To Our First-Time Guests...

Welcome to Wells Church. Please know that you are truly welcome and that you can be at ease here. Wells is a United Methodist congregation, but we consider ourselves one vine of Christ seeking to love God and love one another as we seek and serve our Lord Jesus. If you want to know more about Wells, please visit our website, wellschurch.org, or feel free to talk with our pastor, staff or ushers. We respect your privacy and will not ask you to fill out forms, but you may fill out a pew card to request information or be added to our mailing lists if you wish.

Your infants, toddlers and preschoolers are welcome in our warm, nurturing and well-supervised nursery. A room is also available at the back of the sanctuary where you may see and hear the service while you care for your children’s needs.

Restrooms are available down the stairs in the main entry foyer. Restrooms are also available through the right door at the front of the sanctuary.

Although all gifts are always welcomed to support God’s work through the church, you are our guest and we seek to give to you today. Please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering.

We hope you will join in all aspects of worship. The communion table is open to all. Holy Communion is served at the altar by intinction during the early service. There is no ushering. If you wish to receive, please come to the altar, take the bread and dip the cup and return to your seat.

Again, you are very welcome at Wells Church and we hope you will come again and consider making Wells your church home.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019
The Fourth Sunday of Advent: “Peace”

LIFE OF THE CHURCH
PRELUDE Church Musicians
INVITATION Rev. Chris Cumbest
CHORAL RESPONSE: “Peace, Peace” Choir

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)
God, your promise comes bringing peace. In the midst of the brokenness, divisiveness and the fearful things of this world, may we know your deep peace, and may we live in peace each day. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE (PEACE)
James, Erin, Luke, and Noah Mason (8:30 a.m.)
Rusty, Katherine, Olivia, and Ethan Perkins (11 a.m.)

† HYMN “Angels We Have Heard on High”
Verses 1, 2, 4, Hymnal 238

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Hymnal 883

† PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER
† HYMN “What Child Is This”
Verses 1, 3, Hymnal 219

† RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 98:1-9, Hymnal 818

† GLORIA PATRI

GIVING GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS
† DOXOLOGY Hymnal 95

† THE WORD OF GOD READ Isaiah 11:1-10

SPECIAL MUSIC James Martin

THE WORD OF GOD PREACHED Rev. Chris Cumbest

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (8:30 a.m.)
† ADVENT BENEDICTION “Prayer for Peace”

Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet. Peace within us, peace over us, let all around us be peace.

† Please stand in body or in spirit.

Communion is available in the alcove at the close of the 11 a.m. service.

WELLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Loving • Caring • Sharing

Welcome to Wells Church. We are so grateful that you have joined us today for worship. Our hope for you during this Advent season is that you may experience the hope, love, joy and peace that comes from God’s presence with us. Blessings to you during this holy season.

Christmas Eve Services will be offered twice this Tuesday, Dec. 24. An informal communion service will take place at noon and the traditional candlelight service with communion will take place at 5:30 p.m. Please join us!

We’ll have one combined worship service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 29. Wells’ lay leader, Dr. Jeff Parker, will lead this service while Chris is away with family. Our regular 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services and 10 a.m. Sunday school classes will resume Jan. 5, 2020.

Altar flowers are given by Jerry and Pam Hynes in loving celebration of their 22nd wedding anniversary.

Christmas Holidays: Tuesday Neighborhood Ministries and Wells Wednesdays (Choir, Bible Study / Prayer Group, Youth and Children) will not meet again until 2020. Tuesday outreach will resume Jan. 7. Wells Wednesdays will resume Jan. 8, 2020.

Church Offices will be closed from Christmas through Jan. 1. We will be checking both voice and email regularly. Regular office hours will resume Jan. 2, 2020.

If you’d like to give to the ministries of Wells Church during this Christmas season, please visit wellschurch.org/giving. Please note that contributions received after Dec. 31 will be added to the 2020 giving records.

Wells publishes a monthly print newsletter, WellSpring, which is delivered by mail, as well as a weekly digital newsletter, This Week at Wells, which is delivered by email. If you would like to be on the mailing lists, please contact the church office.

WELLS WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

TODAY Worship Services 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m.

MONDAY Yoga 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY Christmas Eve Communion at Noon 12 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Merry Christmas!

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE READING
Isaiah 11:1-10 (NRSV)
1 A shoot shall come out of the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. 3 His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; 4 but with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

6 The wolf shall live with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the adder’s den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

9 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY
10 a.m. Dec. 29, 2019
Lay Leader Dr. Jeff Parker will be leading the service.

Sunday School Classes and regular services will resume Jan. 5, 2020.