



United Methodist  
Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele  
Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

**November 28th, 2021**  
**Hanging of the Greenery**

*Welcome to the United Methodist Church of Summit! We invite you to join us on a journey of faith, worshiping and serving God.*

**PRELUDE**

*“Andante in G”*

G.F. Handel

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Daniel Family

**Reader 1:** On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of HOPE. HOPE is a voice that sings out from broken places. When we cannot speak due to fear or doubt, HOPE holds onto us and keeps us moving toward a future we can't yet see. HOPE carries us as we carry our burdens. HOPE grows from the promise that God is with us.

*Light One Blue Candle*

**Reader 2:** Let us pray: Gracious One, Give us HOPE that bursts your Great Light through the darkness of our lives. May your presence minister to us when we are at a loss for words. May your presence be known throughout the universe. May we recognize you are truly with us, here and now. Amen.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Beverly Alexis

Leader: People of faith, prepare for the coming of Christ!

**People: As we gather to pray and sing and listen, a spirit of anticipation and hope fills the air.**

Leader: The days are surely coming, says Our God, when justice and righteousness will prevail.

**People: May we respond joyfully to God's call in the days to come.**

**CENTERING PRAYER:**

**Eternal God, you have assured us that you are always with us. You will strengthen us and help us. You are present, living, and active in our lives – you rejoice within us and calm our spirits with your love. When the future is uncertain, trusting in your promises is what sustains us. We put our hope in you this day as we prepare for the coming of the Prince of Peace. May we be kept in that perfect peace. In His name we pray, AMEN.**

**\*OPENING HYMN:**

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”  
(please remain standing as you are able)*

UMH #196

**ANNUAL HANGING OF THE GREENERY**

**LIGHTING OF THE SANCTUARY CANDLES**

Hymn: *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* (vv. 1 and 2)

UMH #211

***The Center Aisle Candles***

*Debbi Picorale, Adrian Phillips, Afua Owusu and Carol Conway*

**The Chancel Candles**  
*The LaJeunesse Family*

**HANGING THE GARLANDS**

Hymn: *"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"* UMH #216

**The Pillar Greenery**

*Faye Cunningham, the Zotti Family, the Burns family,  
The Barry/Bollman Family, the Yang Family, the Daniel Family*

**The Chancel Greenery**

*The Zotti Family, Latonia Hall, Shela Waldron, Waveny Hall*

**The Choir Loft Greenery**

*Beverly Alexis, the Schaefer Family, Ximenita Gonzalez*

**HANGING OF THE WREATHS**

Hymn: *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* UMH #206  
(vv. 1 and 2)

**The Window Wreaths**

*The Halverson Family, Adrian Philips, the Schaefer Family,  
the Steele Family, Faye Cunningham*

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Natalie Palacio, CYF Minister

**ANTHEM**

*"Come Down, Emmanuel"*  
Chancel Choir

P. Choplin

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Laura Steele

**SCRIPTURE:**

Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (NRSV)

New Testament: Luke 21:25-36 (NRSV)

Beverly Alexis

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION:** *(please rise as you are able)*

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* (vv. 3 and 4)

UMH #211

**MESSAGE:**

*God With Us: Deck the Halls*  
Rev. Laura Steele, Pastor

**OFFERING**

*(please place your weekly offering and your 2022 pledge cards in the offering plates)*

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**

*"Aria in F"*

G.F. Handel

**\*DOXOLOGY** *(please rise as you are able)*

*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

UMH #95

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** *(please rise as you are able)*  
*“People, Look East”*

UMH #202

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*“Marche Joyeuse”*

J. Head

*\* Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.*

*Hearing Aid Receivers and Large Print Hymnals are available from our ushers.*

### **In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

Gregory Carter, Baby William Joseph Kenny and family for healing and strength, Jane McKinley, Marg Edwards, Kathy Whipps (Alison’s mom), family of Dara Callender, Walter, Doug, Jonathan, Tina Marie, those struggling with mental health, Family Promise Team, Ken Green, Rosa Smith, Christine Zotti, Betty, Madison, all those suffering from the effects of COVID19.

### **Schedule for Week of November 28th**

#### **Sunday, November 28th**

9:00am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary)  
9:30am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)  
9:30am Christian Drama Club (Social Hall)  
10:30am In-person/online Worship  
10:45am Sunday School (2nd floor)  
11:30am Coffee Hour (Social Hall)  
11:30am Bell Choir (Sanctuary)  
12:00pm Singing Believers (Sanctuary)  
12:15pm Contemporary Ensemble (Sanctuary)  
5:00-7:00pm Christmas Concert Rehearsal Time (Sanctuary)  
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

#### **Monday, November 29th**

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)  
7:45-9:30pm GA (Chapel and Fellowship)

#### **Tuesday, November 30th:**

1:00 -9:30pm Debbi’s Dance Classes (2nd floor)  
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

#### **Wednesday, December 1st:**

1:00-9:00pm Debbi’s Dance Classes (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)  
7:30-9:30pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

#### **Thursday, December 2nd:**

**3:30-9:00pm** Debbi’s Dance Classes (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

#### **Friday, December 3rd:**

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

#### **Saturday, December 4th:**

8:00-2:30pm Debbi’s Dance Classes (2nd floor)  
11:30am Wesley Singers (Sanctuary)

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS



### **Hanging of the Greenery: Sunday, November 28**

Join us Sunday, November 28th, for our annual Hanging of the Greenery during the 10:30AM worship service. Evergreens are a symbol of the eternal coming of God to dwell among us as the Word made flesh. They are a sign of life and resurrection as we overcome the cold of winter. Join us as we kick off the Advent season in anticipation of the arrival of Emmanuel: God with us.

### **Christmas Concert: Sunday, December 5 at 3:00pm**

Come hear the sounds of the season in our beautiful Sanctuary, featuring the choirs of the church as well as professional soloists.



### **Youth Christmas Party: Sunday, December 5 at 6:00pm**

All youth grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for our 2021 Youth Christmas Party! This year, youth from Madison UMC will be joining us to celebrate the season! Wear your silliest Christmas sweater and get ready for a yummy hot chocolate bar! Food, fun, and games await!

## Join Our Music Ministries!



### **Chancel Choir:**

Won't you come and join us as we sing joyful and meaningful songs to the Lord? It's a joy to work together and lift our voices in praise of our Maker. The Chancel Choir rehearsals continue at 9:30am each Sunday in the Sanctuary.

### **Wesley Singers:**

Children and youth who would like to sing songs of faith please share your gifts of music on Saturday morning at 11:30am in our Sanctuary. We will make a joyful sound to the Lord.

### **Bell Choir:**

Come and try ringing hand bells and hand chimes with your church friends. Rehearsals are Sundays at 11:45am in the Sanctuary.

### **Singing Believers:**

We welcome all children 4 years old and up, to sing joyful songs of the church each Sunday at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. Please have a snack at coffee hour, then come back to church to share fun songs of faith.

### **Contemporary Ensemble:**

Our Contemporary Ensemble shares music for Holy Communion each month. The Ensemble uses music from the contemporary hymnals "The Faith We Sing" and "Worship and Song". Rehearsals will be on Sundays and 12:15pm in the Sanctuary.

## Children, Youth and Family Ministries Update

Our Children, Families, and Youth Ministries programming has started once again. Each Sunday there is something for everyone! Under the direction of our new Children, Families, and Youth Minister; our new Sunday schedule for children and youth is as follows:

**9:30AM-10:15AM: Christian Drama Club for ages K-12th grade (Social Hall)**

**10:30AM-10:45AM: Worship in the Sanctuary**

**10:45AM - 11:30AM: Sunday school for ages K-5th grade (2nd floor)**

**11:30AM: Coffee Hour Outside**

**9:30AM-11:30AM: Nursery Care Available every Sunday in the Nursery Room**

\*Children are always welcome to stay in worship, Sunday school is optional for those families who wish to attend.

If you have any questions, please email our Children, Youth, and Families Minister Natalie Palacio at: [CYFMinister@umcsummit.org](mailto:CYFMinister@umcsummit.org)

### **Children's Drama Club:**

Our Children's Drama Club will soon begin planning and designing our Children's Christmas Pageant. We are looking for children and youth to participate in the pageant and designing the set.

Drama Club meets at 9:30AM Sunday mornings in the Social Hall.

If you'd like to join, please contact

Natalie Palacio at: [CYFMinister@umcsummit.org](mailto:CYFMinister@umcsummit.org)





## **To Mask or Not to Mask?**

### **Update on COVID19 Safety Protocols:**

#### **Masking in Worship**

As of Monday, November 1st, 2021; the Administrative Council of SUMC agreed the church should follow CDC recommendations for masking during Sunday morning worship based on the published COVID -19 transmission rate for Union County. For **low and moderate** transmission rates, the CDC recommends all unvaccinated persons wear masks while vaccinated persons may attend unmasked (if so desired) as the risk for infection is considered low. For **substantial and high** transmission rates, the CDC recommends ALL persons wear a mask regardless of vaccination status to mitigate the risk of infection.

As of November 1st, the transmission rate in Union County was moderate. However, as of November 4th, the rate of transmission for COVID-19 in Union County has increased to "substantial". As a result, we will continue to require everyone to wear a mask during Sunday morning worship until the Union County transmission rate drops back down to moderate or low.

Many Blessings,

Pastor Laura





### **Virtual Angel Tree Christmas for Kids**

Every person is made in the image of God. No life is beyond His reach. Founded in 1976, Prison Fellowship® exists to serve all those affected by crime and incarceration and to see lives and

communities restored in and out of prison—one transformed life at a time. This year, UMC Summit will be participating in a Virtual Angel Tree Christmas Mission project. It is a special outreach program that is part of the Prison Fellowship ministry. At Christmas time, Angel Tree shares the love of Christ in a tangible way that can strengthen family bonds while delivering a personalized gift and the Gospel to a child on behalf of their incarcerated parent.

Visit our website [www.umcsummit.org](http://www.umcsummit.org) and click on the “Angel Tree” button. There you will find the link and code with all the directions as well.

Through Angel Tree, we can share the hope of Jesus with a hurting child in our area by sending a special Christmas gift and a personal message of love on behalf of their parent in prison. It starts with a gift, and leads to restored lives.

# CHANCEL FLOWERS

at Christmas 2021

**Contributions for Christmas Flowers will be taken until Sunday, December 19th.** The money collected is used to decorate the sanctuary, with any remaining money going to provide flowers for future Sunday services. The flowers from Christmas will be distributed to our shut-ins, hospitalized members and others, as determined by the Pastor.

If you would like your contribution noted in the bulletin on Christmas Eve, please complete the form below. This form may be placed in the offering plate or returned to the Church Office. Please make your checks **payable to "UMC Flower Fund"**.

**Your Name:**

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**In Loving Memory of:**

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**In Honor of:**

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