

# Christ Church United Methodist

November 27, 2022

(in-person) 9 am  
(live-streamed & in-person) 11:15 am

## First Sunday of Advent Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Mike Porter

PRELUDE

*Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 659*  
Dr. Shawn Dawson, organ

J.S. Bach

\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(9:00) The Ben Williams Family  
(11:15) Doug and Stephanie Madison

First Reader: Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope.

Second Reader: We put our hope in the one to come, the promised One who  
comes from God to bring good news of salvation to all people.

**All: We hope in the One who will lead us from darkness to light. Let us  
worship this day in Hope.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

Hymn 718

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favored sinners slain;  
thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

The dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears;  
cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshipers;  
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,  
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee, high on thy eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for thine own.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Everlasting God, come down!

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the one God,  
creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations,  
the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God manifest in the flesh,  
our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins,  
in the life of love and prayer,  
and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the Word of God  
contained in the Old and New Testaments  
as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.  
We believe in the church,  
those who are united in the living Lord  
for the purpose of worship and service.  
We believe in the reign of God  
as the divine will realized in human society,  
and in the family of God,  
where we are all brothers and sisters.  
We believe in the final triumph of righteousness  
and in the life everlasting. Amen.

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

Hymn 61

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence, evermore.  
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,  
and to eternity love and adore!

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

(11:15) Ava Monroe Oiler (5/7/22) daughter of Kristy and James Oiler

Pastor: Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care  
Ava, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will  
you endeavor so to live that she may grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

People: With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ  
that Ava, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith  
and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Hymn 609

You have put on Christ, in Christ you have been baptized.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO PRAYER

*Wait for the Lord*

Taizé

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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PASTORAL 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 the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

‡ 9:00

*What Sweeter Music*  
Chancel Choir Sopranos and Altos

Eleanor Daley

◇ 11:15

*Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*  
Chancel Choir Tenors and Basses

Howard Helvey

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 95

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.

CHILDRENS MOMENT

Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley

\*SCRIPTURE

*John 3:11-21*

(9:00) Rob Stockwell  
(11:15) Betsy Gibbs

SERMON

*A One and Only Love*

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*CLOSING HYMN

*We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

Hymn 569

We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right,  
a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light,  
a story of peace and light.

Refrain: For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noonday bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations, that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,  
a song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword,  
and shatter the spear and sword. (Refrain)

We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above  
hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love,  
and show us that God is love. (Refrain)

We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow hath trod,  
that all of the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God,  
might come to the truth of God. (Refrain)

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*  
Dr. Shawn Dawson, organ

David Cherwien

† Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

◇ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light and Deanna Catlett piano

\*\* *Announcements are located on the following pages*

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## **CHRISTMAS CONCERT SERIES 2022**

### ***Love Incarnate, Love Divine***

Our Christmas tradition continues with five concerts featuring our 120-voice Chancel Choir, 30 handbell ringers, and a 27-piece orchestra. Come experience the joy of Christmas and celebrate the birth of Christ with us!

Admission is free.

**Sunday, December 4 | 5 pm**

**Wednesday, December 7 | 7:30 pm**

**Sunday, December 11 | 9 & † 11:15 am**

**Tuesday, December 13 | 7:30 pm**

† The 11:15 Concert on December 11 will be available on livestream.

## **ADVENT 2022**

### **Blue Christmas | Sunday, December 18 | 4 pm\* | Sanctuary**

Blue Christmas is a worship service designed as a gift of love and hope to those who may have experienced suffering or loss over the course of the past few years. In trying and painful times, we come to God and look to Christ's light for comfort and peace. Communion will be served and the service will be live-streamed at [ccum.net/live](http://ccum.net/live).

### **Carols of Care | Monday, December 19 | 6 pm**

Let's go caroling to help spread Christmas Cheer! Meet us at Entrance 1 to collect candles, jingle bells and maps. Groups will travel to neighborhoods. If you're interested in being a part of this event, please contact Lisa Watkins at [lisa@ccum.net](mailto:lisa@ccum.net) for more information.

### **Christmas Eve Worship | Saturday, December 24 | Sanctuary**

**3 pm\* | 5 pm\* | 8 pm | 10:45 pm**

3 pm service is designed for families with young children

3 pm and 5 pm services will be live-streamed at [ccum.net/live](http://ccum.net/live)

### **Christmas Day Worship | Sunday, December 25 | 10 am**

Worship only. No Sunday School or childcare.

### **New Years Day Worship | Sunday, January 1 | 10 am**

Worship only. No Sunday School or childcare.

\*indicates that childcare is available

## THIS MORNING

The flowers placed in the altar area are given by Susan Deegan and Beth Dixon in loving memory of Libby and Peyton Davis and Betty and Dale Dixon.

The flowers in the Gathering Hall this morning are given in loving memory of Ann Sibley Ruby by her family.

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Christian sympathy is extended to Ron Swogger on the death of his wife, Juanita Swogger, who died November 21. Christian sympathy is also extended to grandson Nick (Sarah) Stout.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Staff Appreciation

During the Christmas season, it has become a **Christ Church tradition** to recognize our church staff for their dedication to promoting our mission and for their efforts in helping all of us as we are becoming *living proof of God's love, one person at a time*. The Staff Parish Relations Committee wants to give you the opportunity to show your appreciation to the staff by making a contribution towards a gift for each of them, if you are able to do so.

To **express your gratitude** to our staff we have a couple of options to choose from:

- Make a check payable to Christ Church with "*Staff Appreciation*" in the memo line.
- Make an online contribution go to [ccum.net/give](https://ccum.net/give) and choose "*Staff Appreciation*" in the Designated Fund drop-down box.

Your contributions will be presented in the form of Kroger gift cards. If you wish to add a personal card or note, we would love to share it with the staff. **Please send your gift by December 5, 2022.**

**Las Posadas Family Advent Celebration is Tonight!** Join us at **5 pm sharp in the Chapel** and we'll travel alongside Mary and Joseph as they look for a welcoming space to have their baby! After that, we will head to Fellowship Hall for a celebration that will include a **kid-friendly Mexican dinner (donations are appreciated)**, games, piñatas, music and a very special Advent gift for each of you! **Bring a blanket to sit on!**

### Christmas Concert Parking Attendants Needed!

The Christmas concerts are almost here and we need your help directing traffic and parking. As a thank you, there will be **reserved priority seating for volunteers**, so you can come in and enjoy the concert. **Please consider helping!** Email Mike Porter to sign up: [mike@ccum.net](mailto:mike@ccum.net).

### Festival of Stars

Thanks to your generous response, all of the stars have been claimed! **However, there is still an opportunity to give: we are accepting donations towards the purchase of gift cards** for the children at Lighthouse Ministries and residents of the Healing Place and United Methodist Home for Children and Youth. Please visit [ccum.net/give](https://ccum.net/give) and select "Festival of Stars" from the dropdown menu. Don't forget to drop off your donated gifts to Gathering Hall by December 1.

### Parents of College Students!

We are hosting a brunch for our college students while they are home for Christmas break on **Sunday, December 18 at 10 am in the Café**. Parents, so that we can send them invitations directly, please email their updated contact information to Lisa at [lisa@ccum.net](mailto:lisa@ccum.net).

### SAM December Luncheon | Monday, December 12

Join SAM for our final lunch of the year as we host the **Butler High School Concert Choir at a special time of 11 am** in the Chapel. Afterwards, we'll come together for a **festive Christmas lunch in Fellowship Hall at 12 pm**. Reservations for lunch (\$10) by December 8 at 12 pm at [ccum.net/sam](https://ccum.net/sam).

### **Women's Wellness Morning: VOCATIONAL WELLNESS**

Saturday, December 3 | 10:30 am - 12 pm | Youth Center

Join your Christ Church sisters and friends for 90 minutes of **fast-paced fun** and **heartfelt encouragement**, as we look at our **natural and spiritual gifts** and listen to **what God is calling us to do!** Our own **Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard** and **Liz Curtis Higgs** will be speaking, and **Jewels of Grace** will offer their beautiful necklaces for your Christmas gift giving (every penny goes to **The Healing Place**). Register at [www.ccum.net/women/wellness](http://www.ccum.net/women/wellness).

### **Waiting and Watching: An Advent Study** | Taught by Liz Curtis Higgs

Monday mornings 10 – 11 am | November 28 – December 19 | Room 158

Monday evenings 7 – 8 pm | November 28 – December 19 | Facebook LIVE

Spend this **sacred season** with the many **characters of Christmas**—Elizabeth and Zechariah, Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds and the Wise Men, Anna and Simeon—as they waited and watched, anticipated and celebrated the coming of the Messiah. We'll unwrap each verse with tender care and prepare our hearts and minds for the holy days ahead. Everyone is welcome! Register at [ccum.net/adults](http://ccum.net/adults).

### **Registration for the Laudate Winter Retreat is now open!**

The retreat is happening on **January 27-28**. We will be spending Friday night rehearsing, having fun, playing games, etc. and then we will spend Saturday performing for various living facilities and organizations in the metro Louisville area. **This is our big service event of the year**, and we hope you can be a part of it! Register now at [ccum.net/youthmusic](http://ccum.net/youthmusic).

### **Kids and teens, grades 6 - 12 | Join us weekly in the Youth Center!**

Sunday evenings at 6 pm for Youth Group

Wednesday evenings at 6 pm for Open Youth Center

Gaming, doing homework, or just hanging out!

Hope to see you there! Contact Rev. Mike Porter at [mike@ccum.net](mailto:mike@ccum.net), for more information.

### **Children's Ministry!**

- **During the 9 and 11:15 am worship services**, K - 2nd grades will begin in worship with their families and leave for Children's Worship. They will return to the Sanctuary during the closing hymn. Please note they will remain in worship on Communion Sundays.
- **Faith Formation resumes at 10:05 am!** We are excited to spend time praying, playing and learning Bible Stories with your children. Plus, we are focusing on building friendships this year so we have added extra playtime to each session!

### **Men's Morning Coffee** | Tuesdays | 7 - 8 am | Fellowship Hall

We invite you to come join other men on Tuesday mornings anytime between 7 - 8 am. **Stop in grab a coffee and donut**, connect/reconnect with old and new friends and listen to a short devotional.

### **Men's Ministry: Just for Men** | Wednesdays at 7:30 am via Zoom

Join Rev. Mike Porter, Director of Men's Ministries and Discipleship, as he shares scripture and discussion for men during these trying times. Drop-in to our weekly gathering. If interested, please email [katie@ccum.net](mailto:katie@ccum.net) to be sent the Zoom link.