

December 3, 2023-First Sunday of Advent 10:30 AM

****Those who are able, please stand****

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WELCOME We are pleased that you are worshipping with us today. We sincerely hope the service will inspire you and be a blessing to you. This is the First Sunday of Advent. Today we look forward to Advent-Christmas-Epiphany.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Free Lunch Monday Dec 4, 2023 11:30-12:30 w/North Main UMC
Bible Study Monday Dec 4, 2023 1:00 PM in Parlor “the Case for Christmas”
Wed Dec 6, Prayer Service in Chapel 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (Drop in anytime)
December 10, 2023 - Trustee Meeting with Staff-Parish 12:00 Noon
December 13, 2023 - Fund Raising Dinner at Bistro 3:30 - 7:00 PM

The flowers on the altar are in memory of Lincoln and Lucy Skiff

MUSICAL PRELUDE: “Now Thank we all our God” (Pianist) Mavis Baldwin

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (In Unison)

Jesus said I will bring hope to the World. We are ready now. We desperately need the promise of hope. We long to receive the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who will shine his love brightly for us in this world. Make us ready this Advent season to receive the harvest of your love and the peace that we need from this day forward. Full our hearts with Hope as in Christ we are made new.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Leader: I was glad when God said to me,

People: Let us go to the house of the Lord! There we can find Hope.

Leader: In the days, before the final coming of Christ in glory, there will be mighty signs.

People: They will be seen in the heavens and on earth.

Leader: They will remind us of God’s eternal presence and power.

People: If only the heavens would tear open and God would come down.

Leader: In the days to come, the house of the Lord will be established as the highest of all the mountains.

People: The mountains would shake and tremble, all earth would stand in awe!

Leader: We want to be ready for that time. Help us to be aware of our blessings.

People: In God’s house we will find healing and hope for this coming year.

The lighting of the Advent Candle Penna Smith...The candle of Hope

Light the Advent Candle vs 1

TFWS 2090

GATHERING HYMN: “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus ”

UMH 196

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (In Unison)

We have prepared our homes and our gifts, Lord, but we need help in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Hope. Free us from the stresses of this time and help us to break through the darkness in our lives and let the light of your love flood in, that we may become more productive disciples of Jesus Christ. Our cries have been heard and the Word which resides with God is ready to come to us. Lord, hear our pleas and enter our hearts and lives this day. Help us to be ready for the coming of Jesus. AMEN.

Time with God’s Children: Pray for all the children of the World today

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS (Prayer request forms are available at the back of the sanctuary)

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE “The First Noel” (Refrain Only)

UMH 245

GIVING OF OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “The Snow Lay on the Ground” Chancel Choir

TFWS 2093

DOXOLOGY “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGING

Lord, as you have shined the light of your love into our lives; may the same brightness of your love be revealed to us today. Bless these gifts, O Lord, and help them to bring the transforming love you have given us into ministries of hope and peace in this our Church, our Community and in our world. AMEN.

SONG OF COMMITMENT “In Remembrance of Me” TFWs 2254

Psalter Reading: Canticle of Hope UMH 734

Affirmation of Faith: Apostle’s Creed UMH 881

GLORIA PATRI: Let us recite the Gloria Patri together.. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Scripture Readings Luke 1: 1-27

SHARING THE STORY “How a Baby Changed the World” Pastor Joyce

Holy Communion: (See Insert)

SENDING SONG “O Come all Ye Faithful” UMH 234

THE SENDING FORTH (unison)

The light of the Candle of hope goes before us, offering hope and healing to a darkened world. Go into the world, confident in God’s presence with you. Bring the words and actions of peace to all God’s people. And the blessings of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you always. AMEN..

MUSICAL POSTLUDE “Come Ye Thankful People Come” Mavis Baldwin

Prayer List: Werner Paul’s family, Family of Don Mackey, Dave Winnie, Paul and Helene Hohn, Crystal Lee, Ron and June Parker, Linda Howland, Bev Bartlett, Kathy Malley, Elaine and Art Schrum, Carol Johnson, Linda Sammons, Kevin Quaresino, Portia Robles, Steve Miles***

Worship Reader today is Certified Lay Servant Penna Smith

Our Terri Lynn Nuts and Candy Fundraiser Website is open

Use <https://www.northmainstUMC.terrilynn.com>

*** If you have a joy or a prayer request or would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain group, please call Carol Johnson at 518-844-3354***

WELCOME TO WORSHIP --
NORTH MAIN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
316 NORTH MAIN STREET, GLOVERSVILLE, N.Y. 12078
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

