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CCLI 1771569 CSPL102679

December 17, 2023

Prelude - Jan Mix

Welcome and greeting - Pastor Dave York

Call to Worship – Kathy McKinley

Leader: Joy to the world! The Lord is coming soon!

People: As we anticipate his birth, let us believe with joy.

Leader: Let us sing with joy, give with joy, and love with joy.

People: Let us be God's light in a dark and weary world.

Leader: Let us a joyful song of love employ.

People: Joy to the World!

Opening Hymn - "Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates" UMH #213

Prayer of Illumination - O Lord, in this hectic season of impatience and noise and distraction, it is easy to lose sight of Your presence. Lift our heads and open our hearts! Help us see the beauty in Your world and in Your Word so that we may experience joy--in the darkness, in the unexpected, in the anticipation. Open our eyes to all your wonders and fill our ears with the anthems of angels so that our emptiness can be filled with Your light.

Lighting of the Advent Candles - Wooten family

Congregation: We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.

Finding Joy through the Darkness – Isaiah 9:2-6

Sanctuary Choir "Sparks of Joy" by Sterling and Alexander

Finding Joy in the Unexpected – Matthew 1:18- 21

Carla Wiegers - "It Wasn't His Child" by Donald Ewing

Scripture – Luke 2:8-14

Alayna Parvin – "Behold Him" by Francesca Battistelli

Finding Joy in Spreading the Light - Luke 1:78-79

Congregational Hymn - "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH #206

Scripture – Isaiah 2:3b-5

Sanctuary Choir – "Carry Your Candle High" by Alexander and Sterling

Prayer Time & Lord's Prayer

Scripture – Matthew 5:14-16

Praise Team – "Go Light Your World" by Chris Rice

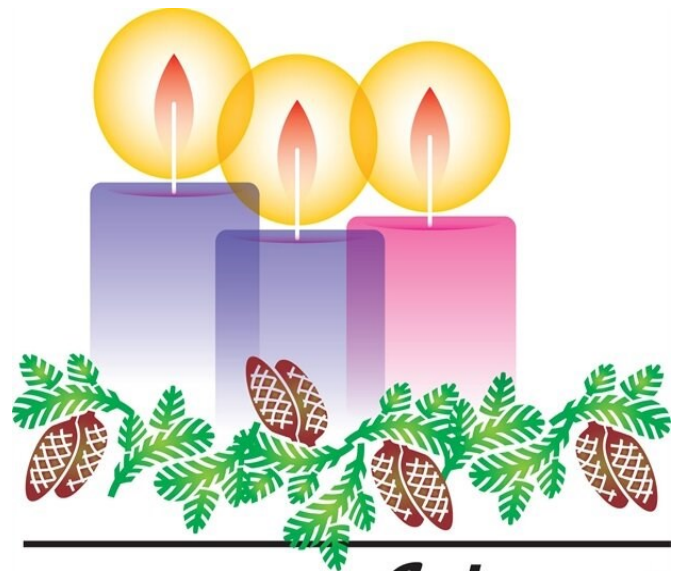
Offering & Next Steps

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving - Giver of all good things, we offer you our deepest gratitude and praise you for our many blessings. May our lives be filled with joy as we bring our gifts for your ministry in service to our community and world. AMEN.

Closing Hymn – "O Come All Ye Faithful" UMH 234 v.1-3

Benediction



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*



Norm & Nancy Dawson, Maurice Wheeler, Doug & Alice Hall, Mary Stephenson, Jennifer Bell, Richard Hansen, Margary Scheele

One service 10 am December 24 & 31

We will only have one morning service at 10 am on Dec. 24 & 31. We will return to our normal schedule in January.

We will have two Christmas Eve services at 5:30 & 7:00 pm. We'll have nursery for both. The Brass Ensemble will play at 6:30 pm.

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
5:30 pm or 7:00 pm

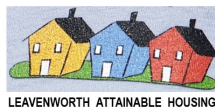


Each Christmas Eve we deliver bags of cookies to the first responders who are working that night. We will fill over 20 bags of cookies on Dec. 21 at 1 pm. If you can help, please bring your cookies to the church by Dec. 21.

The week after Christmas six students will be working for four charities here in Leavenworth including Attainable Housing, the Humane Society, CASA and Deeper Windows. Please pray for them as they serve our community. If you'd like to donate snacks, see Kristen khowell@fumclvks.org.



Please pray for our youth serving our community
December 26-29



Grief Share will be starting an new virtual group that will meet every Monday at 5 pm. This group is open to our community. Please contact Marsha for information and the zoom link. Marshagaffin@gmail.com.

GRIEF SHARE
GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

SPOUSE GRIEF GROUP 3 ⁰⁰ & 5 ⁰⁰ TUESDAYS 2 PM	COMMUNITY GROUP 2 ⁰⁰ & 4 ⁰⁰ WEDNESDAYS 5 PM
NEW VIRTUAL GROUP EVERY MONDAY 5 PM STARTING JANUARY 8	



Fusion 56 is for 5th & 6th grade students and Refuge youth ministry for 7th through 12th grade will be taking a two week break. They'll resume on Jan. 7. For info on youth, see Kristen at khowell@fumclvks.org and for Fusion 56, see Nancy at nshade@fumclvks.org.



Trinity House is a local food pantry and free clothing closet. They're in need of all types of food staples. They take donations Tues-Thurs 10 am to 1 pm at 2101 10th Ave.

Stronghold is a food pantry on Ft. Leavenworth for military families. They're gathering pantry staples, but they are also in need of a refrigerator to store meat, and dairy items. If you can help, contact Ed at egarven@fumclvks.org.



The HUB is a UMC food pantry. In Dec. we're collecting flour, sugar, condensed milk and canned beans. You can bring the items to the box in the foyer.

WEEKLY Sneak Peek Monday, December 18

1:00 pm AIR Dementia Ministry

Tuesday, December 19

10:00 am Ladies Advent Bible Study
2:00 pm Spouse Grief Share

Wednesday, December 20

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 21

8:30 am Staff Meeting
1:00 pm 1st Responder Cookie Bag filling
6:00 pm The Longest Night - Deeper Window
6:30 pm Ladies Advent Bible Study

Friday, December 22

9:00 am Samaritan's Buffet prep

Saturday, December 23

9:00 am Samaritan's Buffet serving

Sunday, December 24

10:00 am One Worship Service
5:30 pm Christmas Eve service
6:30 pm Leavenworth Brass Ensemble
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service



DIGITAL OFFERING

Online giving is available at fumclvks.org/product/give or use the QR code above to go directly to the website. You can use a check or credit card. For help, contact Steven at sshade@fumclvks.org



Thank you so much for your generosity. You brightened Christmas for 62 kids! The blue tags gifts for Nettie Hartnett are due today. Thanks again.

Life can seem pretty dark when you have a dementia diagnosis. The Deeper Window Association will be holding a night to honor those living with dementia on Dec. 21 from 6-9 pm. Luminaries will be available and Morgan is baking cookies for the reception.

