Service For The Lord's Day

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026 ***Please stand in body or spirit.*** **10:00 A.M.**

WELCOME! We are glad you are worshiping with us today. We pray that you will be challenged and find joy, hope, and celebration in this time spent together in the presence of God. *Please sign and pass the "Ritual of Friendship" booklet; then, return it to the first person.*

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Thank you, God, for the gift of life today. We give thanks that Your face shines upon us, for You are our salvation. Lead me like a shepherd through this day and help me to wait for Your blessings in anticipation of all this season holds.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

"For where two or three gather in My name, there am I with them."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" arr. Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

Leader: Restore us, O God.
All: Let Your face shine, so that we may be saved.
Leader: The nights are long, and the world is restless.
All: We have come to watch and to wait.
Leader: Stir up your strength and come to us.
All: Come, Lord Jesus. We will keep awake.

***SONG OF PRAISE** "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" No. 104

THE LIGHT OF HOPE *(Advent Wreath Lighting)* Shelley Taylor, Jane, Jackie, and Paige

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Worship Leader)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Merciful God,
in a world of quick fixes and fast answers,
we confess that we forget how to wait.
We have rushed past Your voice and ignored Your promises.
We have filled the silence with noise
instead of listening for Your coming.
Forgive us, Lord.
Renew our hope and teach us to watch again for You,
through Jesus Christ, our Coming Lord. Amen.

KYRIE "Lord, Have Mercy upon Us"

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Responsive)*

Leader: Hear these words from the Apostle Paul:
Who will bring any charge against God's elect?
It is God Who justifies.
Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, Who died;
Who was raised; Who is at the right hand of God;
Who indeed intercedes for us.
Friends, hear the Good News and believe:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen!

***SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

Leader: May the peace of God through Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***GLORY BE TO THE FATHER** No. 581

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *(In Unison)*

Holy God, heaven and earth will pass away,
but Your Words will not pass away.
Open our ears in this season of waiting
and astound us with the hope of Your Word. Amen.

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19

ANTHEM "Pie Jesu" Gilpin

YOUNG DISCIPLES' MESSAGE Marissa Robbins

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 64: 1-9
Mark 13: 24-37

SUNDAY MESSAGE Rev. Dr. Leslie Traylor

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***DECLARATION OF FAITH** *(Book of Common Worship)*

We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN** "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" No. 81

PASTORAL PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen."

OFFERING

Musical Offering "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent" arr. Hayes

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 606

***Prayer of Dedication** *(In Unison)*

Take these gifts we offer today, O God,
and use them to the fulfillment of Christ's ministry.
We pray these gifts help to free the captives,
heal the sick, comfort the lonely,
feed the hungry, heal the wounded.
As Christ's hands and feet,
use us to build Your beloved community. Amen.

***SONG OF SENDING** "People, Look East" No. 105

***A CHALLENGE AND BLESSING**

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE** "Amen"

***POSTLUDE** "Sussex Carol" arr. Hayes

RADIO MINISTRY is funded today by **Janet Williams.** Our service is broadcast at 10:00 a.m. Sundays on 1570 AM and 97.7 FM and talk977.com. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, donations for the Radio Ministry may be placed in the offering plate; contributions may also be mailed to the Church Office with "Radio Ministry" in the memo of the check.

CHURCH HISTORY PRESENTATION: Join us **today, November 29,** after worship in Fellowship Hall. Sarah Buzulencia will discuss Soldier, Scholar and Shepard - Rev. Joseph Badger: "Commemorating Badger's Revolutionary War involvement, his choice to pursue the ministry, his work and respect for the indigenous people in the Western Reserve, his ministry during the War of 1812, and his final years living in Western Ohio."

THE NO LIMITS YOUNG ADULT ADVENT STUDY will gather to explore "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" by Richard B. Wilke. Join us on **December 4, 11, 18, and 21, at 6:00 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Sign up in Fellowship Hall and grow in faith with us!

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Help us decorate our "Charlie Brown Christmas tree" at our Advent Gathering on **December 6**. Bring an ornament that represents you and your family to add to the tree and transform it into a thing of beauty. Just as Linus said: "This little tree isn't so bad; all it needs is a little love."

AN ADVENT GATHERING: Join us after worship on **Sunday, December 6,** for food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate the Advent season.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT-GIVING: *Coming Home from Prison is Only the First Step.*
Free Indeed Prison Ministries, Inc., founded in Warren in 2003 by Rev. Walter Allen and Martha Conyer-Allen, offers faith-based support to men and women returning from prison and to the families welcoming them home. Through reentry education and training, this ministry helps people prepare for life back in their community. The ministry also oversees a large community garden in Warren. This Christmas, your AGG donation can help a neighbor take that next step with hope and encouragement.
You can help new beginnings take root right here in Warren!

FPC CRAFTERS will meet on **Wednesday, December 2**, at **10:00 a.m.** in Badger Hall. All are welcome to join us.

MIRIAM ESTHER CIRCLE will discuss Lesson 4 in "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other" on **Thursday, December 3, at 11:00 a.m.** in the Parlor. Lunch will follow in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 p.m. Please bring a bag lunch and plan to stay and help decorate the Christmas tree in the Parlor.

THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP will meet on **Friday, December 4, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Parlor. In grief support groups, stories are shared; coping strategies are discussed, and healing can take place. Come and share; come and learn; come and heal.

THE DEACONS would like to thank all who remember the Deacons' Cupboard while shopping. They are requesting **small laundry detergent, shampoo, and dish soap** for the month of **November.** You may leave your items in the Deacons' box in Fellowship Hall.

PASTOR:	***Rev. Dr. Leslie Traylor***
DIRECTOR OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY:	***Marissa Robbins***
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:	***Melanie Vlad***
LAY READER:	***Russell Zampino***
RADIO, LIGHTS AND SOUND SYSTEM:	***Alexis Musgrove***
VIDEO PROJECTION:	***Bob Stahl***

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun, Nov. 29	**- First Sunday of Advent**	
	- Choir Rehearsal	**8:30 am**
	- Advent Bible Study, P	**9:00 am**
	- Worship	**10:00 am**
	- Sunday School, B	**10:15 am**
	- Bell Practice	**11:15 am**
	- FPC History Presentation, FH	**11:15 am**
Mon, Nov. 30	- OA, P	10:00 am
	- Girl Scouts, B	5:30 pm
	- AA, MC	7:00 pm
Tues, Dec. 1	- Al-Anon, B	9:00 am
	- Girl Scouts, FH	5:00 pm
	- Girl Scouts, B	5:30 pm
	- NA, MC	7:00 pm
Wed, Dec. 2	**- Crafters, B**	**10:00 am**
	- AA, MC	6:30 pm
Thurs, Dec. 3	**- Miriam Esther Circle, P**	**11:00 am**
	- Church Life, Z	**4:30 pm**
Fri, Dec. 4	**- Church Office Closed**	
	- Grieving Together, P	**10:00 am**
	- No Limits Advent Study, FH	**6:00 pm**
Sat, Dec. 5	- AA, MC	11:00 am
	- Hometown Holidays Warming Station, FH	**4:00 pm**
Sun, Dec. 6	**- Second Sunday of Advent/Communion/2 Cents-a-Meal**	
	- Choir Rehearsal	**8:30 am**
	- Advent Bible Study, P	**9:00 am**
	- Worship	**10:00 am**
	- Sunday School, B	**10:15 am**
	- Advent Gathering, FH	**11:15 am**

FH-Fellowship Hall MC-Mable Culver P-Parlor B-Badger Hall T-Tieffle Lounge Z-Zoom