

OPENING PRAYER:

**Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey,
we ask that you open our eyes to the beauty and goodness around us,
and fill our hearts with grateful joy. Remind us that Christ is our light
and the source of all joy, and that we are here to serve you
and to spread that joy to others. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*see music on page 1*)

THE PEACE

As the peace of God keeps our hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus,
let us share the good news of God's joy with one another.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

**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. Amen.**

MINISTRY IN MUSIC (Chancel Choir 10:45)

Comfort And Joy

Joel Raney

CALL TO PRAYER (stanza 1)

No. 206

**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord, Jesus.**
(You are invited to come forward and kneel or stand at the altar rail)

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

TO HEAR THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

(Pew Bible: Page 877 Old Testament)

Zephaniah 3:14-20

*HYMN OF INVITATION

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

No. 229

(Children are invited to come forward during the last stanza.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:30 & 10:45)

"Pocket Change for a Purpose"
benefits the Rev. Joe Samalenge & his family

MINISTRY IN MUSIC (8:30)

Advent
Soloist: Fred Pershing

J. S. Bach

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Holy Spirit, proclaim to us your good news
that we may hear it joyfully
and proclaim it boldly. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING (Pew Bible: Page 198 New Testament) Philippians 4:4-7
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON (8:30)
(10:45)

“Joy”
“Mary Remembers”

Rev. Anette V. Gerber
Children & Youth Pageant

TO RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

The Offertory “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” arr. Malcolm Archer

*DOXOLOGY **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below:
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.** No. 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

AND DEPART FOR SERVICE

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice** No. 224

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION (stanza 5) No. 211

**O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home.
The captives from their prison free
And conquer death’s deep misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel**

*POSTLUDE O Day of Peace arr. Charles Callahan

The meeting is over. Let the service begin.

The chancel flowers and the bulletins are given to the Glory of God
by the First United Methodist Women, in honor of all women of the church

We Thank Those Who Are Serving Today

ACOLYTE: Kasey Storkel
ALTAR GUILD: Mary Lou Fitzgerald
COFFEE HOUR: Ruth Hughes
COFFEE HOUR (next week): Sandee Zelenak
GREETERS: (8:30) Marilyn McSparrin, Ed Meadows,
Laurel Sedlacko
(10:45) Jean Faust
LITURGIST: Helen Turkalj
NURSERY: Jean Faust, Janet Craig
NURSERY (next week): Kathy Griffith
SOUND SYSTEM: Tim Willcox
TECH TEAM: (8:30) Kelly Fullman
(10:45) Cheryl Lennert
USHERS: (8:30) Bill Conrad & George Fagert
(10:45) Carol Jean Albaugh, Barb Bloom,
Cathy Willcox, Marsha Zabrosky

Please lift up our friends and church family in prayer:

Our shut-ins, those in military service, and all with special needs:
*Please write prayer concerns on the pink cards in the pews and place them
in the offering plate. Requests are left on for three weeks unless renewed.*

Prayer & Health Concerns: Pat Hancock

Please continue to pray for our homebound, nursing home & care center members:

Brookdale Latrobe: Allan Pierce, Dorothy Rutter
Marge Trumbetta
Westmoreland Manor: Norma Gump, Christine Shank,
Charlotte Sonafelt
Home: Art Faust

PLEASE NOTE...Hospitals and care centers no longer contact churches to let them know that
members may be a patient there. **Please contact the church office with information.**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday 12/16 **Read - Malachi 3:1-18** “3rd Sunday of Advent”

- 8:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Preschool (Nursery), Children’s Sunday School (3rd floor), Youth (3rd floor), Genesis/Vanguard class (Library)
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee hour (Sanctuary Hall)
- 10:45 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- ~~6:00 p.m. Youth (CANCELLED)~~

Monday 12/17 **Read - Malachi 4:1-6**

- 6:15 p.m. Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)

Tuesday 12/18 **Read - Isaiah 7:10-25**

- 9:30 a.m. Book study (Library)
- 1:00 p.m. SPHS (Lounge)
- 6:00 p.m. Finance & Stewardship (Lounge)
- 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry meeting (Library)

Wednesday 12/19 **Read - Isaiah 8:1-20**

- 12:00 noon Mid-Day Advent Service
- 5:00 p.m. SPHS (Lounge)
- 6:30 p.m. Book study (Library)

Thursday 12/20 **Read - Isaiah 8:21-9:7**

- 11:00 a.m. 12 Step Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. Children’s Chimes (Chapel), Chancel Chanters (Sanctuary)
- 6:20 p.m. Halo Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Bonnie Ross Ringers (Bell Room)
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

Friday 12/21 **Read - Luke 1:1-25**

Saturday 12/22 **Read - Luke 1:26-56**

- 7:00 p.m. Ekklesia Worship (Sanctuary)

***LISTENING DEVICES AND LARGE PRINT COPIES
OF THE SERVICE MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.
IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, PLEASE ASK AN USHER.***



A COMMUNION SERVICE OF WORD & SONG

Saturday - Dec. 22, 2018 - 7 p.m.

Featured Musician: Forrest Moore, piano
Worship Leader: Rev. Anette Gerber

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pocket Change for a Purpose will be collected TODAY. It will benefit the Rev. Joe Samalenge and his family (wife and 2 young children) who lost everything to a devastating parsonage fire on Dec. 2. They had no renter's insurance.

Food Bank 2019 "Truck of the Month" sponsorships are ready and waiting for you in the sanctuary hall.

Centering Prayer will meet on Monday, Dec. 17, in the Prayer Room at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday morning Book/Bible Study with Pastor Net will meet on Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library.

The Finance & Stewardship committee will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 6 p.m. in the lounge.

The Stephen Ministry will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. in the library. Contact Lani Linhart with questions at 501-276-4193.

Advent Mid-Day Service will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 19, at 12 Noon.

This week's program will feature the Greensburg Salem High School's Select Ensemble. Due to scheduling difficulties, no luncheon will follow.

Wednesday evening Book/Bible Study with Pastor Net will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 19, in the library.

Please refer to bulletin page 5 for regular Thursday evening choir schedules.

Life Line Screenings will be here on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. Refer to the insert for further information. Take advantage of discounts and register early by calling 688-229-0469 or go online at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up in the sanctuary hall. If you need envelopes to make giving easier, please sign up on the clipboard.

Thanks to all who made our December special youth activity of Christmas caroling at Redstone such a resounding success. Lives were touched, with abundant smiles & tears!

Thanks for coming out last week to assist with the food bank distribution.

Mark your calendars for next month on January 11 (always the 2nd Friday of the month).

Church office hours for Christmas week will be: Mon. (8 a.m.-12 noon), Tues. & Wed. (closed), Thurs. & Friday (8 a.m.-4 p.m.). Then, we will be closed on New Years Day.

The Upper Room daily devotional for January/February is now available in the media rack in the sanctuary hall.

This Week's Scriptures (12/16/18)

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

Next Week's Scriptures (12/23/18)

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:47-55

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Greensburg

We are so glad that you chose to worship at Greensburg First UMC. Greensburg First is a place for real people with real lives to develop and nurture a real faith. We have authentic relationships, relevant messages, and are committed to raising up the next generation as disciples of Jesus Christ. We want you to know that you are loved and accepted here. Feel free to worship with us regularly and to fully participate in all our activities. If you are new to our community or are looking for a church home, please make it a point to meet the pastor before you leave the building. Also, help us get to know you by signing the welcome tablet. We will be happy to help you learn more about Greensburg First UMC.

Pageant by Children and Youth *“Mary Remembers”*

Older Mary: Judy Molter

Younger Mary: Katie Dougan

Joseph: Ray Dougan

Angels: Chloe Fontanazza, Lilly Baker

Inn Keeper: Callysta Fontanazza

Shepherds: Nevaeh Hirst,
Kaitlyn Jurkiewicz, Cheyanne Miller

Directors: Pam Swank, Val Uschock, Kathy Griffith



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15 E. 2nd Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

Phone: 724-834-3111 - **Fax:** 724-834-8711

website: www.greensburgfirst.org

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Rev. Anette V. Gerber..... pastornet@greensburgfirst.org.....Senior Pastor
Martha “Peaches” Clark...churchsecretary@greensburgfirst.org.....Secretary
Robert C. Wilson.....Minister Emeritus
Janice Vandenberg and Sean Hirst.....Custodians
Fred Pershing.....Director of Music
Br. Jim Caffrey Jr., OSL.....Associate Director of Music
Ruth K. Hughes.....music@greensburgfirst.org.....Organist



Mid-Week Advent Services

Wednesdays at Noon

Dec. 5 - Carol Sing

Dec. 13 - First United Methodist Talent

*Dec. 20 - Greensburg Salem High School
Select Ensemble*

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 16, 10:45 a.m.

Christmas Eve Services

December 24

7 p.m. - Family Candlelight Service

*11 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight Service
with Communion*

Ekklesia

Saturdays at 7 p.m.

weekly communion service of word & song

Holiday Worship Schedule