

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Welcome to Fairport UMC! We embrace the gift of diversity of our community and our world and proclaim that all persons are created in God's image. We celebrate all ways that the human family of Christ finds its diversity. Our vision is to nurture ALL people on their life journeys and to bring God's love to the world. *Masks are currently optional. Disposable masks are available in the coatroom and narthex for those who would like one.*

CHILDREN

We are glad you are here! There is a cart in the Narthex with Children's Activity Bags. We love to have children stay in worship (wiggles and giggles are welcomed and sacred sounds). We are not currently offering a staffed nursery, but the nursery room is available and open to parents and little ones. The service is also livestreamed in the nursery so you and your child can still participate in worship! Sunday School (Children / Youth) is at 9am.

OPEN TABLE

Communion is celebrated once a month (usually on the first Sunday of the month) and all (including children) are welcome at the table. We use all gluten/dairy free bread. If you don't want to receive communion but would like a blessing, you can indicate that to the pastor.

WORSHIP ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

*indicates to stand in body or spirit

bold print indicates congregational response

UMH – United Methodist Hymnal (large blue hymnal)

FWS – The Faith We Sing (small black hymnal)

W&S – Worship & Song (small green hymnal)



FUMC is a Reconciling Congregation where all persons of any age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnic origin, economic reality, family status, sexual orientation, diverse ability or social status are welcome without reservation to share in God's love.

→ GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE →

The chimes call us to gather.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Lau

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In God's house, we can be joyful.

We can be grateful.

We can be hopeful.

In God's house, we can be weary.

We can be anxious.

We can be grieving.

In God's house, we can be honest -

inspired or tired,

delighted or doubtful,

connected or curious,

and everything in between.

This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

Let us worship our loving God. .

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

How does a weary world hope?

By telling stories of hope, by lighting candles in the night, and planting seeds in the winter that will bloom in the spring.

By praying for children as they grow, and picking up trash on the sidewalk.

By insisting that small acts can make a difference.

There are a million ways to practice hope.

So today we light the candle of hope as a reminder and a charge.

(First candle is lit)

With God's help, may we bring hope into a weary world. Amen

— LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:24-45

For the Word of God in Scripture; For the Word of God among us;
For the Word of God within us. **Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Joy Leinenbach

*PASSING THE PEACE

*HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

UMH 474

MESSAGE

How does a weary world rejoice?
We acknowledge our weariness

Rev. Richelle Goff

— RESPONDING IN LOVE —

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

We were made for joy. But the weariness in the world around us and even in our own lives can keep us from experiencing it to the fullest. This advent season we're reminded that once again Jesus breaks into our world to bring us joy and hope. Let us give our gifts to God now, so that God's joy and hope may overflow and help our weary world rejoice.

OFFERTORY

(9:00)

A Place to Keep Your Son
Early Choir

Corl

(10:30)

Comfort, Hope and Joy
(from *A Journey to Joy*)
Chancel Choir

Martin

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

**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!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of hope, thank you for the ways you break into our weary world
with a joy that reaches far beyond anything the world can offer.

We ask your blessing upon these gifts

that they may help us to share your hope with the world.

Bless each of us, that we may be vessels of your joy-filled light
in our weary world. Amen.

— SEEKING GRACE —

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we are weary.

For weary bodies that ache and cry out, we pray:

Forgive us for pushing ourselves too hard.

Reminds us that we deserve Sabbath rest.

For weary minds that feel overwhelmed and saturated with news, we pray:

Forgive us for creating so many distractions.

Remind us that in the quiet, we can hear you.

For weary hearts that long to feel the joy of this season, we pray:

Forgive us for being impatient with ourselves.

Remind us that healing takes time, and that joy and grief can coexist.

For the weary edges of our faith that struggle to hold onto hope,

Forgive us. Remind us of Zechariah and Elizabeth.

Remind us that your good news knows no bounds. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith,

no matter how many times we wear ourselves thin,

no matter how many times we lose ourselves to distractions,

no matter how many times we ask ourselves, “How can this be?”

God’s love keeps showing up for us.

So say this with me:

We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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...

Parts (b) – (d) are sung responsively.

“Hosanna in the highest!” is sung in unison each time.

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.

**You are invited to use a name for God that is most meaningful to you.*

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

— GOING INTO GOD’S WORLD —

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a God who hears our prayers,
who knows the shape and form of our weariness.**

**We believe in a God who wants joy and delight for us,
not just survival and existence.**

**We believe in a God who looks ahead,
who is not done dreaming for the world—
a God who sends hope in the form of people and change, movements and Spirit.**

And so we return to this space.

**We bring our joy and our weariness
like two sides of the same coin,
and we trust that God is already at work.**

**Yes, we believe in a God who hears our prayers.
Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Held

Let us take these few moments for preparation,
for worship is over the service begins.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For John Habbershaw and family on the death of Marian (his mother) on Nov. 8th.
- For Linda Marsters, whose sister, Alaine O'Connor, passed away on November 22nd.
- For Monica Manske and family, on the recent passing of her mother, Julia.
- For the family and friends of Dan Rhoads, who passed away November 23rd.
- For people everywhere dealing with extreme weather and hazardous conditions.
- For peace in our world, instead of war, oppression, injustice, and violence.
- For the Middle East, Ukraine and other countries in the midst of the horror of war.

We continue our prayers for those who are in need of continued healing:

Becky Gualtieri, Julie & Tom Kielbasinski, Susan Grau, Baby Elijah (Eli)
and family, Ed Lewek, Barb George, Shirley Robinson, John Pattison, Chip Rieck,
Sandy Baldwin, Frank Mueller, Courtney Pedersen, Judy Darrer, Jeff Latsha,
Pat Hemmenway, Joshua Pedersen, John Hall, Jen Simpson, Martha McNeill, Genevieve,
Ron Tucker, Joanne Mason, Carol Mueller, Jean Seidel, Kathy Walters

We pray for all those who are homebound or in nursing homes:

Shirley Ward, Cindy Jack, Carol Snow, Ruth Howard,
Cindy Stanton, Emmet and Marge Vanderburgh,
Wally Robinson (CT), Dave and Carolyn Hebert (KY)

FLOWERS IN WORSHIP

Flowers today are given by Jen Lang and Sandy Baldwin,
in memory of David H. Baldwin and in celebration of Colleen Lang's birthday.

SERVICE MUSIC TEXTS

A Place to Keep Your Son

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above.

We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love.

We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come;

Prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son.

*A voice cries out, "Get ready, prepare a way for God;
Be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord."
We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come;
Prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son.*

*Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you;
The world is ever changing, but you are ever true.
We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come;
Prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son.*

*We hear the angel's greeting, "O hail, you blessed one,
For you shall bear a Savior and he will be God's son."
We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near;
We'll make for him a warm heart, we'll hold your own son dear.*

Comfort, Hope and Joy

*Comfort, comfort ye, my people. Speak ye peace, thus saith our God.
Come, O come, Emmanuel.*

*Comfort those who sit in the darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Come, O come and speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them.
Tell her that her sins I cover, that her warfare now is over. Comfort my people.*

*Hark, the voice of one who crieth in the desert far and near, come, O come, Emmanuel.
Calling all to true repentance since the kingdom now is here.*

*O the prophets cry, "Obey! Now prepare for God a way."
Let the valleys rise to meet Him, and the hills bow down to greet Him.*

*Come, O come, Emmanuel! And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Come, O come, Emmanuel! Comfort. Come.*

*Make ye straight what long was crooked. Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.*

*For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad.
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.*

O come, Emmanuel! Rejoice! Rejoice, O Israel! Rejoice!

PERMISSIONS

CCLI #841086; ONE LICENSE, License #A-736763

Hymns: The United Methodist Publishing House; Butterfly Productions;

Unichappell Music, Inc.; Oxford University Press

Prayers and Liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS (SEE INSERT)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP THIS WEEK

<i>Sunday, December 3</i>	8am 9am 9am & 10:30am 10am & 11:30am 4pm 6:30pm	Early Choir - 113 Sunday School & Adult Forum Worship Breakfast with Santa - FH Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group Boy Scout Leadership Meeting - P
<i>Monday, December 4</i>	1pm 7pm 7:30pm	Godmothers Group - 204 Boy Scouts - FH, Ruth Circle - P Men's Bible Study
<i>Tuesday, December 5</i>	10:15am 6:30pm 7pm	Staff Meeting - P Advent Bible Study - 204, Joyful Noise Choir - 206 YMST - Zoom
<i>Wednesday, December 6</i>	7pm 8:15pm	Cantata Choir - 113 Chancel Choir - 113, S
<i>Thursday, December 7</i>	6:30pm	Bell Choir - S
<i>Friday, December 8</i>	10:30am	Heart Listening Small Group
<i>Saturday, December 9</i>	9am 12pm 7pm	Cantata Practice - S Al Anon - FH Cantata Performance - S
<i>Sunday, December 10</i>	9am 9:00 & 10:30am 11:30am 11:45am 3pm 4pm	Sunday School & Adult Forum Worship New Member Class Cantata Choir Luncheon - K/FH Cantata Performance - S Cantata Reception - P

MINISTERS AND STAFF OF FUMC

Ministers - All God's People

Pastor - Rev. Richelle Goff

richelle@fairportumc.org

Music Ministry Director - Nicole Camilleri

nicole@fairportumc.org

Family Ministries Director - Joy Leinenbach

joy@fairportumc.org

Administrative Assistant - Kevin Gordon

kevin@fairportumc.org

Custodian - Jamie Gualtieri

HELPING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Livestream Operator: Rick Hessney

Readers: 9am - Carol Christensen 10:30am - Alice Moon



Breakfast with Santa

Today, December 3rd, between both services and after the second service, Family Ministries is hosting a Breakfast with Santa in Fellowship Hall for everyone!

The United Methodist Men will be serving breakfast (pancakes, eggs and sausage) and Family Ministries will be providing Christmas activities including pictures with Santa, crafts, plus an all NEW Nativity Escape Game!!

It's going to be so much FUN!!!

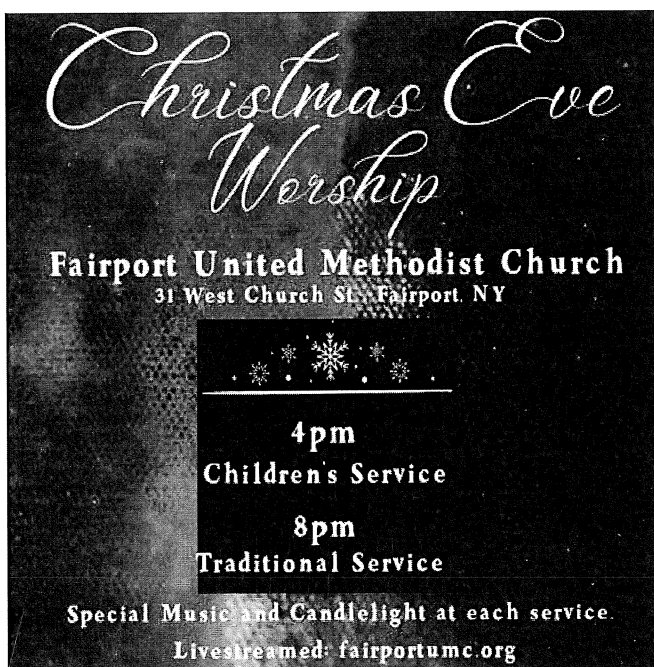


New Member Class - Dec 10th

This class is for anyone who wants to learn more about Fairport UMC's vision, values and how to get connected here. Attending the class is the first step to becoming a member. Membership means choosing to belong.

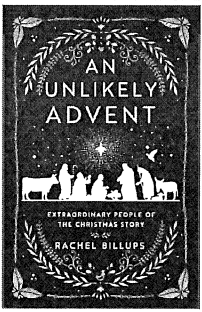
Join Pastor Richelle in the parlor after the 10:30 service to learn more about the United Methodist church / membership.

New members will be joining the church on December 17th!



Save the Dates

- 12/3 Breakfast with Santa
(after each service)
- 12/9 Christmas Cantata - 7pm
- 12/10 Christmas Cantata - 3pm
- 12/18 Women's Communion Svc. - 7pm
- 12/24 4th Sunday of Advent - 9:30am
(1 Morning Service)
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Worship - 4 & 8pm
- 12/31 New Year's Eve Worship - 9:30am
(Only 1 Service)



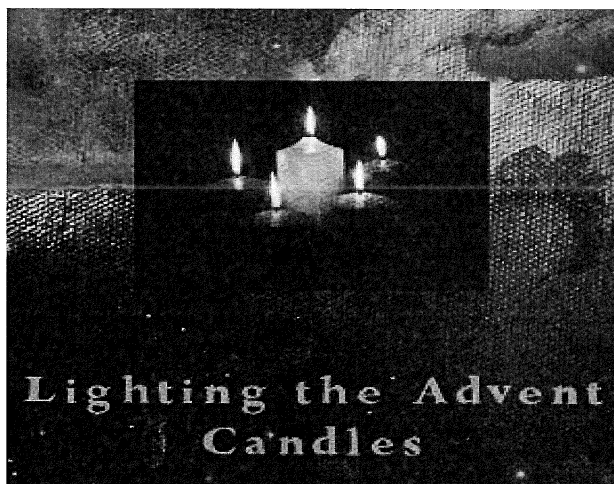
ADVENT STUDY

Tuesdays
Nov.28, Dec. 5,12,19
12:00 pm & 6:30 pm

An Unlikely Advent

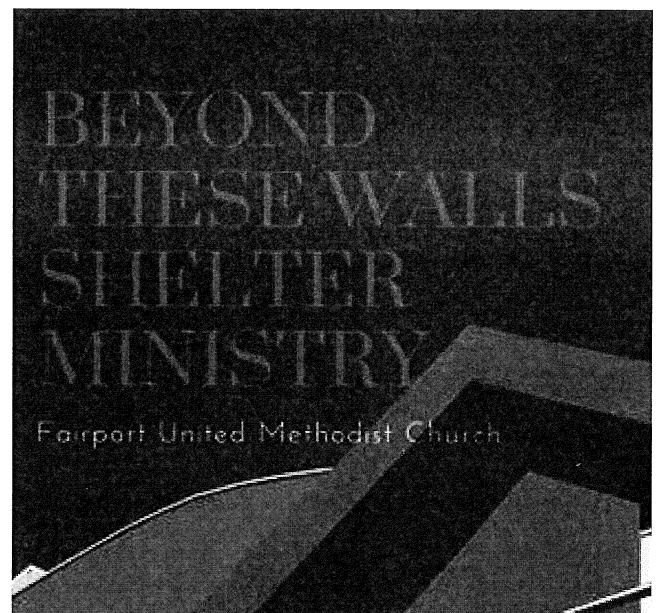
Santa, elves, reindeer and ... the baby Jesus. Sometimes our sacred and secular journey to Christmas can become fuzzy and the business of life takes over.

We invite you to participate in the season of Advent with worship and study. You can read on your own or join an upcoming class for Advent. Classes will be Tuesdays at Noon and 6:30 p.m.



Please consider signing your family or friends up to help light the candle/s on the Advent Wreath this year.

There is a sign-up sheet across from the church office.



Beyond These Walls Food Donation Sign-up

On Sunday, December 17, a team of volunteers will be going to Sanctuary House to serve a meal. To supplement our main entree prepared by the cooking team, please consider donating additional food items for this month's meal including cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, butter, salad dressing, chocolate syrup and apple juice.

A sign-up sheet for the needed food items is on the bulletin board across from the church office.

Donations labeled BTW will need to be in the church kitchen by the evening of Thursday, December 14. Thank you!

ADVENT



Let's prepare alongside each other, by becoming present to the here and now and sharing what we have with others.

Giving Center

Advent Giving Center

(See table in back of narthex)

Each Advent we have an opportunity to help those in our community.

Deadline for all donated items: December 17.