



Call his name
JESUS.

MATTHEW 1:21

WARREN FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love

December 24, 2023

We are glad that you are worshipping at First Methodist Church this morning. Please SIGN AND PASS the attendance pad at the end of the pew. If you are visiting with us, we would especially appreciate having your name, address, and phone number because we would like to thank you for being with us.

PRELUDE

(8:00 AM)

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

arr. Curry

PRELUDE

(10:00 AM)

“The Sounds of Christmas”

“He Shall Feed His Flock”

“Silent Night”

arr. Hughes

G.F. Handel

arr. Mansfield

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE—LOVE

LET US PRAY: Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love—shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless our worship. Help us to hear and to do your will. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

*HYMN No. 201

“Joy to the World”

Antioch

WELCOME

ANTHEM

“O Come, All you Unfaithful”

arr. Heather Sorenson

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

THE LORD’S PRAYER (using sins)

*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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“Awake! Sing Gloria!”

Joseph Martin

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(10:00 AM only)

*Hymn No. 186 (vs 4)

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
if I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give Him: give Him my heart.

*Offertory Prayer

***HYMN No. 194** "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" Carol
(Children are welcome to come forward for the Children's Message during the last verse.)

A MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Dee Dee Tucker

SCRIPTURE "Matthew 2:1-15" Pew Bible Pages 877 - 878

MESSAGE "Encountering Magi and a Star" Rev. Bud Fickley

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
(8:00 AM only)

***HYMN No. 191** "Angels We Have Heard on High" Gloria

BENEDICTION

BEARING OF LIGHT
(10:00 AM only)

POSTLUDE "Ding! Dong! Merrily on High" arr. Curry
(8:00 AM)

POSTLUDE "He Is Born" arr. Andre Lash
(10:00 AM)

*** Indicates Please Stand if Able**

MUSIC today is provided by organist Michele Sandberg and the Chancel Choir. Soloists are Melissa and Doug McCracken. Nettie Swart is playing the carillon. The pianist for the 8:00 AM service is Michele Sandberg.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE today are Patty California (8:00 AM) and Tracy Brieger and Ed Rickerson (10:00 AM).

ACOLYTES today are front candles: Anna McCord and Annika Wyman and aisle candles: Tage Wyman and Grady Corey.

USHERS today are Denny Munksgard, Bob Silzle, Bill Hannold, John Suppa, Laura Suppa, and Rebekah Swart.

CONCERNS FOR THIS WEEK ~ Marty Campbell, 615 Rouse Ave., Memory Care, Youngsville, PA 16371. Please consider sending her a card.

A WORD OF THANKS ~ A huge thank you to every one of you who participated in this year's Angel Tree ministry. The Christmas party itself was truly a God gift – filled with joy, wonder and excitement. I am so grateful for this congregation, this community of faith, and your heart for serving others. - Mary Jo

OFFERING ENVELOPES ~ The offering envelopes for 2024 are now available and can be found in the side hall just outside the church office.

PRAYER/BIRTHDAY CALENDARS ~ The 2024 First Methodist Church Prayer/Birthday Calendars are available. They are located in the side hall just outside the church office.

TUESDAY STUDY GROUP ~ The Tuesday Study Group meetings in January and February will be on Wednesdays at 9:30 AM in the Covert Room to hear Rev. Hecht's presentation on the Protestant Church History, Part 2.

LITURGIST VOLUNTEERS ~ You are invited to participate in worship leadership. We are in need of Liturgists to assist the pastor with leading the congregation in worship. As a Liturgist, you will lead the congregation in the Call to Worship, as well as read the Old Testament Lesson. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside of Rev. Hecht's office.

LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION ~ Our church will be celebrating Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on Sunday, January 14, 2023, during the 10:00 AM worship service. This is our third year of recognizing those who work to protect all of us in our communities. Todd Mineweaser, Chief of Police of the Youngsville Police Department will give the morning message. Invitations have been sent out to all those who are working in this area, inviting them to attend this worship service. We will be having a fellowship time in the parlors afterward, and hope you will consider attending the service and staying after to thank them for all they do to keep us safe. The parlors are located across from the hallway that leads to the Sanctuary.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF December 24, 2023 – December 30, 2023

SUNDAY	Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament; Crary Chapel 8:45 AM Fellowship; Covert Room 9:00 AM Time to Prepare Book Study; Parlor B 9:45 AM Prayer; Crary Chapel 10:00 AM Worship Service; Sanctuary 7:30 PM Music Prelude; Sanctuary 8:00 PM Service of Candlelight
MONDAY	Office Closed Merry Christmas! 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM Youth invited to help with the Bucket Brigade Pizza Co; 1st Church of the Nazarene
TUESDAY	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours 12:30 PM Staff Meeting; Parlor B 5:00 PM Warren Soccer; Gym
WEDNESDAY	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours
THURSDAY	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours 5:00 PM 4th Grade Soccer; Gym
FRIDAY	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours