

NAME: _____

- First time guest
- Returning guest
- Looking for a church home
- Member
- Interested in membership or Baptism

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 5, 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.

Caring Tree Two Rivers Church has adopted three large families from Family Resources to help make their Christmas a little more bright. If you would like to purchase gifts for a family, one member of a family, or simply make a donation to the cause to help buy gift cards, please take a candy cane from the caring tree and fill out the back tag with your information and leave it in the basket. The suggested amount to spend per person is \$75-\$100. Gifts need to be unwrapped with the original tag attached and delivered to the church no later than Thursday December 16.

Wednesday Vespers Service Starting this Wednesday at 7pm, Pastor Robb will share a short vespers service. Vespers is the ancient tradition of evening prayer. The service will take place in the sanctuary. It will include a time of prayer and reflection, a Psalm song, a reading from our daily All the Good devotional, and Communion. The service should take between 30-40 minutes, and be over before 8:00. The theme for each week will follow along with our Advent themes of Prepare with Hope, Praying for Peace, Care with Joy, and Do in Love.

Holiday Baskets for Seniors Donations of homemade or purchased treats (peanut butter, nut free) cookies, crackers, gum—anything you want, are still being collected and may be left in the kitchen of Epworth Hall. Please mark the donations “Holiday Home-bound Baskets” and bring them any time up to/before service on Sunday, December 12 when they will be assembled and will be ready for delivery. These baskets are made possible thanks to the gracious people that share their time and efforts to bake, shop, organize and deliver them. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer on this project please contact the church office at 309/788-9384 or Ruth Hill at 309/788-5206.

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



Donation QR Code

December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent



Luke 1:65-79

65 All their neighbors were filled with awe, and everyone throughout the Judean highlands talked about what had happened. 66 All who heard about this considered it carefully. They said, “What then will this child be?” Indeed, the Lord’s power was with him.

Zechariah’s prophecy

67 John’s father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied,

68 “Bless the Lord God of Israel

because he has come to help and has delivered his people.

69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in his servant David’s house, 70 just as he said through the mouths of his holy prophets long ago.

71 He has brought salvation from our enemies and from the power of all those who hate us.

72 He has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and remembered his holy covenant,

73 the solemn pledge he made to our ancestor Abraham.

He has granted 74 that we would be rescued from the power of our enemies

so that we could serve him without fear,

75 in holiness and righteousness in God’s eyes, for as long as we live.

76 You, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.

77 You will tell his people how to be saved through the forgiveness of their sins.

78 Because of our God’s deep compassion, the dawn from heaven will break upon us,

79 to give light to those who are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide us on the path of peace.”

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude "Child of the Poor/What Child is This" - Soper/Dix

Greeting

Presentation of Advent Candle and Chrismon

Advent Reading Ephesians 1:17-19

One: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,"

All: Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Lighting the Candle of Peace and Hanging the Chrismon

Hymn #207 UMH "Prepare the Way of the Lord"

One: Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion!

All: For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord.

One: Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day,

All: And they shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst.

*Opening Hymn #209 UMH "Blessed be the God of Israel" vs. 1&2

*Prayer of Confession

All: O God of Love Eternal, you became flesh and descended into the world to redeem all people. We confess that we have not lived as redeemed people, but as frightened people. We have not loved our neighbor as ourself, and struggle even with loving ourselves. Grant us an abiding peace so we may see ourselves and each other as you see us—as wonderful gifts to the world, made in love and in the image of God.

(Pause for silent reflection and confession)

One: The Word became flesh and made its home among us. In the name of Eternal Christ of love and grace, you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, born once and coming again, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Spirit Hymn #195 UMH "Send Your Word" vs. 1

Pastoral Prayer

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: Holy God, open our hearts to the story of your love. Open our minds to new ways of knowing you. Open our doors for all whom you would welcome. Amen.

Scripture Reading Psalm Luke 1: 65-79 (CEB)

Sermon All the Good: Praying for Peace - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Holy Communion Page 15

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.

Response Hymn #202 UMH "People Look East" vs. 1 & 3

Offering Reflection and Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: As we prepare for the coming of Christ, we are thankful for Christ already among us.

All: Holy and Gracious God, your redemption and love are the source of our peace. As we prepare for Christmas, help us to have a spirit of gratitude, that we may respond in generosity. We pause to reflect on our reasons for peace.

(Pause for Silent Reflection on Peace)

One: We will sing praises to your name, Most High. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #213 UMH "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" v. 1&4

*Blessing and Dismissal

Postlude "Every Valley" - Dufford

* 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 5, 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 name only during our Wednesday online prayer service. Names only will be printed in newsletter if it is an ongoing need.

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: _____