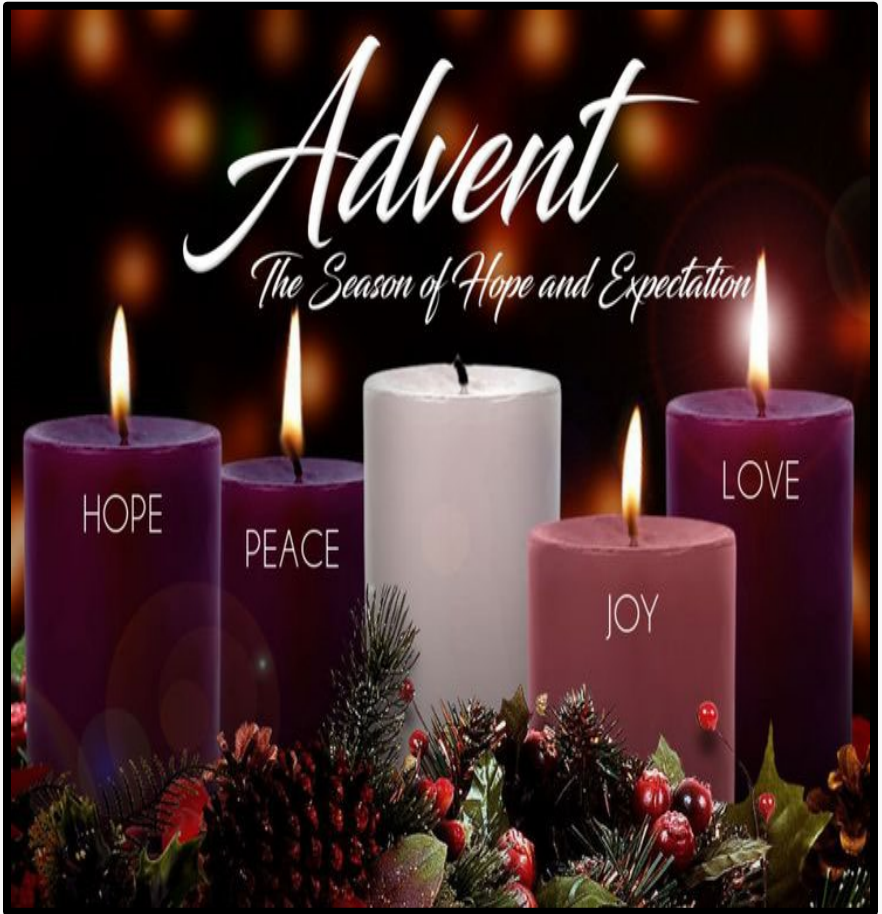


The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024



Westmoreland United Methodist Church

3602 Auburn Road

Huntington, WV 25704

304-429-2816

Church email: wumc3602@gmail.com

www.westmorelandumc.com

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Westmoreland United Methodist Church

EPISTLE READING

HEBREWS 10:5-10

*OFFERING/DOXOLOGY & OFFERTORY PRAYER UMH 95

*HYMN "O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM" UMH 230

*GOSPEL READING *ST. LUKE 1:39-45*

SERMON RECOGNITION: 'A "HERSTORY" OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS'
PASTOR THOM

The Lighting of the Christ Candle Insert

*HYMN "THE FIRST NOEL" UMH 245

*LEADING OF THE LIGHT AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE "HE IS BORN, THE DIVINE CHRIST CHILD"
MARGARET SMITH

**Please stand only if you are able.*

We appreciate Margaret Smith sharing her musical talents with us in today's service as our guest pianist.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Sunday School Each Sunday 10:00am

Exercise Class Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00am

(No exercise class during Christmas Week)

BACKPACK MINISTRY

For January, please donate vegetable soup with pop-top lids. This is a very specific request. THANK YOU!

CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

If you want an easy way to send Christmas cards to your church family, we will have a card box in the vestibule and we will sort and have them available for pick-up in the 1st classroom on the left on 1st floor, each Sunday. Don't forget to pick up your cards!

CHRISTMAS GIFTS for "THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND"

We need volunteers to deliver Christmas gifts to "those unable to attend" church. The gifts are in the parlor and the name is visible on the bag. Thank you!

Prayer List

If you have any additions or modifications to the prayer list, please complete a prayer request card or call the church office.

For anyone placed on the prayer list, updates within 3 weeks would be appreciated so our prayer list can be kept current.

Please pray for these individuals with current needs:

**Justin Abramo
Joe Barnett
Frankie Clark
Joyce Clark
Bill & Jenny Daniels
Bill Hively
Shirley Kizee (biopsy)
Marcus Kirby
Patty Lewis**

**Priscilla McAfee
Roy Preston
Ridley Oldfield
(Steve & Lynn Pyles grandson)
Bo Smith (broken hip)
Michael Watts
Jack Whitley
Family of Stacy Malcolm**

Please pray for these individuals with long-term needs:

**Shirley Bias, Bob Carrico, Jill & Jim Combs, Milton Clay,
Jeff Hunt, Steve Malcolm, Howard Marcum,
Tom Maynard, Ashley Stender**

Remember those not able to join us for church:

**Betty Craig, Donna & Dave Davis, Joy Fetty,
Ruth Kelley, Patricia Morgan, Mabel Pillion, Jim Reed,
Harold Sowards, Gene Ward, Dan & Shirley Webster**

Pastor Thom Malcolm

**Cell: 304-654-9440
Home: 740-451-0510
Cell: 304-654-9148**

**Stephanie Malcolm,
*Retired Local Pastor (RLP)***

**Secretary: Donna Rumbaugh Cell: 304-633-3680
*(Office Hours: Christmas Week)***

Music Director:

Gary Maynard

Pianist:

Gary Maynard

Liturgist:

Sheree Downey

**Bulletin information needs to be in the church office by
Tuesday, 2:30pm.**

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LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH Candle of Love

Leader: When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, “But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day.” (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, “But you, O Westmoreland United Methodist Church, from you shall come forth for me...” What? What might God be calling forth from us?

Congregation: God invites us to receive the promise of God’s salvation and the sustenance of God’s mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-bearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God’s invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.

Leader: We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God’s promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God’s love for all creation.



LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH Christ's Candle

Leader: Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

Congregation: Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. "His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this" (Isaiah 9:7).

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God's salvation wherever we go.