

Do Not Be Afraid
Insisting on Hope



November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

Traditional Worship

8:15 am Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Jonathan Jonas



Please use either this QR code or a card in the pew for attendance and prayer requests that you would like shared with staff. You may place cards in the offering plate.

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
arr. Brad Nix
Dr. Jenny Anderson, piano

***HYMN No. 211** vv. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
VENI EMMANUEL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Joe and Luch Nash

*RESPONSE

from I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
HOUSTON

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM AND WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

The Baptismal Covenant II
UMH 39

Clint Helton and Jenica Lamar
present their son Beau Helton for holy baptism.

We welcome John, Rebecca, and Jenica Lamar
as professing members by transfer of their membership
from Calvary United Methodist Church in Nashville, Tennessee,
and Clint Helton by transfer of his membership
from Tuckaleechee United Methodist Church in Townsend.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:5-13 (NRSV)

5 In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. **6** Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. **7** But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. **8** Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, **9** he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. **10** Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside.

11 Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. **12** When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. **13** But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

Lamentations 3:55-57 (NRSV)

55 I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit;
56 you heard my plea, 'Do not close your ear to my cry for help, but give me relief!' **57** You came near when I called on you; you said, 'Do not fear!'

LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Jonas
Longing for God to Break In

ANTHEM

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
arr. Heather Sorenson
Gregg Parker, tenor; Morning Glory Chorus;
Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heavenly Father a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
O tidings of comfort and joy.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright.
This day is born a Savior of Virgin pure and bright
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might."
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace.
This holy tide of Christmas, all others doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
O tidings of comfort and joy.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We have seen the valley.
We have seen a sky without stars.
We have seen the longest night,
and still we believe.
We believe in a with-us God.
We believe in the hope of tomorrow.
We believe that good news is louder than fear.

We believe this good news is for all people.
So even when our knees shake,
even when our voice trembles,
even when fear is all around us,
we will hold onto that good news.
We will reach for each other.
We will look for God in our midst.
We will sing songs of joy.
We will proclaim:
Unto us, love is born.
We have seen the longest night,
and we have seen unimaginable love.
So still, we believe.
Amen.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

I Wonder as I Wander
arr. William Phemister

***DOXOLOGY No. 94** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***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.

***HYMN No. 196**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
HYFRYDOL

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
arr. Rachel Chapin

Traditional Worship

10:30 Sanctuary

**Please stand or lift your heart*

WELCOME

Rev. Jonathan Jonas



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OPENING PRAYER

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Caia Sanford, acolyte

Elliott Rose, acolyte

PRELUDE

Flourish on "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

arr. Michael Ryan

Dr. Jenny Anderson, organ

INTROIT

O Come Let Us Sing unto the Lord

Terry D. Wilson

Chancel Choir; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

O come let us sing unto the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

*HYMN No. 89

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 95

Rev. Don Jones

LEADER: O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**ALL: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
Let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!**

LEADER: O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**ALL: For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of
God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.**

*RESPONSE

Come, Hear His Voice

DARWALL'S 148TH

Come, hear his voice today, receive what love imparts;
his holy will obey and harden not your hearts.
Lift high your songs before his throne
to whom alone all praise belongs.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Children **age 3 through 1st grade** may follow a member of our ministry team to Kids Own Worship. For new 1st Kids children, please complete the child information card in the pew and send with your child to help us better serve your child. Please meet them on the lower level following the worship service.

SCRIPTURE READING

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LEADER: All scripture is inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Jonas

Longing for God to Break

In

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter
arr. Mack

Wilberg

Chancel Choir; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God heaven cannot hold him nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

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.

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

OFFERTORY

I Wonder as I Wander
arr. William Phemister

***DOXOLOGY No. 94** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***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.

***HYMN No. 196** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
HYFRYDOL

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Give to the Winds Thy Fears*
William H. Walter

Give to the winds thy fears; hope and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears, God shall lift up thy head.

***POSTLUDE** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
arr. Rachel Chapin



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP CHRISTMAS SPECIAL NOVEMBER 30, 2025



Participants in Today's Service:

Rev. Sarah Slack

Ralph Jeffers, worship leader

Jared Everett

Gus Kohler

Lesley Shock

Grayson Shockley

Calvin Cole

Rev. Brye Rop

Chris Ross

Joe Wilaniskis

Chris Crim

Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Asbury Hall

WELCOME MUSIC

The Band

Our Christ is Here
Jordan St. Cyr

Christmas Day
Chris Tomlin

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HOPE

Jim and Janet Wright

TIME OF WORSHIP

The Hope of Christmas
Matthew West

Long Expected
Brandon Heath

READING 1

"How the Light Comes" by Jan Richardson

I've Heard About You
Crowder

Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)
Jesus Culture

READING 2

"Mary" by Sarah Are

TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING

Winter Snow
Audrey Assad

READING 3 "A Blessing for Learning to Belong" by Kate Bowler

Heaven Everywhere
Francesca Battistelli

We Sing (Joy to the World)
Seph Schlueter

O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)
Passion

READING 4

Luke 2:8-20, J.B. Phillips translation

Go Tell It on the Mountain
Zach Williams

BENEDICTION

CLOSING WORSHIP

2025 Christmas Offering

Show your love for neighbors this Christmas! As the temperatures outside begin to drop, the utility bills go up, and that sometimes leads people to make difficult choices. At the same time, rent hikes are also creating problems for many of our neighbors.

For many years now, 1st United Methodist Church has relied on Good Neighbors of Blount County to help us make sure people calling for rent and/or utility assistance get the guidance they need when faced with not being able to pay the bills.

Part of the Good Neighbors program is helping clients stay out of these difficult situations after they've initially been helped. This year's Christmas Offering will go to Good Neighbors of Blount County so they can meet the growing needs for their services.



You can donate to the Christmas Offering in these ways:

- Give during the evening presentation of the Chancel Choir Cantata, the Songs of the Season Recital, or any of the Christmas Eve services.
- You can give online at 1stchurch.org/giving,
- You can mail a check to 804 Montvale Station Road, 37803. Just mark the memo line with "Christmas Offering 2025."

Throughout the season we will be telling you more about the many ways Good Neighbors helps meet the needs of people in crisis throughout the community. Thank you for your support of this organization.

To learn more about Good Neighbors please visit:
goodneighborsbc.org.

The artwork on the bulletin cover is Zechariah and the Angel

by Hannah Garrity. It was inspired by Luke 1:5-13.



Do Not Be Afraid

INSISTING ON HOPE

PICK UP YOUR ADVENT
DEVOTIONAL GUIDE TODAY!

HE & COMING

December 3rd

How will you prepare for
the arrival of Jesus?:



CRat1st.com

Experience the joy and
suspense of this
Christmas Story.

in THESE DARK STREETS



WordPlayers
Theatre
Company

December 10th

COLLECTING ITEMS
December 1st - December 5th



- 12 packs of Canned Sodas
- Little Debbie Christmas Snacks
- Gluten-Free Oreos

**Help brighten the spirit of teachers at
Maryville Junior High School!**



NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th



**CAROLS: MORNING GLORY CHORUS
CHRISTMAS CANTATA
8:15 AM**

A unique and uplifting presentation
of the songs of the season!

**1st KIDS
CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATION
4:30 PM**



**CHRISTMAS
IN MARYVILLE**

CHRISTMASINMARYVILLE.COM

Unpacking the spirit of Christmas
with music, snacks & crafts.



1STCHURCH.ORG

804 Montvale Station Road
Maryville, TN 37803
865-982-1273