The liturgical color is purple for the first Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" Amy Bender, organist

J. S. Bach

Jan Robinson, liturgist **WELCOME**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus.

We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

We remember the signs and the times that heralded the arrival of the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.

We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the times, watching for glimpses of God's here-and-not-yet kingdom among us.

We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.

Come, let us worship as we journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025.

*OPENING HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

UMH 230

In this season of Advent, let us prepare for Jesus' birth by singing Christmas Carols

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

OPENING PRAYER

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Arnold & Jacqueline Smith

TFWS 2090

"Light the Advent Candle" **Sung Response** Light the Advent candle, one: Now the waiting has begun;

We have started on our way, Time to think of Christmas day.

Candle, candle burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

BAPTISM

UMH 39 Rhys Andrew Wenzel

Born September 5, 2025 Child of Virginia & Timothy Wenzel

Children invited to stay with families or to go to Sunday School at this time

ANTHEM

"Blessed Is the Lord (Benedictus)"

Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir; Bonnie Budziak, accompanist

*Congregation invited to stand if able

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 15:13 CEB, p. 805

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

MENTOR IN MINISTRY

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

As the plates are being passed, please also take this opportunity to sign the Welcome Book and pass it on.

OFFERTORY

"Who But the Lord"

Craig Courtney

*DOXOLOGY #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

HYMN OF CENTERING

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

UMH 211

Hymn History: This hymn is considered an Advent Carol. The original melody was sung by monks in Látin in Európe over a thousand years ago. The hymn references Mary's discussion with Elizabeth regarding her bearing the Child of God, Luke 1:46-55. This passage in the Bible is known as the Magnificat. John Mason Neale (1818–1866) translated the hymn into English in 1851. Neale was an Anglican Priest who first translated many ancient hymns. The translation we sing today is by Henry Sloan Coffin (1877-1954), a prominent leader in the Presbyterian Church and a president of Union Theological Seminary in New York City

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:2-7 NIV, p. 489

MESSAGE

"He Shall Be Called...Wonderful Counselor" Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

*HYMN OF MISSION

"Song of Hope"

TFWS 2186

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION SUNG RESPONSE "Go Now In Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.

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POSTLUDE

"Allegro" from Concerto No. 4

Vivaldi/Hopson

Altar Flowers are presented by Norm Brobst In Loving Memory of wife, Natalie

To order flowers please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485



8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060 440.255.3496 - info@mentorumc.org

Pastor Steve Stultz Costello, Lead Pastor Pastor lyy Smith, Associate Pastor Pastor Tammy Palermo, Pastor of Children & Family Ministry

Scan to Give, Connect, Get Updates, and more WIFI password: GodLovesYou



Mentor United Methodist Church

Traditional Worship | November 30, 2025



MENTOR UNITED HIGHLIGHTS **METHODIST CHURCH**



Scan to Read the **Weekly Update**

Members who are in need of prayer:

Hilary Pleska, Karen Mancini, Tom Martin, Laurie Eppler, Noralee Starr, Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney, Ruthie Hobart, Terry & Mary Ellen Reynolds, Kimberlee Johnson, The Hall Family, Doug & Kathy Koman, Sandy Mazelis, Syndie Toth, Heather Lippert, Linda Beidle, Bill Mueller, Vanessa Rios

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living, or Nursing Home Facility:

The Enclave - Delores Tackett, Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Joe & Judy Tirpak Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons, Mary Ann Haycox Prosper at Wickliffe - Gloria McFeely Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Fairmont - Gretchen Tice Governor's Point - Bob Williams Mentor Ridge - June Van Ostrand Danbury Senior Living - Terry Reynolds

UPCOMING

AT MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, November 30

- 9 & 11 AM Worship10 & 12 Fellowship Hour
- Communion, 10:30 in the Chapel
- Martin Journey GroupChildren's Sunday School
- Youth Sunday SchoolConfirmation Class
- Christmas Play Rehearsal

Monday, December 1

- Parents' Morning Out
- Carr Journey GroupsDale Porter Funeral
- Advent Study Group I

Tuesday, December 2

- Ring Journey Group
- Vick Journey Group
 Young Families Journey Group
- Disciple III
- Advent Journey Group II

Wednesday, December 3

- Knitting GroupCaring Servant Food Packing
- Gaming Group
 Traditional Worship meeting
 Youth Min meeting
- SPRC meeting

Thursday, December 4

- Disciple I
- Bell Choir
- Charter Member Men's Choir
- Chancel Choir

Friday, December 5

- MOMCo
- The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!

Saturday, December 6

- Modern Worship Practice
- Judith Mazny Funeral
- Gift of Time, 1-4 PM

Cantata Reĥearsal

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Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

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Poinsettia Forms

Pick up a form in the Info Hub or fill out your order online for Poinsettias on Christmas Eve. The cost is \$7 a plant.

Christmas Play Tickets

Tickets for MUMC's Truth & Light Players' production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" are on sale NOW! They will perform THIS Friday, December 5th in Fellowship Hall at MUMC. Please buy online or get in touch with Pastor Tammy.

Christmas Cantata: Sing We Noel

Join us next Sunday, December 7th, during the 11 AM Traditional Worship service for the annual Christmas Cantata. This is a free choir and orchestra presentation celebrating the season.

Advent Studies

All are invited to join two Advent study groups this year. We will be discussing Walter Brueggemann's book, *Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study*. Books can be purchased on your own or through the church.

- Group 1: Join Pastor Tammy on Mondays, Nov 24, Dec 1, 8, & 15 from 6-7:30 PM at Mentor UMC.
- Group 2: Join Mackalyn for a Tuesday night group called "Brews & Bibles." We'll meet at holiday bars in Downtown Willoughby each week at 6 PM.

BOTH of these groups are open to ALL! Please register online for either group ASAP.

Nativity Sets in Traditional

YOU are invited to bring in your favorite Nativity set for display in the Sanctuary on one of the

following Sundays during Advent!

- Dec. 14 setup on Sat. 12/13 between 2:30 & 4:00 PM
- Dec. 21 setup on Sat. 12/20 between 2:30 & 4:00 PM

Your name(s) and a brief description of your Nativity will be printed in the bulletin – and if there is a special story connected to your Nativity, we'll include that too! [You'll be able to take your Nativity home directly after the 11:00 AM traditional service.] Please sign up by Wednesday, Dec. 11 via the Sign-Up Genius on the church website – or advise Chris Fournier that you're interested. Due to space constraints, slots are limited!

Prelude to Christmas

Join us at Mentor UMC on Friday, December 12th in the Sanctuary at 7:30 PM for the Charter Members Men's Choir's "Prelude to Christmas." Each year, this performance readies us for the coming of Christ and the Christmas season. This is free and open to all.

Giving Trees

The trees are up and the names are in! If you plan on taking a family, please sign up online so you can see the entire family. Names are on the trees as well. These are mostly single kids or only smaller families. Please note that some of the students are listed as special needs. **All gifts are due back by 12/14 at noon**. But we have a secured spot to store so please feel free to drop off prior to that date. It would really be appreciated! Please call or text Betsy at 440-283-6524 with any questions!

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