

Upcoming Events

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 – Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. Plum Pudding – FH

Monday, December 11

6:30 p.m. Church Council – FH

Tuesday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Preschool Christmas Program – FH
9:30 a.m. Yoga – FLC
6:00 p.m. Men's Basketball – FLC

Wednesday, December 13

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast – FH

Thursday, December 14

9:30 a.m. Yoga – FLC
12:30 p.m. Community Assistance – Narthex

Saturday, December 16

9:00 a.m. Upward® Games – FLC
1:00 p.m. Pickleball – FLC
2:00 p.m. Kids' Night In
3:30 p.m. Reserved – FLC

Sunday, December 17

9:00 a.m. Christmas Potluck Breakfast – FH
9:45 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship – Narthex
10:15 a.m. Worship
4:00 p.m. Blankets
4:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party

FLC – Family Life Center
FH – Fellowship 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

Pierce White
Liturgist

Josh White
Accompanist

Tori Armstrong
Children's Ministry Director

Steve Guttery
Audio

Clare Bernheisel
Video



Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

✚ Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Welcome and Centering Words

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader: We unwrap a present on this second Sunday of Advent, anticipating the gift that God will reveal!

People: And we open our hearts as we open this gift!

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

People: And what will we do with it?

Reader: The gift of Christ's peace reminds us that we can have calm and clear hearts even in the midst of situations that are less than peaceful. Peace is not simply the absence of conflict. Peace is a gift that can be opened any time when we stop, take a breath, and realize that we are not alone; that we are never alone. And we can share this gift of peace with others by being present for them when they feel alone.

People: We light this Candle of Peace 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 can I give him: give my heart.*

Reader: Holy Living Light of God, you are our Peaceful Presence. Let your peace grow in us each day so that we can be a Present of Peace to others. Unwrap our hearts and open them. Amen.

Opening Hymn UMH 209

MERLE'S TUNE

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Celebration of Young Disciples

Children ages 3 through 1st Grade may join Mrs. Tori in the back of the sanctuary for Children's Church.

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Liturgist: "Console my people, give them comfort," says your God.

People: "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem's heart, and tell it that its time of service is ended..."

Liturgist: A voice cries out, "Clear a path through the wilderness for Yahweh! Make a straight road through the desert for our God!"

People: Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low; let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges become a valley!

Liturgist: Go up on a high mountain, you who bring good news to Zion!

People: Shout with a loud voice, you who bring good news to Jerusalem!

Liturgist: Shout without fear, and say to the towns of Judah "Here is your God!"

People: Like a shepherd you feed your flock, gathering the lambs and holding them close, and leading mother ewes with gentleness.

2 Peter 3:8-15a

CEB

⁸Don't let it escape your notice, dear friends, that with the Lord a single day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a single day. ⁹The Lord isn't slow to keep his promise, as some think of slowness, but he is patient toward you, not wanting anyone to perish but all to change their hearts and lives. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that day the heavens will pass away with a dreadful noise, the elements will be consumed by fire, and the earth and all the works done on it will be exposed. ¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be? You must live holy and godly lives, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming day of God. Because of that day, the heavens will be destroyed by fire and the elements will melt away in the flames. ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴Therefore, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to be found by him in peace - pure and faultless. ¹⁵Consider the patience of our Lord to be salvation.

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

Bringing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*
Matthew Stafford

✠ Doxology 94

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!*

✠ Hymn UMH 196

HYFRYDOL

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Sermon Notes...

✠ Scripture Lesson

Mark 1:1-8 CEB

The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son, ²happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah: Look, I am sending my messenger before you. He will prepare your way, ³a voice shouting in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight." ⁴John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. ⁵Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. ⁶John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He announced, "One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

Sermon

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.

Invitation to Discipleship

✠ Hymn UMH 220

REGENT SQUARE

Angels from the Realms of Glory
(vss. 1, 2, 4)

✠ Announcements

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude