

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 3

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship – Narthex
- 10:15 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
- 4:00 p.m. Blankets
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Dayspring – RH

Monday, December 4

- 5:00 p.m. Upward® Practices – FLC

Tuesday, December 5

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga – FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball – FLC

Wednesday, December 6

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast – FH

Thursday, December 7

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga – FLC
- 12:30 p.m. Community Assistance – Narthex
- 5:00 p.m. Upward® Practices – FLC

Friday, December 8

- 5:00 p.m. Upward® Practices – FLC

Saturday, December 9

- 8 a.m. – Noon Upward® Games – FLC
- 1:00 p.m. Pickleball – FLC

Sunday, December 10

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship – Narthex
- 10:15 a.m. Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Holiday Harmonies and Plum Pudding – Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall

FLC – Family Life Center

FH – Fellowship Hall

RH – Rawles Hall

## Tithes and offerings...

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.



## Assisting in Worship...

Rev. Dr. Mary Beth Bernheisel  
Pastor

Nancy West  
Liturgist

Josh White  
Accompanist

Katy Allen  
Special Music

Patrick, Brandy, Elizabeth, and Thomas Lemons  
Communion Stewards

Tori Armstrong  
Children's Ministry Director

Clare Bernheisel  
Video

Steve Guttery  
Audio



First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

✠ Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Welcome and Centering Words

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader: We unwrap a present on this first Sunday of Advent, anticipating what God will reveal!

**People: And we open our hearts, just as we open this gift!**

Reader: The promise of Hope is God's divine gift to us!

**People: And what will we do with it?**

Reader: The gift of Hope reminds us that hard times never have the last word. Hope isn't just a wish. Hope calls us to act based on our own belief that, because of Jesus Christ, the world can be different.

**People: We light this candle of Hope as a sign that we will be Present with Hope in the world.**

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

Reader: Holy Living Light of God, you are our Hopeful Presence. Let this hope grow in our lives each day, so that we can be a Present of Hope to others. Unwrap our hearts and open them. **Amen.**

✠ Opening Hymn UMH 203

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed  
(vss. 1, 4)*

ELLACOMBE

Celebration of Young Disciples

Children ages 3 through 1<sup>st</sup> grade may join Mrs. Tori in the back of the sanctuary for Children’s Church.

Bringing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music

✠ Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
*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!*

Mission Moment Hannah’s Hope

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 80:1-2

Liturgist: Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

**People: You who are enthroned on the cherubim, shine out!**

Liturgist: Shine out before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh!

**People: Awaken your power and come to save us!**

Liturgist: O God, return to us – let your face smile on us,

**People: and we will be saved!**

1 Corinthians 1:4-7

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 13:24-37

<sup>24</sup>“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you; this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

<sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn of Preparation UMH 211 VENI EMMANUEL  
*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
(vss. 1, 2)

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silent Prayers*

Declaration of Forgiveness

Passing the Peace of Christ

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And, also, with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing ... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn, saying:

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

...in unison with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith. **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Music During Holy Communion

Prayer after Holy Communion (in unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ Invitation to Christian Discipleship

✠ Hymn UMH 218 *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL  
(vss. 1, 2, 4)

✠ Announcements

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude

*Sermon Notes....*