

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

JANUARY 7, 2024

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

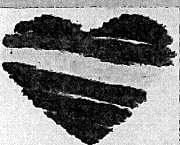
*indicates to stand in body or spirit

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 *Kol Nidrei* (first half) Bruch
Rebecca Camilleri, cello

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Calling all seekers, all dreamers, all believers...
Calling all glass-half-full optimists and lighthouse keepers...
Calling all star-chasers and bedtime prayer speakers...
Bring your questions, your hope, your faith and your fear into this space.
God is here.

*HYMN *We Three Kings* UMH 254

— LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 60:1-6
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 (10:30) Joy Leinenbach

*PASSING THE PEACE

*HYMN *The First Noel* UMH 245

*GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:1-12
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!**

ANTHEM (10:30) *Were You There on That Christmas Night?* Sleeth
Chancel Choir

MESSAGE How Does a Weary World Rejoice? Rev. Richelle Goff
We trust your signs

— RESPONDING IN LOVE —

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Kol Nidrei (second half)

Bruch

Rebecca Camilleri, cello

*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

— SEEKING GRACE —

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of starlight,

we know that faith isn't a vending machine.

Good news can't be bought or manufactured.

It does not arrive with a push of a button.

Instead, in this noisy world, we have to look for you in our midst.

We have to walk toward you, just as the Magi did.

We have to believe that love really can change the world.

We have to seek the stars beyond the city lights.

Forgive us for forgetting that.

Forgive us for seeking you with only part of our hearts.

We long to be more like the Magi; may we walk your way every single day.

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

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 & RECEIVING STAR WORDS

SPECIAL MUSIC

Prelude from Cello Suite No. 2

Bach

Anneliese Leinenbach, viola

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

— GOING INTO GOD’S WORLD —

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that faith is active,

found on long walks,

and in long talks,

in future days,

and down memory lane.

We believe that those who seek

will find, although it may not be what they expected.

We believe that God finds us first.

We believe that God drops breadcrumbs along our way

in the shape of people,

invitations,

and even starlight.

We believe that being a seeker—
of God, of justice, of community—
is a holy thing.

So we strive to live with an open spirit,
with soft hearts,
and with room to grow.

May it be so.

This we believe. Amen.

*HYMN

Star-Child

FWS 2095

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

Lau

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For the family and friends of Lou Eltscher, who passed away on Dec. 31st.
- For Rhonda Rhoades Thrailkill, who is being treated for ovarian cancer.
- 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, Tom Kielbasinski, Susan Grau, Ed Lewek, Barb George,
Shirley Robinson, John Patison, Chip Rieck, Sandy Baldwin, Carol & Frank Mueller,
Courtney & Joshua Pedersen, Judy Darrer, Jeff Latsha, Pat Hemmenway,
John Hall, Jen Simpson, Martha McNeill, Genevieve, Joanne Mason,
Kathy Walters, Marlene Beisler, Jean McFarland, Lindsey

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 from Fran and Dan Mealey in celebration of granddaughter Molly's 24th birthday.

SERVICE MUSIC TEXT

Were You There on That Christmas Night?

Were you there on that Christmas night, when the world was filled with a holy light?

Were you there to behold, when the wonder foretold came to earth?

Did you see how they hailed Him King, with the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?

Did you see how they bowed, as they praised Him aloud at His birth?

Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang at the glory of the sight?

Did you hear how the bells of heaven rang all through the night?

Did you know it was God's own Son, the salvation of the world begun?

Did you know it was love that was sent from above to the earth?

Were you there?

PERMISSIONS

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

Hymns: The United Methodist Publishing House; Hope Publishing Co.

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

A note about our music today

Kol Nidrei was written in 1880 by German composer Max Bruch (1838-1920).

Bruch used the Jewish *Kol Nidrei* chant melody as the basis for this piece. This chant is sung each year at the beginning of the evening service on Yom Kippur.

Nicole's uncle was a professional cellist and played this piece every year on Yom Kippur at a synagogue in NYC.

Adult Forum

Today we start a four week study of the Gospel of Mark.

Each session will include a short video by Amy-Jill Levine.

Tom Deever will be leading the study.

At 9AM: In-person in Room 204 & via Zoom

Meeting ID: 853 9764 5711

Passcode: 432664

Church Un-Decorating

Please stick around after the 2nd service today to help take down all our Christmas / Advent decorations.

> ***We will begin around 11:45 AM.***

It should only take about an hour.

Many hands make light work!

General Conference Update

Learn About Important Upcoming Votes at UMC General Conference

On January 7 and 14, Tom Deever will be in room 204 following each service to share information and answer questions about the May 2024 United Methodist General Conference.

Several important proposals regarding the future of our denomination are likely to

Naomi Circle - 1/11

January's program is titled "Human Trafficking Awareness."

The presenters are Cathy Mussa and Lauren VanCott from Angels of Merch, Inc.

Coffee will be available at 9:30 a.m. and the program will start at 10 a.m. in the parlor

All members of the congregation are invited to attend.

The Chosen

An 8-Part Series Exploring the Story of Jesus in a New Way

We're going to gather around the stories of the Gospel in a new way - creating opportunities to encounter and discuss the story of Jesus.

The Chosen is a multi-season television show that takes a deep look at Jesus and the lives of those he encountered as he began his ministry. This series presents the stories with nuance, depth and a focus on historical accuracy.

We'll begin watching / discussing on 1/30.

Pastor Richelle will lead a small group on Tuesdays at noon. If we have enough interest and leadership we can offer other small group times as well.

Multiple Ways to Watch/Gather/Discuss

- > Tuesdays | 12 PM - Watch at home (free) and then attend a small group session.
- > Anytime | On Your Own or With Existing Groups

We will make a season-long study guide available so that individuals and groups can engage with all eight episodes.

Please email Pastor Richelle with your interest (Richelle@fairportumc.org) in attending a small group or if you are interested in leading another small group.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP THIS WEEK

<i>Sunday, January 7</i>	9am 9am 9am & 10:30am 11:45am 4pm 6:30pm	First Sunday Fellowship Sunday School & Adult Forum Worship Church Un-decorating Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group Boy Scout Leadership Meeting - P
<i>Monday, January 8</i>	10am 1pm 7pm 7:30pm	John Eilertsen Funeral - S Godmothers Group - 204 Boy Scouts - FH, UWIF Leadership - P Men's Bible Study
<i>Tuesday, January 9</i>	10:15am 6:30pm 7pm	Staff Meeting - P Joyful Noise Choir - 206 Finance, Worship - P
<i>Wednesday, January 10</i>	11:30am 7pm	Joy Club - Offsite Chancel Choir - 113
<i>Thursday, January 11</i>	9:30am 6:30pm 7pm	Naomi Circle - P (Human Trafficking Awareness) Bell Choir - S CMT (Zoom)
<i>Friday, January 12</i>	10:30am	Heart Listening Small Group
<i>Saturday, January 13</i>	12pm	Al Anon - FH
<i>Sunday, January 14</i>	8am 9am 9am & 10:30am 4pm	Early Choir - 113 Sunday School & Adult Forum Worship Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

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: Julie Woodruff

Readers: 9am - Betsy O'Connor 10:30am - Eric Leinenbach

Feed the Spirit: Karen Hartnett