

**Elkton United Methodist Church**  
**Sunday, December 22, 2019**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**8:30 a.m. † 11:00 a.m.**

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- 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.
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LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES AND RINGING OF CHIMES

GREETING AND WELCOME

TIME OF CENTERING PRAYER

PRELUDE .....“ECHO NOEL”<sup>1</sup> ..... EDITED BY D. BISH

RESPONSE #211 (UMH) - 8:30 ..... “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL” (stanza 4)

**O come, thou Root of Jesse’s tree; an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

CHORAL INTROIT - 11:00 ..... “PREPARE THE WAY O ZION”<sup>1</sup> .....FRANS MIKAEL FRANZEN

\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Leader: Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ; the candle of Peace, remembering God’s dream of a peaceful world, and the candle of Joy, remembering the Spirit within us who brings joy.  
*(The acolyte lights two purple candles and the pink candle.)*

**People: Today we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of Love.**

Leader: Scripture tells us, “There is no fear in love, for perfect love casts our fear.” God created this world in love and this world will end in the love of God. God’s love pervades all aspects of this life. From birth to death, pain to light, strangers to friends, God’s love is there.

**People: We light this candle in Love.**

*(The acolyte lights the final purple candle.)*

**All: On this day, we remember God is love.**

\*\*HYMN #213 (UMH) ..... “LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Almighty God, we confess before you those places in our hearts where we have refused you entrance; people we have refused to love; habits we never get around**

**to changing; good things we have left undone; and ways in which we hurt you, ourselves, and others. Come to us in the light of your Christ. Shine on those places we have hidden from you. Show us new ways to live. Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts, that Christ may find a home among us. Be known among us now and forever, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF PARDON AND ASSURANCE

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“SLEEP, HOLY BABE”<sup>1</sup> .....SUE JOHNSON

EPISTLE LESSON, PSALM 23 (page 501)

MUSICAL OFFERING - 8:30.....“CHRISTMAS LULLABY”<sup>1</sup> .....SUE JOHNSON

11:00.....“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”<sup>1</sup> .....CHANCEL CHOIR

**\*\*GOSPEL LESSON, LUKE 2:8-20 (page 58)**

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*RESPONSE #204 (UMH).....“EMMANUEL, EMMANUEL”**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.**

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

SERMON .....“IT’S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS: ..... REV. KAREN F. BUNNELL  
III – CANDY CANES”

**\*\*HYMN #381 (UMH) .....“SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US”**

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 #217 (UMH).....“AWAY IN A MANGER” (stanza 3)

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever,  
and love me, I pray; bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY.....“TWO NOELS”<sup>1</sup> ..... ARR. BY H. HOPSON

\*\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE, #94 (UMH)..... “PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”

**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!**

\*\*HYMN #236 (UMH)..... “WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS”

\*\*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 ..... “WHEN THE SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST”<sup>1</sup> ..... EDITED BY D. BISH



**\*\*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)

<sup>1</sup> Public Music performance provided for and reported to CCLI Licensing

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**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  
Suzette Burgess..... Choir Director/Coordinator of Music Ministries  
Katie Sparks..... Director of Children and Education Ministries  
Beth Gullion..... Secretary  
Laurie Ruth ..... Treasurer  
Jason Cornish..... Director of Youth  
Sharon Williams ..... Organist  
Joseph Gordon/Donna Horgan..... Sextons

[www.elktonumc.org](http://www.elktonumc.org)



## PRAYER CONCERNS\*

“Never stop praying, especially for others. Always pray by the power of the Spirit.  
Stay alert and keep praying for God’s people.” Ephesians 6:18 CEV

### Our Missionaries

Rev. Phil Godbey, Red Bird, KY  
Rev. Carlos Reyes-Rodriguez

### Our Pastors

Rev. Peggy Johnson, Bishop  
Rev. Joe Archie, DS  
Rev. Karen Bunnell  
Rev. Ray Graham

### Our Nation

President Trump, & All Leaders  
Those serving in the military:  
Joe DeHaven  
Randy Fisher (Phyllis Bixler’s  
cousin’s husband)  
Shane Hatfield (friend of the  
Pugh’s)  
William Hawkins (MacDonalds’  
grandson)  
Capt. Tim Johnson  
Elizabeth Juergens  
Garrett Mann  
Joe Moore  
Brandon Pearson  
Jeremy Sanders  
Zachary Schmook  
Ethan Senn  
Zachary Senn  
Kyle Senn  
Jeff Smith  
Samantha Stapp (Nancy  
Leathrum’s cousin)  
Thomas Walmsley (Carolann  
Lewis’ grandson)  
William Henry Wright, Jr.  
Matthew Yarrington (Wanda  
Jackson’s son-in-law)  
Jacob Zervas

### Hospital

Kameron Salamon (Nadine Allen’s  
great-grandson)  
Jack Edler

### Members and Friends

Terri Allen (12/1)  
Les Andrews (12/1)  
Melissa Bondi (12/1) (Gretchen  
Ginder’s sister)  
Peg Bunnell (12/1)  
Beth Camarra (12/1)  
Vickie Cebula (12/1)  
Mildred Chinski (12/1)  
Virginia Davis (12/15) (Grace  
Achuff’s mother)  
Barbara Dean (12/15)  
Sadie Detweiler (12/15)  
Nancy Draper (12/1)  
Irene Dunlap (12/15)  
Ruth Dvorak (12/1) (Sonia Dulin’s  
Sister)  
Kim Ernst (12/15)  
Todd Foucek (12/1)  
Finley Freedman (12/1)  
Scott Gallen (12/1) (Faith Seltzer’s  
son)  
Marlene Gautsch (12/1)  
Cathy Haley (12/1)  
Josh Hamilton (12/15)  
Muff Hurst (12/15)  
Marge Jacobs (12/15)  
Bob Johnson (11/17)  
Ryan Kosinski (12/8)  
Mary Mackie (11/24)  
Lisa Malin (11/24)  
Ken McCoy (12/1)  
Ed McKeown (12/1)  
Al Morgan (12/1)  
Diana Morgan-Klusak (12/1)  
Patrick Neagle (12/15) (Bill  
Moffitt’s grandson)  
Bill Osburn (12/1)  
Jane Arrants-Parrack (12/1)  
Gail Piazza (12/1)  
Patty Roadcap (12/1)  
Tom Runyon (12/15) (Neta’s son)  
Ray Rutter (12/15) (Faith Seltzer’s  
son-in-law)

Frances Schneider (12/1)  
Wayne Scholz (12/1)  
Jay Sexton (12/1)  
Stos Sfinas (12/1)  
Robert Shumate (12/15) (Ina  
Andrews’ brother-in-law)  
Carol Sise (12/1)  
Claire Sneeringer (12/15) (Andrea  
Funke’s niece)  
Mike VanDenHeuvel (12/1)  
Bob Waddington (12/15)  
Lance Waltzer (12/1)  
Owen Wevadou (12/1)  
Ann Whitt (12/1)  
Denise Willhelm (12/1)  
Carolyn Williams (12/8) (Murray  
Thompson’s sister)  
Rodger Williams (12/8) Murray  
Thompson’s nephew)  
Ken Wyerman (12/1) (Sue Ivey’s  
father)

### Abbey Manor

Jane Cebula

### Calvert Manor

Henry Jacobs  
Jim Melvin

### Wilmington Hospital Rehab

Bill Mackie

### Sympathy

To the family and friends of  
Thomas McIntire

### Appreciation

Thank you for all of the messages,  
cards, phone calls, etc. during my  
recent surgery. The prayers are  
greatly appreciated.  
– Nancy Draper

If you know that a church member is hospitalized or sick, so as to need  
a pastor’s attention, please let the Church Office know.

**Names are listed for 4 weeks. After that, if you wish a name to remain,  
please submit a white prayer card indicating that.**

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Joe Tanner	
<b>Readers:</b>	8:30 – Betty Sprague	11:00 – Kaitlyn Czarnecki
<b>Acolytes:</b>	8:30 – Nathan Kovicak	11:00 – Julie Czarnecki
<b>Greeters:</b>	8:30 – Lorraine & Richard Jones	11:00 – Ivan & Charlotte Mehosky
<b>Welcome Center:</b>	8:30 – Connie Wilkinson	11:00 – Liz Hook
<b>Hospitality:</b>	8:30 – Sharon Slayman & Krista Gilmore	11:00 – Phyllis McCoy & Gretchen Ginder
<b>Hall Monitors:</b>	8:30 – Barb Pinder	11:00 – Joe Graham
<b>Nursery:</b>	8:30 – TBD	11:00 – TBD
<b>Tech Team:</b>	8:30 – Joe Buckley & Paige Laning	11:00 – Roger Robinson & Josh Hamilton

### **Parking Lot**

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

**Ushers:** 8:30 – Murray Thompson, Rich Gruebel, Wayne Scholz, Jamie Laning, Jane MacDonald, Bob MacDonald, Deborah McDowell, Ted McDowell  
11:00 – Frank Deibert, Charles Campbell, Ken McCoy, Barton Funke, Robert Mitchell, Michael Schmook, Ray Whiteoak

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are in memory of our daughter, Tina, and grandson, Danny, given by Wayne and Maryann Scholz.

**FLOWERS ON THE ORGAN** are in memory of all our family members, given by Wayne and Maryann Scholz.

**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.

## 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 SERVICE** - 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. Video of the service is now posted on-line as well. To see a video, go to the church website, [elktonumc.org](http://elktonumc.org), and click on the "Sermons" link and there you will see a link to our You Tube Channel where you can watch the entire service each week.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** – The children in our Sunday School program are presenting their Christmas Pageant today at 10:00 am in Weldin Hall. Come and hear the wonderful songs and stories of Christmas through their voices! They will be encouraged if they see a roomful of friendly faces cheering them on!

**YOUTH SUB SALE** – If you ordered a sub from the youth, don't forget to pick it up as you leave church this morning. You'll find the youth (and the subs!) in Weldin Hall. Thank you for supporting their efforts to raise funds for the Conference Youth Rally in January!

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE THIS AFTERNOON** – Today at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary, we'll have our annual Blue Christmas service, which is designed for those who have experienced loss this year and/or persons who are sad this season. It's an acknowledgement that even though this is supposed to be "the most wonderful time of the year" still there are those whose hearts are hurting. The service is a quiet, contemplative service, which lasts about 45 minutes. If you know of anyone who is grieving or hurting, who might find comfort through the service, please let them know about it, or better yet, offer to come with them.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNION** – Due to the holiday schedule, there will be no communion services on the evenings of Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE** – The church office will be closed Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>; will be open on Monday and Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, and then be closed on Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. Should an emergency arise when the office is closed, please contact Pastor Bunnell at the parsonage.

**NEW CHAIRS IN THE SANCTUARY** – While completing an accessibility audit for our church in advance of the Charge Conference in November, we became aware that having some chairs with arms on them in the sanctuary would benefit those with mobility issues. Therefore, we have removed the very back pew on the left hand side of the sanctuary (facing the altar) and replaced it with two arm chairs with a table in between. If we find that more chairs are needed, we will add them. If it would be helpful for you to be more comfortable sitting in (and getting up from) an armchair rather than a pew, please try one of these chairs. We hope this change makes coming to church a better experience for you!

# THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

## TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

- 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM .....Worship Services  
8:30 AM-12:30 PM.....Child Care/Nursery Birth through Kindergarten (Room 24)  
10:00 AM.....Children's Christmas Program (Weldin Hall)  
12:00 PM.....Youth Group  
4:00 PM.....Blue Christmas Service

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2019

- 6:00 PM.....Cub Scout Meeting (Weldin Hall)  
7:00 PM.....Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Room 26)

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2019 – OFFICE CLOSED

- 5:00 PM.....Family Christmas Eve Service  
7:00 PM & 9:00 PM.....Candlelight Christmas Eve Service  
10:00 PM.....Silent Communion

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2019 – OFFICE CLOSED

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2019 – OFFICE CLOSED

- 8:00 PM .....AA (Room 1)

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2019 – OFFICE CLOSED

- 12:00 PM.....Community Blood Drive



- Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Services  
5 pm – Family Service (Stories and songs, no sermon)  
7 & 9 pm – Identical Candlelight Services  
10 – 10:30 pm – Silent Communion
- Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> – ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10 AM