

Elkton United Methodist Church

Sunday, November 27, 2016

First Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. † 11:00 a.m.

-
- Before the service begins, please give your white prayer request card to an usher.
 - Please see an usher if you would like to have a large print bulletin or hymnal.
 - All worshipers are asked to sign the attendance register. If you are a guest, please fill out all the information. As the register is passed back down the pew, make note of those sitting near you so you can greet them after the service.
-

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES AND RINGING OF CHIMES

GREETING AND WELCOME

TIME OF CENTERING PRAYER

AND PRELUDE "SLEEPERS, WAKE A VOICE ASTOUNDS US" ARR. BY WALTHER

SUNG RESPONSE #211 (UMH)..... "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL" (stanza 1)

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Leader: Christians around the world begin this day to await the advent of Christ.
We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles,
symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

People: We gather as a people of Hope.

Leader: Christian people around the world stand today in breathless anticipation of
a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years, yet that astounds us
anew each year.

People: Our hope springs anew, from an ancient vision.

Leader: As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope based not on
wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we
have received the Promise and the Great Gift, and therefore, in the midst

of

darkness and imperfection, we hope.

**People: We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we
have heard that special Child is to come, that God is to be among us,
and that soon we will see a new creation on earth. We are a people of
hope!**

The acolyte lights the candle of hope on the Advent Wreath.

**HYMN #3047 (W&S)..... "GOD ALMIGHTY, WE ARE WAITING"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to
prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles. We have
ignored the promise of your kingdom. We get distracted by all the busyness of this
season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent
courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey
with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the
quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF PARDON AND ASSURANCE

MUSICAL OFFERING – (8:30 & 11:00) –SUE JOHNSON, SOLOIST

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES, ISAIAH 11:1-10 (pages 640 & 641)

MUSICAL OFFERING – 8:30 – "I'LL SHINE" CHILDREN'S CHOIR
11:00 – "IN SILENCE WE WAIT" CHANCEL CHOIR

GOSPEL LESSON, LUKE 2:1-7 (page 58)

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE #204 (UMH)..... "EMMANUEL"

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel,
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.**

SERMON "THE THINGS OF CHRISTMAS: I – CHRISTMAS WRAP".....REV. KAREN F. BUNNELL

**HYMN #217 (UMH)..... "AWAY IN A MANGER"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (in 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.**



RESPONSE #3051 (W&S)..... “A STAR SHONE BRIGHT” (stanza 2)
**O Son of God, Incarnate Word, O Wisdom’s Light, whom angels heard,
 come forth again, our hearts console. O heal our hurts and make us whole.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CALL TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY – “PRELUDE IN G MINOR” J. S. BACH

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE (sung to the tune of “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
 glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-In-One.
 Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,
 as we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.**

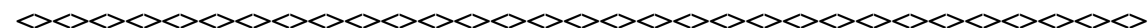
**HYMN #3048 (W&S) “VIEW THE PRESENT THROUGH THE PROMISE”

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
 Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, bind us together in love.**

POSTLUDE “RONDEAU” MOURER

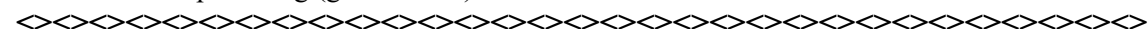


**Indicates the congregation should stand if able

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal (red cover)

TFWS: The Faith We Sing (black cover) - found in the rack underneath the pew in front of you

W&S: Worship & Song (green cover)



STAFF OF ELKTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Peggy Johnson, Bishop
 Joe Archie, District Superintendent

Karen F. Bunnell Senior Pastor
 Ray Graham.....Associate Pastor of Visitation Ministries
 Paul Deemer Handbell Director
 Steven Gilmore..... Choir Director
 Katie Sparks Director of Children and Education Ministries
 Kay Mortimer Secretary
 Bill Vassalotti Treasurer
 Sandy Wherry Director of Youth
 Sharon Williams Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries
 Donald Ewing/Donna Horgan Sextons

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS! We welcome all to worship at Elkton UMC this morning, and extend a special welcome to all who are visiting with us this morning. Please fill out the blue visitor card located in the pew racks. We also have a gift for all first-time visitors to our church. It is available from the welcome center or from the ushers in the foyer. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive the gift, just speak to one of the ushers as you're leaving the worship service this morning, and they will see that you receive one! Once again, welcome to worship at Elkton UMC!

COPIES OF TODAY'S SERMON/VIDEO OF TODAY'S SERMON – Several persons with hearing difficulties have found it helpful to have a copy of the sermon and read along as it is preached, therefore copies are now available from the ushers should you wish to have one. Videos of our 11 a.m. weekly service are now available online as well. To see a video, go the church website, elktonumc.org, and click on the “Sermons” link and there you will see a link to our You Tube channel where all EUMC videos are available.

CALLING ALL TRAVELERS! The Classic Christians are planning on hitting the road again in the spring of 2017. This time they're headed off to Niagara Falls and Toronto, Canada. The trip will take place from Monday, May 15 – Friday, May 19. Final details are still being hammered out, but we do know that the cost will be approximately \$675/person double occupancy, and that everyone on the trip will have to have either a passport or the passport card (which allows entrance into Canada/Mexico/Caribbean). Flyers about the trip will be on the Welcome Center soon.

ATTENTION WOMEN'S RETREAT PARTICIPANTS – Your final installment payment is due December 1st.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNION – Holy Communion, led by Ivan Mehosky, is offered every Wednesday evening at 6:15 p.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome.

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday, December 6, 7:30 p.m. – Cecil County Choral Society Concert in our sanctuary

Sunday, December 11, 7:00 p.m. – Elkton Town Band Concert in the
Elkton High School Auditorium

Sunday, December 18th – Chancel Choir Cantata at both morning services
Children's Christmas Program at 9:45 a.m. in Weldin Hall
Blue Christmas Service at 4:00 p.m. in our sanctuary

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

TODAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Worship Services
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM..... Child Care/Nursery Birth through Kindergarten (Rm. 24)
9:15 AM..... Children's Choir Rehearsal (Room 1)
9:30 AM..... College Outreach (Weldin Hall)
9:45 AM..... Sunday School (All Ages)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2016

6:00 PM Cub Scouts Pack 443 (Weldin Hall)
7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 443 (Room 1)
7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Room 21)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2016

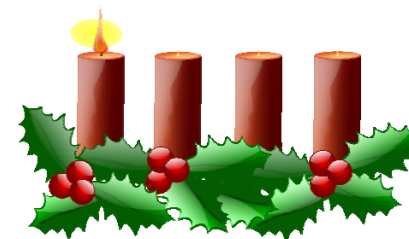
9:30 AM..... Staff Meeting (Room 1)
7:00 PM Cecil County Choral Society Dress Rehearsal (WH)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2016

6:15 PM Weekly Communion (Chapel)
6:30 PM Men's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016

6:30 PM Women's Retreat Committee Meeting (Conf. Room)
8:00 PM AA Meeting (Room 1)



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Worship Leader: Mike Schmook

Readers: 8:30 – Rich Gruebel 11:00 – Gerry Treese

Acolytes: 8:30 –Andrew Noll 11:00 – Sienna Graham

Greeters: 8:30 – Lea and Dick Gochnauer 11:00 – Sheila and Ed Hendricks

Welcome Center:

8:10-8:30 & 10:40-11:00 &
9:30-9:50 –Ellen Gruebel 12:00-12:20 – Kim Heath

Hostesses: 8:30 – Stacie Forman and 11:00 – Mary Mackie and
Charlotte Mehosky Janet Forney

Hall Monitors: 8:30 – Kevin White 11:00 – Helen Hanel

Nursery: 8:30 – Paige Laning 11:00 – TBD

Tech Team: 8:30 – Carly Smith and 11:00 – Roger Robinson and
Kristina Keithley Connery Eddinger

Parking Lot

Knights: Kevin White, Wayne Eller, Ken McCoy, Bob Perkins, Gary Lewis,
Rod Perrine and Jack Williams.

Ushers: 8:30 – Gifford Biles, Murray Thompson, Rich Gruebel, Mabel Gary,
Ronnie Smith, Bill Alphin and Jack McCoy.
11:00 – Frank Deibert, Charlie Campbell, Ken McCoy, Stanley Cebula,
John Fetterolf, David Gray, Phil Czarnecki and Brian Ingram.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in honor of our 20th wedding anniversary given by Ellen and Rich Gruebel.

AVAILABLE ALL MORNING – Nursery care is available during this morning's worship services. The nursery is located in Rooms 22-24 and is staffed by Yolanda Gomez, a professional childcare worker, assisted by volunteers from our congregation. One of our ushers can guide you there. New children are welcome! Also, please know that it is perfectly fine to leave the worship service with your child if they become restless or unhappy. Your child will be happier and those seated around you will appreciate your thoughtfulness.