

# Broad Street United Methodist Church

## 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

Welcome to the Broad Street United Methodist Church.

We are happy you are here today.

The order of worship is found in this bulletin.

\*Indicates congregation stands, if able.

PRELUDE

Judy Schetler

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor James

\*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (responsive)

Michele Hogan, Bryan Roth & Family

When God's people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed, "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. (Isaiah 61:1-3a).

We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.

**We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.**

We light these three Advent Candles as signs of our shocking hope, just peace, and fierce joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

\*HYMN

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

UMH 213

OPENING PRAYER (pray in unison)

Lauri Shepherd

**Holy God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are.**

**We live within the joy of your love for us.**

**Our contentment comes and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows.**

**Our feelings depend upon our circumstances,  
our physical health, our brain chemistry.**

**But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children.**

**And we give you thanks. Amen.**

*-Written by Joanna Harader, and posted on Spacious Faith. <https://spaciousfaith.com/2013/12/17>*

\*HYMN

*Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*

TFWS 2089

ADVENT PRAYER (Unison)

*Advent* (led by Laura Sourwine)

UMH 201

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (pray together)

Laura Sourwine

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

*-Book of Worship*

GOSPEL READING

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Jeena Sheppard

MUSICAL MESSAGE

*The Voices of Christmas* Joseph Martin

Sanctuary Choir

Written by one of our favorite composers, our cantata this morning brings the message that because Christ was born to everyone (past, present, and future), we are all, in some sense, connected to the manger.

We are all witnesses to and voices of the Good News of his birth.

Director/Accompanist: Judy Schetler

Narrator: Doug Papp

Soprano: Cindy Borgstrom, Susan Curlett, Marsha Danser, Laura Jaskot

Alto: Becky MacMillan, Helen Rainier, Jalyn Sunshine

Narration

*The Voices of Christmas*. . . . . Choir

The voice of Israel. . . . .Helen Rainier

*O Come Emmanuel*. . . . .Soloist Laura Jaskot, Choir

The voice of Isaiah. . . . . Marsha Danser

*The Promise Is Near*. . . . . Descant: Marsha Danser, Choir

The voice of Gabriel. . . . . Cindy Borgstrom

*Chosen Mary, Gentle One*. . . . .Choir

The voice of Mary. . . . .Becky MacMillan

*Still Is the Night*. . . . .Soloist Jalyn Sunshine, Choir

The voice of the shepherd. . . . . Jalyn Sunshine

*Shepherds, Come Rejoicing*. . . . .Choir

The voice of silence. . . . . Susan Curlett

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*. . . . . Soloist Helen Rainier, Choir

The voices of Christmas. . . . . Choir

*Good Christians, Now Rejoice*. . . . .Descant: Laura Jaskot, Choir

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE (pray responsively)

Julia Sourwine

O God, in days to come the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths. Come Lord Jesus,  
**and hear our prayer.**

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. Come Lord Jesus,  
**and hear our prayer.**

In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come Lord Jesus,  
**and hear our prayer.**

In the fulness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Come Lord Jesus,  
**and hear our prayer.**

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among us with great might, and in manger mild, we might recognize his face and his voice, and come to adore him.

**Amen.**

~ adapted from a prayer written by Fr. Rick Morley, and posted on <http://www.rickmorley.com/archives/207>

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, we pray for \_\_\_\_\_.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

PRAYER CHORUS

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

UMH 204

## WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Pastor James

HYMN

*Jesus, Name Above All Names*

TFWS 2071

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER (pray together)

Pastor James

**Generous God, your love renews us and restores our strength. With gratitude, we offer you a portion of what you have given to us. Receive our gifts, our prayers, and our service, that your church may become a source of hope for the world. Amen.**

*-The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020*

## WE SCATTER TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD

\*HYMN

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

UMH 203

\*\*\*Note: We invite all singers in the congregation to come forward during verse 4 of *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* and join the choir in singing of the *Hallelujah Chorus*. Ending the worship service with this masterpiece following the cantata in Advent is a long-standing tradition at BSUMC.

HALLELUJAH CHORUS from Handel's Messiah

Choir and Congregation

\*WORDS OF BLESSING (Responsive)

Pastor James

Beloved, may you be blessed with fierce, tenacious joy that in all things—the highs, the lows, the rejoicing, and the sorrow—you may hold fast to and be held fast by the good news of Jesus Christ, the coming Messiah.

**Amen.**

*-from umcdiscipleship.org*

POSTLUDE

Judy Schetler

NOTE: CCLI license # 303359 grants BSUMC permission to reproduce words and music for congregational singing and streaming our worship service.



The altar flowers and bulletin this morning are dedicated in honor of our talented organist and choir director, Judy Schetler. The congregation wishes to thank Judy for the many hours spent preparing inspirational music throughout the year.



Please remember our families and friends in prayer

John Robert Chitester, Evelyn Kraft, Mike Levesque, Dale Crocker,  
Herb Tomer, Sharon Durazolapaugh, Susan Curlett

Requests for inclusion on the prayer list, removal from the list, or to have a name remain on the list longer than two weeks can be emailed to:

office@broadstumc.org or placed in the offering plate.

Please continue to pray for those on the prayer list in previous weeks.

Check out the church website ([www.broadstumc.org](http://www.broadstumc.org)) for more information on upcoming activities.

## THIS WEEK:

Sunday, December 17, 2023 – Annual Cookie Munch following Worship 12:00Noon

Sunday, December 17, 2023 – Blue Christmas Service 7:00PM



## Planning ahead... mark your calendars

Tuesday, December 19, 2023 – Bible Study on Romans 6:00PM

Sunday, December 24, 2023 – Sunday School 9:45AM Worship 11:00AM

Sunday, December 24, 2023 – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 7:00PM



Thank you so very much for your participation in our **2023 Giving Tree** project. You donated **\$345.00 cash** as well as **23 packages of socks** and **18 hoodie sweatshirts** for both women and men.

All of the clothing items were donated to The Way at Sisterhood, Incorporated. The money was divided with \$173.00 going to Sisterhood, Inc. and \$172.00 going to the **Ladle of Love** food program at St. Mary's Church.

Additionally, The United Women in Faith has donated \$100.00 each to the Sisterhood, Inc. and St Mary's Ladle of Love program. Thank you again, for your generosity.

Thanks,  
Betsy, Margie, Faye and Midge

## *Christmas Memorials and Poinsettia Dedications*

We have a tradition at Broad Street UMC where we honor and remember those dear to us with flowers or donations at both Christmas and Easter. Listed below are those who were remembered and honored this Christmas season.

### **Poinsettias**

#### **In memory of**

Robert & Miriam McElhinney  
Prescillo Fellesco  
Bob Danser  
Judith Ann Dillon (Lucas)  
Loved Ones  
Eugene Tucker  
Elmira Bodine  
Bill Lucas - brother  
Richelle Lucas and Sally Ox - sisters  
Our parents, Doug and Sayoko Sourwine,  
and all of our grandparents  
Florence Burkley  
Thomas and Phyllis Fyfe  
Joe and MaryEllen Jaskot  
My Mother & Dad: Anna & Lee Rainier

#### **Given by**

Barbara Miller (daughter)  
Cecile F. Danser  
Rob and Cecile Danser  
Dillon & Solan Families  
Doris Waitz  
Judith Tucker  
Judith Tucker  
Betsy Grover and Margie Hoffman  
Betsy Grover and Margie Hoffman  
The Sourwines  
Faye Habingreither  
Joe and Laura Jaskot  
Joe and Laura Jaskot  
Daughter, Dr. Helen L. Rainier



## Donations

### In memory of

Vera McVaugh

William Sampson

Vera MacMillan

Robert MacMillan

Rebecca Simon

Richie Crook

Charles & Naomi Crook

Harvey & Beck Trauger

John Crook

Raymond Wolvin

Bill Lucas

Joel & Jeanette Reed

Herb Borgstrom

Jack & Eva Crocker

Denise Kelly

Aunt Ann Johnson & Aunt Laura Conlins

Grandparents

Bill Lucas

### In honor of

Loyal Church Workers

Marsha Danser, Laura Jaskot and Cindy Borgstrom  
for all they do for Sunday School and our kids

Judy Schetler and the BSUMC Church Choir

### Given by

Steve Sampson

Steve Sampson

Steve Sampson

Steve Sampson

Steve Sampson

The Crook Family

The Crook Family

The Crook Family

The Crook Family

Joyce Wolvin

Doris Waitz

Tom & JoAnn Repici

Dennis & Cindy Borgstrom

Dennis & Cindy Borgstrom

Dennis & Cindy Borgstrom

Dr. Helen L. Rainier

Dr. Helen L. Rainier

Joe and Laura Jaskot

### Given by

Doris Waitz

The Sourwines

Dr. Helen L. Rainier