

NAME: _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First time guest | <input type="checkbox"/> Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Returning guest | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in membership or Baptism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for a church home | |

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve

Saturday Meal Site opportunities to serve:

- Hosts: Someone who can greet guests and sit with them during the meal.
- Clean-up crew. Come around 12:00-1:30pm.
- Provide grocery bags and/or gloves for Meal Site & Operation Safety Net

Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Greeter—Greet people at the West parking lot.
- Usher—Greet people as they come into the service. Help with offering and Communion.
- Video—Get behind the camera to make a video recording of the sermon.
- Editor—Take the footage of the worship series and edit into a video to be posted on youtube.
- Sound—Help with the sound board, making sure mic levels are correct during worship.
- Slides—Help switch the slides during the service.

December 24, 2021

Announcements

We are blessed by your presence, and pray that worship is meaningful for you. You are invited to note your attendance and mailing address on the blue attendance tear-off sheet found in each bulletin. This sheet may be left at your seat for the ushers to gather after service. We encourage family participation in worship. We can provide activity bags for children upon request. Please see an usher for more information. Ushers can also provide you with large print bulletins if needed. We extend a special welcome to you and trust you will experience God's presence today.

Sunday School Classes—

Adult Sunday School Class @ 10:30am— Asbury Parlor and Zoom
Swahili Bible Study Class @10:30am—Swahili Class Room
Children & Youth Sunday School @ 10:30am— Epworth Hall

Discipleship Schedule Monday Noon Bible Study meets in-person in Epworth Hall. Wednesday Noon Prayer & Devotion Time continues to meet on Facebook Live and Zoom. Zoom Meeting ID # for both is 961 006 728. All Zoom meetings can also be joined by phone simply by dial 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

Christmas Eve Special Offering This year's Christmas Eve Offering will be split between the Our Conference Our Kids fund and the Two Rivers Good Samaritan Fund. Our Conference Our Kids is the initiative of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference to raise \$2.5 million to endow the spiritual growth programs at the children's ministry services across the conference. The Good Samaritan Fund at Two Rivers Church is used to help local people in need.

Puppet Show On December 26, a long-standing tradition at Two Rivers Church will be renewed. The children and youth will put on the first puppet show in over a decade. The original "Puppet News Christmas" will be performed live during the worship service on Sunday, December 26. The show will feature a live broadcast of the events of Christmas. Anchors Dr. Luke A. Possel and Matthew T. Collector will bring you "all the news that's fit to puppet."

Un-Decorating the Church We will "Un-Decorate the Church" on Sunday afternoon, January 2, after the service. We need several workers to get finished quickly. If you will be available to help on the 2nd, please let Mark Swessinger or the office know.

Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary
Password: TwoRivers2013
www.TwoRiversUMC.org



Donation QR Code

December 24, 2021
Christmas Eve



Prelude "O Holy Night" - Adolphe Adam

Greeting
The Light of Hope

Romans 5:1-15

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God's glory. But not only that! We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Hymn #234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" vs. 1 & 3

The Light of Peace

Romans 8:1-6

So now there isn't any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. God has done what was impossible for the Law, since it was weak because of selfishness. God condemned sin in the body by sending his own Son to deal with sin in the same body as humans, who are controlled by sin. He did this so that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us. Now the way we live is based on the Spirit, not based on selfishness. People whose lives are based on selfishness think about selfish things, but people whose lives are based on the Spirit think about things that are related to the Spirit. The attitude that comes from selfishness leads to death, but the attitude that comes from the Spirit leads to life and peace.

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Hymn #240 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" vs. 1 & 2

The Light of Joy

Romans 15:1-7, 13

We who are powerful need to be patient with the weakness of those who don't have power, and not please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good in order to build them up. Christ didn't please himself, but, as it is written, *The insults of those who insulted you fell on me.* Whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction so that we could have hope through endurance and through the encouragement of the scriptures. May the God of endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude toward each other, similar to Christ Jesus' attitude. That way you can glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ together with one voice.

So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory.... May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Musical Offering "How Great Our Joy"
-Traditional German Melody—arr. Lloyd Larson
Nancy Schwegler, piano and Tom Schwegler, trumpet

The Light of Love

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. We know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

Lighting the Candle of Love

Anthem

"Christmas Day in the Morning"

-arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

The Light of Christ

Luke 2:1-14

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Sermon "Just the Beginning" - Rev. Robb McCoy

Hymn #239 "Silent Night, Holy Night" vs. 1-3

Blessing

Hymn #239 "Silent Night, Holy Night" vs. 1 acapella

Postlude "Silent Night" - Gruber/Mohr

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
FWS - The Faith We Sing (black hymnal)
UMH - United Methodist Hymnal (red hymnal)
Words of anthem/hymn reprinted under CCLI License

December 24, 2021



PRAYER MINISTRY

NAME: _____

Who would you like to see this prayer?

- Pastor Only.** Only the pastor will see this prayer. He will most likely see it and be in prayer for it on Monday morning.
- Prayer Chain.** These prayers will be sent to those who have signed up for prayer chain email. They will also be prayed for by first name only during our Wednesday online prayer service.

Please be in prayer for:

Please pray for this:

- For this week only.
- Until _____
- This is an ongoing need.

I am interested in being a part of the Prayer Chain:

Email: _____