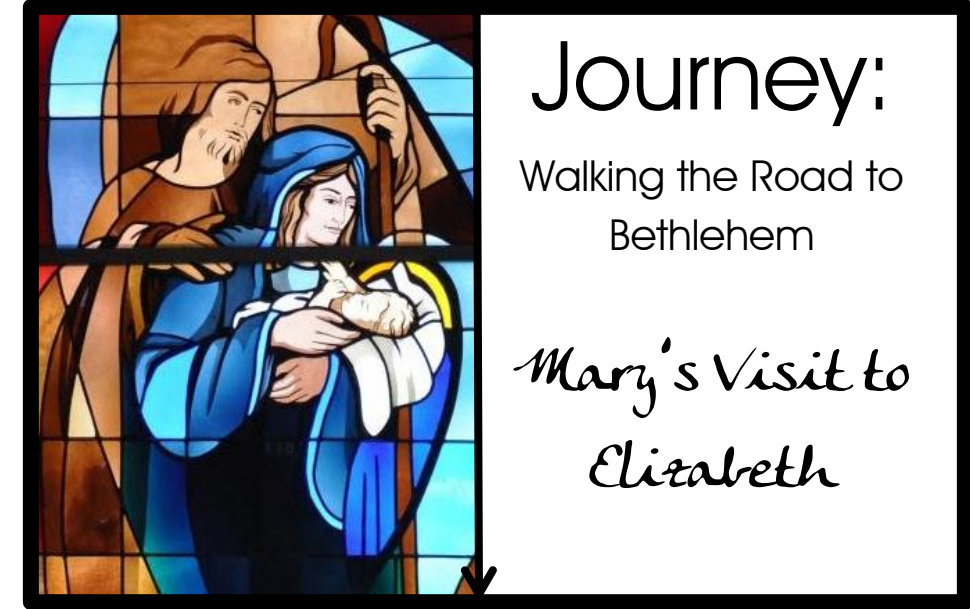
Alzheimer's Support Group, Rm 8

Faith Stitchers,

Boy Scouts – God & Life, Rm 5

December 21

December 22



WELCOME!

We gladly welcome all worshipers on this third Sunday of Advent. May we all prepare for the joyous celebration of the coming of our Lord, Jesus the Christ.

Co-Pastors: Rev. Steve and Cara Stultz Costello
Organist: William Kaiser

The altar flowers are given Butch & Jo Ransom in memory of our mothers, Margaret Cmar and Marjorie Salser.

December 16, 2012

- Communion is available today in the Chapel. Guided meditation books are available. Please enter quietly.
- Large print copies of the order of worship and hearing aid devices are available from the ushers.
- Restrooms are located in the hallway off the Gathering Area.
- Find Sunday School for all ages & Childcare Info inside!
- Copies of the weekly Prayer List are available at the Information Station in the Gathering Area along with Nov/Dec Upper Room & Daily Bread devotionals.



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