

# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—November 23, 2025



"I don't have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness - it's right in front of me if I'm paying attention and practicing gratitude." —Brene Brown

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

inspired by Isaiah 65: 17-25

**Leader:** Celebrate and rejoice, all you people of Christ, for the Lord our God is doing a new thing!

**People:** **The old order is gone, everything is new!**

**Leader:** Illness, disease and crying and mourning, shall be as a distant memory!

**People:** **Hatred and war shall cease from the earth, for Christ has risen! Death is defeated!!**

**Leader:** Shout with joy! Christ is Lord of all.

**People:** **Jesus Christ is King of kings, and Lord of lords!"**

### \*HYMN

*We Gather Together*  
#131 UMH

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
he chastens and hastens his will to make known.  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,  
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.

Let thy congregation escape tribulation;  
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Text: Theodore Baker (1894)

Music: Edward Kremser (1877)

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed #881*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and  
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Universal

### SCRIPTURE

Psalm 100 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> Serve the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

<sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him; bless his name.

<sup>5</sup> For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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## SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20AM

## TIME WITH THE CHILDREN—9:40AM

### HYMN

*Lamb of God*

#2113 FWS, Refrain only

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,  
I love the holy Lamb of God!  
O Wash me in his precious blood –  
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Words & Music: Twila Paris (1982)

© 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

### CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Adapted from Rev. Crystal Varner

Ever-living God,  
before the earth was formed  
and even after it shall cease to be, you are God.

We humbly acknowledge that there is nothing we  
cannot bring to you in prayer. We pray for those in  
our families and among our friends that weigh heavily  
on our hearts and minds... [silent prayer]

We pray for our leaders here in Indian Hill and  
Cincinnati, and in Ohio, and in Our country that they  
may be guided by your wisdom, your love, your  
justice, and your mercy... [silent prayer]

We pray for all in need of your healing, your comfort,  
your strength, and your peace. May we know that you  
are the God who made us very good, and is with us in  
the midst of the unspeakable... [silent prayer]

Break into our short span of life and show us those  
things that are eternal, that we may serve your  
purpose in all we do... [silent prayer]

We pray all of these things and so much more  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, and who taught  
us to pray, saying:

**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.**

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Offer the peace of Christ by saying:*

**The peace of Christ be with you.**

*Respond: And also with you!*

### HYMN

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### GIVING

#### \*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NRSVUE)

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of  
God in Christ Jesus for you.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks Be to God.**

### MESSAGE

*Endings and New Beginnings*

Rev. David W. Brown

### \*HYMN

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

#694 UMH

Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home;  
all is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin.  
God our Maker doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied;  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,  
fruit as praise to God we yield;  
wheat and tares together sown  
are to joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear;  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

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For the Lord our God shall come,  
and shall take the harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away,  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in the garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,  
bring thy final harvest home;  
gather thou thy people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified,  
in thy presence to abide;  
come, with all thine angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.

Text: Henry Alford (1844)  
Music: George J. Elvey (1858)



Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40am service!

REGISTER YOUR  
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE  
GIVING



**TODAY at 11:30am in the Atrium**  
**Lunch provided**

## BENEDICTION

Adapted from Joanne Carlson Brown

Go forth into a world that needs new visions.  
Bring the message of hope and love,  
of justice and peace, to all you meet.  
Celebrate endings and new beginnings,  
challenges and promises.  
Live the new creation.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

## \*POSTLUDE

*\*Stand in body or in spirit*

## OPEN MEET & GREETINGS WITH BRANDON

- **Sunday, December 7 @ 11:30am** in the Armstrong Room – hosted by David Rhodenbaugh
- **Wednesday, December 10 @ 7:00pm** location TBA – hosted by Kaleigh Hollyday – RSVP to Kaleigh at 513-526-3745 (call or text), khollyday99@gmail.com
- **Thursday, December 11 @ 7:00pm** at the home of Scott & Amy Darrah in Montgomery – RSVP to Amy at atdsmd3@aol.com, 513-470-7515 (call or text)

*Liturgist at 8:20 – Carol Ney*

*Liturgist at 9:40 – Hanlin Bavely*

*Greeters at 9:40 – Jim Pearce and Victoria and Mark Rhodus*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Marge Freshley in memory of her husband, Rev. Wendell Freshley, and her sister, Pat Thomas.*



*Stay connected with*

**Armstrong**  
CHAPEL United Methodist Church

5125 Drake Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45243

513-561-4220

acumc@armstrongchapel.org

Follow us on...

**armstrongchapel.org**



**Rev. David Brown**, Lead Pastor

**Amy Voss**, Director of Preschool

**Rev. Elizabeth Brown**, Congregational Care Pastor

**Shanon Rice**, Director of Digital Communications

**Rev. Brandon Long**, Director of Discipleship





# A Jesse Tree Advent Prayer Walk

## EXPERIENCE

Guided by Rev. Brandon Long

### From Promise to Presence

Join us on Wednesday,  
**December 3 at 7:00 PM**  
**in the Worship Center**  
for an immersive Advent experience.  
Walk through a reflective journey from  
God's promise to Christ's presence,  
pick up a Jesse Tree family packet, and  
stay for treats and fellowship.

**Don't miss this meaningful start to the season.**  
For more information visit our website @ [armstrongchapel.org](http://armstrongchapel.org)



Share in a morning of fun to get your kids ready for the holidays!  
This Christmas Bash is fun for the whole family!

**All Church Event**

# SWEETS

WITH *Santa*

## DECEMBER 13

**9:30 AM - 11:30 AM**  
activities in the Children's Center

- Treats,
- Coloring
- Face Painting
- & Pictures with Santa

ASKING FOR DONATIONS FOR IPM...2 OR 3 ITEMS

SPONSORED BY  
Armstrong PRESCHOOL  
A Ministry of Armstrong Chapel

Stop by the Armstrong  
Room and see Santa  
before you leave.



### Everyday Advent —Women's Study

Mondays, December 1 and 8 at 9:30am  
in the Armstrong Room. Advent is a time  
to remember and reflect. We will learn  
the meaning and significance of this  
tradition and what the Advent candles

bring us when we are preparing our hearts for the birth of Jesus. Co-  
lead by Alicia Neal and Trudy Flowers.

### Advent Candle Lighting

We are looking for couples / families / individuals to  
do a small reading and light the Advent candles  
during Sunday worship 11/30-12/21 and on  
Christmas Eve.

SIGN UP AT <http://bit.ly/43dJBOT>



# Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—November 23, 2025



Help our mission partner, Inter Parish Ministry, this Holiday season as they give toys and gifts to 500 families in need!

**New, unopened toys and gifts should be brought in by Sunday, December 14.**

You can find a list of ideas on IPM's website along with their Amazon wish lists links at <https://www.ipmfoodpantry.org/christmas-giving>. Printed lists are also available in the Atrium.

## Surviving the Holidays

Grief is harder around the holidays. Know how to deal with the challenges. Our *Surviving the Holidays* seminar helps participants discover:

- How to deal with emotions
- What to do about traditions
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to find hope for the future

**Monday, December 8 @ 6:30pm**  
in the Wesley Room

Sponsored by Stephen Ministry  
Led by Jill Croswell & Andy Mauk



Poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary starting in mid-Advent. You may purchase a plant in honor of or in memory of loved ones. \$20 per plant. You may take your poinsettias home with you on Christmas Eve. Orders are due by Wednesday, December 10.

Online order form: <https://bit.ly/45uhV6G>; write a note on the back of your Connect Card; or mail a note to the church office: include your payment = \$20 per plant, and who you'd like a plant in memory or in honor of (attn: Joy, 5125 Drake Rd, 45243).

bring a friend for a fun time of LAUGHTER, SONG, AND FELLOWSHIP

JOIN US FOR A  
**ALL CHURCH  
COOKIE & CAROLS**

Celebrate the Season singing beloved Christmas Carols around the piano. Cookies and drinks provided.

**DECEMBER 7**  
2:00 pm  
in the Atrium

Hosted by Julie Holland's Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study.

**HANDBELL**  
Choir  
Holiday  
Performance

Sunday  
**December 14**  
9:40 am Worship Service

**RIVER'S EDGE  
BRASS BAND**

Monday **DECEMBER 15** 7:00 pm

Armstrong Chancel Choir  
and local musicians

**Concert**  
Handel's  
**Messiah**  
Part I

**December 21**  
7:00 pm  
in the Sanctuary