

Welcome to



## Announcements and Schedule

### 2023 December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

*May God who gathers us around Himself in the Word and Sacrament to bless us with His forgiveness this morning be your source of comfort, strength and renewal as you worship today. In the Name of Christ, we are all called to come and hear that the Lord is Good!*

Prelude – *Preparing our Souls through silence, reading and reflection*

Announcements and Prayer Concerns– *Sharing our life together.*

Congregational Prayer

Invocation and Confession – *Entering into the Presence of the Lord*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
(Matthew 28:19) **C: Amen**

P: Make us to know your ways, O Lord, and teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for whom we wait. (Psalm 25:4-5) **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

**C: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen** (Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12)

P: Let it be known to you, that through Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (1 John 1:6-7) He commanded us to preach and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:42-43) **C: Amen**

### Studies this Week:

Wednesday -10:30am Bible Study – Not this week

7:00pm – Women’s Group – Not this week

7:00pm – Men's Group – Not this week

Thursday – 7:00pm– Bible Study– Not this week

*We have prayer cards for you to mail to anyone you lifted up at the Altar during Communion. Feel free to bless others with these.*

Today is the Third Sunday of the Liturgical Year, the Sunday of Peace; we begin looking forward to the Coming of Christ as a Child and we end by confessing this Holy Child is the King! To help us prepare, there are Advent devotionals for you in the Narthex,

### Christmas Dates:

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Potluck Meal – 1:00pm – Heritage Community Center at Wyndhurst

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> – Morning Service at 10:00am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 9:00pm

Lector – Tom Langford

The Rt. Rev Dr. Tom Bryant, Pastor

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Mona Thomas, Music Director and Accompanist

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Call to Worship – Psalm 126

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

\*Hymn # 180 “The First Noel”

First Lesson – Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11

Call to Prayer # 182 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Pastoral Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison)

Second Lesson – I Thessalonians 5.16-24

Offertory

(Please place your offering in one of the plates)

\*Doxology – #668

\*Gospel – John 1.6-8,19-28      **“Praise be to thee, O Christ”**

Sermon – “Mary as a Model of Looking Beyond”

\*The Apostles’ Creed

Communion

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Unending Hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the Highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the Highest.**

The Mystery of Faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is Risen; Christ will come again.**

Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ

\*Hymn - #203 “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

\*Benediction with Choral Response

\*Dismissal and Recessional

## Prayer List

Tom Langford, Bill Warman, Carolyn Ashwell, Glen Harvey, Liz Griffin, Gail Everett, Betty Mann, Katie Epley, Yvette Clark, Darby Atkins, Chris Griffin, Jean Moriety, Heather Wright, Starke Camden, Robert Wright, Cyndy Williams, Nikki Vogt, Wayne Williams, Jim and Sue Henry, Gwen Miller, Bea Gardner, Lora Drinkard, Bob Carson, Marion Mantz, Mamie Wetzel & those persecuted around the world.

Let us pray for all our elected Officials and our Country.

The people of Ukraine and Moldova, esp. Dimitri, Stella Lorina,

The people of Turkey and Syria

The situation and people in Israel

Sander Stults, suffered a stroke

Gail Everett, recovering from surgery.

Ruth and Glen Harvey

Dick Kihnley, Sue Rossiter’s brother-in-law, great improvement from surgery

Jenifer Mahanes

Jay Marks, looking for a job.

Jerri Doss

Elizabeth Woolwine, breast cancer

Chad Reeves, young man who had a heart attack.

Shawn Butler, cancer

April Stephens’ mom, Cindi Mason, stage 3 colon cancer

Yvette Clark, heart rhythm concerns

Abigail Englund

David Baker, cousin of Judy Kinzer, needs a kidney.

Anise Maddox, mom of a friend of Web’s, with cancer

Yvette Clark’s great grandson, Camden

Mary Kessler, friend of the Dietrich’s

Margaret Kihnley, sister of Sue Rossiter

Jan Grey

Justice Ashwell, Carolyn’s grandson

Laura Cash, friend of Web’s

Debbie Reeves, cancer

Kevin Thomas Mele, on dialysis

Nancy Turner, treatment for cancer, friend of Martha’s

Bob and Vivienne, friends of the Dietrich’s, health issues of Bob

Betty Shepherd, friend of Martha Mahanes