

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

10:30AM

Welcome to Worship at Memorial United Methodist Church.

Please register your attendance in the blue book at the end of your pew.

Visitors, please include the best way for us to follow up with you.

Music to Center Ourselves *Voluntary: Simply Believe* (Williamson)

Welcome to Worship

*Call to Worship

Leap for joy! Christ is coming!

Christ comes into our lives!

Rejoice and praise! God's promised reign!

Christ comes into our lives!

Sing songs of old! Proclaim ancient truths!

Christ comes into our lives!

***Opening Hymn** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* UMH 196

Lighting the Advent Wreath Susan, Courtney, and Isaac Lagina

Advent Song: *"Light the Advent Candle"* TFWS 2090, v. 1

Old Testament reading Psalm 122 Alice Butch

***Gospel** Luke 1:1-25

***Canticle of Zechariah** (Luke 1:68-79) UMH 208

Children's Time

Message Pastor Terri Branstrom

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* UMH 211

Offering Our Gifts and Commitments

Offertory *Meditation on "Divinum Mysterium"* (Southbridge)

Ushers will pass the offering plates to receive today's offering and any prayer requests (please write requests on the green cards found in the pews). You may also make financial contributions on the square reader near the entrance, or online on our website.

***Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow** UMH 95

***Offering Prayer**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* UMH 203

*Departing Blessing

Music for Going Forth *People, Look East* (Lau)

* The asterisk indicates times in worship where we're invited to stand.

Please join us after worship for coffee and conversation.

Assisting Today

Altar Guild: Berta Johnson, Kay Shapy, and Carol Borden

Communion Servers: Nannette Martin, Wilma Vanderdonck, Andie Balenger

Counters: Diane Oxford and Peggy Richter

Muffins: Nancy Campbell

Ushers: Bill and Bonnie Buchmiller

MONDAY 5:30 New Study: *Advent Conspiracy*

WEDNESDAY 9:00 Knit
6:15 Band practice

NEXT SUNDAY 10:30 Worship *Second Sunday of Advent*

DEC. 13 Lifeline Screening in gym

DEC. 15 5:30 Chanukah dinner and game night

DEC. 24 *4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve*
10:30 Sunday morning worship
9 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve service

Backpack Buddies: Every first Sunday of the month, the backpack is in the center aisle for people to drop money into on their way to communion. This money goes to the Kiwanis project of providing schoolchildren with food to take home in their backpacks over the weekend or holidays.

Prayer List Every year or so, we wipe the on-going prayer list clean and start over. If there is someone that you want on the on-going prayer list in 2024, please submit that name and note that it is for the on-going list.

Baskets for Homebound People

The Knitters Group will be making 9 baskets to take to people who are homebound or are in nursing homes. If you would like to donate 9 items for these baskets, please give these items to Peggy Richter or place them in the Grapevine Room **by Dec. 10**.

Chanukah dinner and game night Friday, Dec. 15, 5:30-8:00.

R.S.V.P. on the bulletin board so that Leah knows how much to make.

Winter Coats needed in our clothes closet. Put donations in room 9.

Christ Tree Donations to the Christ Tree help make Christmas a little brighter for a family or families in our midst. Donations may be made until December 17. If you are in need of help or know of someone or a family in need, please contact the church office or Pastor Terri. This is available for anyone from birth to senior citizen whether a church member or not.

Directions on how to donate to the Christ Tree are on the table in front of the display cabinet.

The Advent and Christmas Special Offering will be split between the general fund (75%) and Walk for Warmth (25%). Please designate on your check/envelope "Christmas".

Christmas Eve Service: With Dec. 24 being on a Sunday this year, we will incorporate our "Family Oriented" Christmas Eve service into our regular **10:30 morning service**. We will have one Christmas Eve service at **9 p.m.** It will be our traditional candlelight service.

Children and Youth who are interested in participating in the Dec. 24 Sunday morning worship service, please speak with Lisa or Christina Myers. We welcome special music, scripture readers, children who are willing to dress up in costume, ushers, greeters, etc.

Poinsettias If you wish to honor or memorialize a loved one with your WHITE poinsettia, complete the pink form on the table by the front door, and turn it in to the church office by Dec. 20. Then order your white poinsettia from whichever florist you choose and have it to church by Sat., Dec. 23.

Why White? We alternate colors just for variety. On even years, we use multi-colored lights and ornaments. On odd years (like this year), we decorate our sanctuary in white & gold. The white Styrofoam ornaments trimmed in gold are Chrismons; each one is a symbol for Christ or Christmas. They were handmade years ago by one of our ladies' circles.

Offering Envelope Boxes Due to the rising costs of boxed sets of offering envelopes, we have decided not to purchase boxed sets anymore. You can use the envelopes in the pew racks and write your name on the envelope, or if you wish to have a boxed set, there are some left over from previous years on the black table by the bulletin board.

The Bay de Noc Choral Society invites you to this year's annual Advent Concert on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 1:30 at Bethany Lutheran Church. Pastor Terri, Kathy Young, and David Block will be singing in the choir. A freewill offering will be taken.

The Festival of Choirs is Friday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. at St. Joe's/St. Pat's.

Camp Michigamme 25% Discount Give your camper the gift of camp this Christmas. When you register for a camp before January 1st, you will receive a 25% discount. Information is on the small bulletin board in the narthex. Camps for children through adult.

Prayer List

New Concerns

Rodney Potvin and family
Cheryl LaCarte

Walt Houghton
Joyce Schrock

Recent Concerns

Katie Juhola
Family of Al Jensen

Ongoing Concerns

Peace in the Middle East

Ukraine

All the innocent people in Israel and Palestine

Mindy A.

Betsy Anderson

Bud Baltic

Lisa Richer Barta

Lorna Benson

Sarah Benson

David Bohlen

Tom Butch

Nancy Campbell

Karen Caswell

Bud and Pat Clark

Mary Clark

Eileen Collins

Chris and Kim Diamond

Shirley Clark

Scott Eckert

Brian Galvin

John Gudwer

Michele Geyer

Ian Goldi

Jim Hubbard

Nancy Harger

Caroline Hart

Marcy Makosky

Liz Kempfer

Susan Lindgren

Rhonda Mulligan

Toni Marchese

Rebecca Marchak

Helen Palo

Zach Nardi

Vickie Ottensman

Jordan Rabito

Emily Shada Polega

Josiah Pryor

Krista Warm

Marv and Pat Sodermark

Memorial United Methodist Church

1920 Lake Shore Drive, Gladstone, MI 49837

www.gladstonechurch.org

Mission: We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Terri Branstrom 280-2993

Pastor in office: Monday & Thursday 9:30 – 2:00

Organist/Pianist: Kathy Young

Church Email: mumc@gladstonechurch.org

Church Phone: (906)428-9311

Administrative Assistant: Lisa Myers

Office hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 2:00

Facebook – Share the News MUMC is now posting more about who we are and what we are doing. BUT to make this work the best, we need you to LIKE, COMMENT and SHARE!! The more you do, the more people see our page and learn about who we are!

Readers to Leaders: A life changing campaign to support children in our community, across Michigan, and in Liberia. Half of the funds will benefit the Liberia Scholarship Program of the Michigan Conference's Liberia Ministry Partners. The other half will benefit the Michigan Conference's Children Defense Fund Freedom Schools Program.



Peanut-Free Church: Due to peanut allergies among some of our children, we are working toward becoming a peanut-free church. Please check labels for hidden peanut oils.