

*A special welcome to our guests.* Your visit is a blessing to us, and we are glad you are here!

Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. If you prefer,  
a nursery for infants through preschoolers is available in Room 5.

Hearing assistance (headphones, earbud, or T-coil) is available during worship.



*\*Please stand in your heart or posture. UMH=United Methodist Hymnal; TFWs=The Faith We Sing.*

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

Douglas E. Wagner

#### \* OPENING HYMN

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

UMH 230

#### CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY: *Christ Be Our Light* by Farrell/Raney

#### \*RESPONSIVE LITANY - *Hope for Those Who Are Wounded*

Leader: Advent is a time to bind up the broken hearted.

**People: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

Leader: For past wrongs that prevent us from moving forward:

**People: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

Leader: For any bitterness that scratches our soul:

**People: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

Leader: For relationships left in decay and neglect:

**People: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

Leader: For any action that has wounded us or by which we have wounded others:

**People: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Andrew & Kirsten Lewis with  
Sam, Nicole, and Brooklyn

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL RESPONSE (see insert)

#### PRAYER

**Merciful God, Advent reminds us that you left heaven's majesty to walk among wounded people in a broken world. We thank you that your love knows no boundaries or limitations. No wound of this earth is greater than the wounds you came to heal. For all who suffer this day, light the way, O Lord, towards the promise of healing and wholeness made known in you. Amen.**

#### ANTHEM

*Psallite, Sing to Christ the Lord!*

David Stocker

### PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

#### SCRIPTURE READING

*Micah 5:2-5a*

Ray Hoewing

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Luke 1:39-55*

Rev. Timothy A. Dowell

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### MESSAGE

*An Unfolding Story*

Rev. Timothy A. Dowell

#### \* HYMN

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

UMH 234

#### SEASON OF CELEBRATION

#### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

#### OFFERTORY

*How Far Is It To Bethlehem?*

Douglas E. Wagner

#### \* DOXOLOGY

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

UMH 221, last verse

### THANKSGIVING

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### THE 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.**

### SENDING FORTH

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

UMH 240

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*The First Nowell*

John Carter

## Readings

**Micah 5:2-5a** New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.



**Luke 1:39-55** New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*Fourth Sunday  
in Advent*

DECEMBER  
23  
2018

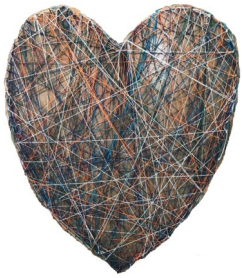
**MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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**WWW.PMUMC.ORG**

## Daily Scripture Readings

Sun., December 23 - **DEUTERONOMY 4:27-31** *Looking to God*  
 Mon., December 24 - **LUKE 1:26-35** *God Is With Me*  
 Tue., December 25 - **LUKE 2:1-7** *Christmas Perfection*  
 Wed., December 26 - **MATTHEW 7:1-5** *The Goldfish Bowl*  
 Thu., December 27 - **PSALM 20:1-9** *A Mother's Love*  
 Fri., December 28 - **EPHESIANS 3:14-21** *Heavenly Father*  
 Sat., December 29 - **COLOSSIANS 3:12-17** *Forgiving Family*

Visit [www.upperroom.com](http://www.upperroom.com) for more information.

## Memorial's Purpose



**Loving God  
 Welcoming All  
 Serving Neighbors  
 Together  
 Through Jesus  
 Christ**

## Last Sunday's Vitals

Worship Attendance: 117  
 Offering/other income 12/16: \$9,140  
 Total since 1/1/18: 477,404  
 Fellowship Hall Renovation  
 Goal: \$75,000 Received: \$23,160  
**For online giving options visit  
[www.PMUMC.org](http://www.PMUMC.org)**

## Office Information

**COORDINATOR HOURS**  
 Call or E-Mail office

**APPOINTMENTS WITH THE PASTOR**  
 To schedule, please contact the office at  
 301-349-2010, [office@pmumc.org](mailto:office@pmumc.org), or  
 visit [www.pmumc.org](http://www.pmumc.org)

**PHONE MESSAGES**  
 Messages for Shirley and Pastor Tim are  
 sent to their email accounts.

**EMERGENCIES**  
 People in need of immediate pastoral care,  
 please contact Pastor Tim at  
[PastorTim@PMUMC.org](mailto:PastorTim@PMUMC.org)

## Church Personnel

**PASTOR** - Rev. Timothy A. Dowell  
**CHURCH COORDINATOR**  
 Shirley Prasada-Rao  
**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC** - Janet Hartz  
**ORGANIST** - Linda Custer  
**BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR** - Becky Smalley  
**HEAD USHER** - Dr. Robert Spiker  
**HEAD ACOLYTE** - Emma Parker  
**FACILITIES** - Richard Scheetz

## Choral Response

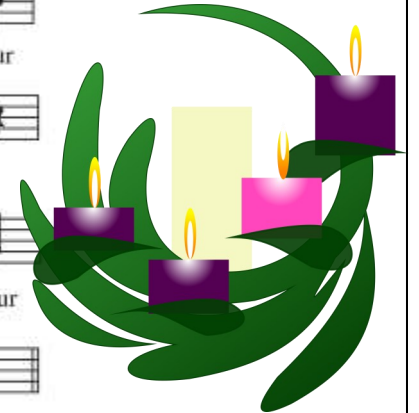
### Christ, Be Our Light!

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
 BERNADETTE FARRELL

**Congregation:**

Christ, be our light! Shine in our  
 hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
 Church gath - ered to - day.



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 use of this part is authorized for any other purpose.

## Upcoming Liturgist Schedule

| DATE      | DECEMBER 30 | JANUARY 6   | JANUARY 13   |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| LITURGIST | Jan Deloria | Beth Parker | Scott McGrew |

## Upcoming Happenings

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>SUN - DEC 23</b><br><i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i> | 9:15 am - 10:15 am<br>10:30 am - 11:30 am<br>11:30 am - 12 pm                        | Sunday School<br>Worship Service<br>Coffee Corner - <i>Lewis'</i>  |
| <b>MON - DEC 24</b><br><i>Christmas Eve</i>           | 4 pm - 5 pm<br><br>8 pm - 9 pm   | Family Christmas Eve Worship Service<br><i>with Communion after the service</i><br>Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Service |
| <b>TUE - DEC 25</b>                                   |    |  |
| <b>WED - DEC 26</b>                                   | 7:30 pm - 9 pm   | Chancel Choir Rehearsal - <b>CANCELLED</b>   |
| <b>THU - DEC 27</b>                                   | 7 pm - 8 pm<br>7 pm - 8 pm<br>7:30 pm - 8:30 pm                                      | Small Grp: Review/Preview - <b>CANCELLED</b><br>Zumba Class<br>Small Grp: Judy's Covenant Group                              |
| <b>SUN - DEC 30</b>                                   | 9:15 am - 10:15 am<br>10:30 am - 11:30 am<br>11:30 am - 12 pm                        | Sunday School<br>Worship Service<br>Coffee Corner - <i>Dowell's</i>  |
| <b>MON - DEC 31</b><br><i>New Year's Eve</i>          | 7:30 pm - 9 pm   | Bell Choir Rehearsal - <b>CANCELLED</b>  |
| <b>TUE - JAN 1</b>                                    |  |  |
| <b>WED - JAN 2</b>                                    | 7:30 pm - 9 pm   | Chancel Choir Rehearsal  |
| <b>THU - JAN 3</b>                                    | 7 pm - 8 pm<br>7 pm - 8 pm<br>7:30 pm - 8:30 pm                                      | Small Grp: Review/Preview with Pastor Tim<br>Zumba Class<br>Small Grp: Judy's Covenant Group                                 |
| <b>SUN - JAN 6</b>                                    | 9:15 am - 10:15 am<br>10:30 am - 11:30 am<br>11:30 am - 12 pm                        | Sunday School<br>Worship Service<br>Coffee Corner - <b>Host Needed</b>   |

### Christmas Eve Schedule *(Communion after 4pm Worship)*



4pm - Family Worship Service  
8 pm - Traditional Worship Service




### Wonderful News regarding Fellowship Hall Renovation!


A family has offered a \$10,000 matching gift for the Fellowship Hall renovation of any gifts \$1,000 or more received by December 31. We were lucky to have already receive the first \$1,000 donation, so we're looking for at least 9 more \$1,000 donations between now and the end of the month.




**NO Rehearsals  
for Music Ministry  
Until 1/2/2019**

**Class Cancelled**  
*Review/Preview with Pastor Tim* will not meet this coming week nor the next week. Class will resume after the New Year!

**Stick Around After Worship!**  
Enjoy some fellowship and wet your whistle! Starting Jan. 6th Coffee Corner will simplify and switch to drinks only.  If you have any questions please speak with Kirsten Lewis, Evangelism Chair.

**De-Hanging of the Greens**  
will take place after worship on Jan. 6. Join in the fun with many hands making light work! Contact Dianna McGrew at [mdmcmcgrews@aol.com](mailto:mdmcmcgrews@aol.com) or 301-349-2261 with questions 

 **Sunday School!! 9:15-10:15 am**

 The Baltimore-Washington Conference awards a variety college scholarships. Applications open Jan. 3—Mar 7, 2019. Students must complete the full online application, including uploading current transcript and providing contact information for their pastor and one additional church reference. To learn more visit <http://www.bwcumc.org/administration/local-church-resources/scholarships/>



**We are blessed to have an incredible church family that come together throughout the year to help with so much!**

- Community Dinners
- Donations for WUMCO
- Volunteering at Thrift Shop
- Caroling and Gifts to Asbury
- Donations and Serving at FRM
- VBS, Parties, Potlucks, and Plays
- Live Nativity and more!

**A big Thank You! to all supporting these and other activities and also to those involved in our regular happenings - Clergy, Council, Trustees, Christian Educators, Musicians, Visual Artists, Ushers, Acolytes, Liturgists, Greeters, Hospitality Providers, Bulletin Folders, Compassionate Care-Givers, Small Group Leaders, EVERYONE!**

**May we all feel the joy in giving and sharing of ourselves during this Advent Season!**

