

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 26

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Acolyte/Cross bearer Training – Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. First Cup Fellowship – GS
- 10:15 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Church Kickball – Old Y Field
- 3:00 p.m. Church Pool Party – Bird's Home

Wednesday, July 29

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast – FH
- 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Community Assistance – Rh. H

Sunday, August 2

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. First Cup Fellowship – GS
- 10:15 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary
- 11:45 a.m. Laity On-Boarding – FH
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Blankets – EW

FH – Fellowship Hall
GS – Gathering Space – Room 217
Rh. H – Rhea House
EW – Education Wing

The mission and ministry of Dyersburg FUMC is now more vital than ever. Although you can bring your offerings with you to church on Sunday, you can also mail them or give online. Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38025, online @ <https://fumcdyersburg.com/donate>, or scan the following QR code with your phone.



The Rev. Emily Sanford
Pastor

Baird Lewis
Liturgist

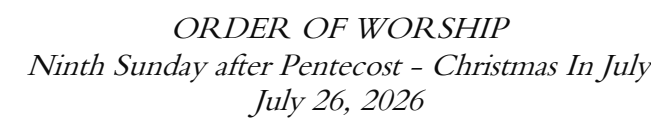
Acolyte
Mitchell Dishman

Tori Armstrong
Director of Children's Ministry

Presley Dishman
Director of Music

J Dan Gullett
Visuals

Steve Guttery
Sound



THE GATHERING

The Chimes

Call to Worship

For you who are filled to the brim with happiness,
Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.

For you who are mourning the loss of family and friends,
Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.

For you who rest in gratitude and contentment,
Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.

For you who feel the ache of loneliness,
Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.

For you who are surrounded by unlikely, yet beautiful
companionship,
Jesus Christ, the joy of the world, is born.

Come, let us celebrate the birth of our Savior!
Come, let us worship God, who came to dwell among us!

 Hymn of Praise
 UMH 240 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN
 (vv. 1, 2, 3)

✠ Opening Prayer

*Holy Jesus, by being born one of us, and lying humbly in a manger, you show us how much God loves the world.
Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts until we reach our home in heaven, and see you on your throne of glory.
Amen.*

Celebration of Young Disciples
Children ages Birth through 2nd Grade, may join Mrs. Tori and Mrs. Todameka in the back of the sanctuary for Children's Church.

Presentation of Third Grade Bibles

Bringing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music
Evermore
Roy Tipton, Soloist

✠ Doxology UMH 94 OLD 100TH
***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!***

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer of Illumination
Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that, as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 CEB
²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned. ³You have made the nation great; you have increased its joy. They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice. ⁴As on the day of Midian, you’ve shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor. ⁵Because every boot of the thundering warriors and every garment rolled in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire. ⁶A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷There will be vast authority and endless peace for David’s throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever. The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.

Response to the Word
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

✠ Hymn of Preparation UMH 237 FRENCH CAROL
Sing We Now of Christmas
(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

✠ Gospel Lesson Luke 2:1-20 CEB
¹In those days, Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. ²This first enrollment

occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. ³Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. ⁴Since Joseph belonged to David’s house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David’s city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. ⁵He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. ⁶While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. ⁷She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom. ⁸Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. ⁹The Lord’s angel stood before them, the Lord’s glory shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰The angel said, “Don’t be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you – wonderful, joyous news for all people. ¹¹Your savior is born today in David’s city. He is Christ the Lord. ¹²This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger.” ¹³Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, ¹⁴“Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.” ¹⁵When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go right now to Bethlehem and see what’s happened. Let’s confirm what the Lord has revealed to us.” ¹⁶They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. ¹⁸Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. ²⁰The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

Response to the Word
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Special Music
Labor of Love
Chasity & Presley Dishman

Sermon
In the Bright Mid-summer

✠ Affirmation of Faith UMH 880 The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation,
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day, he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who, with the Father and the Son, is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

✠ Gloria Patri UMH 70 MEINEKE
Glory Be to the Father
***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Amen.***

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

✠ Invitation to Christian Discipleship

SENDING FORTH

✠ Sending Hymn UMH 246 ANTIOCH
Joy to the World
(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)

✠ Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

✠ Benediction & Postlude