

We are here to: Love God, Love our Neighbor and Serve the World.

November 24, 2019 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Gathering in God's Presence

*All are welcome to this time of worship, and in this faith community.
If you are visiting today, please visit the Welcome table at the entrance*

Announcements and Welcome

Greeting One Another

Prelude *Autumn Prayer*

Gathering Words¹

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the LORD is God. It is God that made us, and we are God's own;

We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

Give thanks to God, bless God's name.

For the LORD is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness is to all generations.

Let us give thanks and be grateful for all that God has done

Let us keep God as our center as we gather to worship, and as we go into the world.

***Opening Hymn** *We Gather Together* UMH #131

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading Philippians 4:2-13; Luke 1:67-80

Anthem (9 AM) *My Peace* Woody and Arlo Guthrie

(10:30) *Here I Am, Lord* Shutte
Youth Choir and Voices of Hope

Young Disciples' Time Please join in singing verse 1 of *Jesus Loves Me*

Reception of New Member (10:30) – Michael Zygo

***Proclaiming Hymn** *Let All Things Now Living* TFWS #2008

Message Grateful The Rev. Doug Mackey

Responding to God's Word

Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory (9 AM) *Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise* Welsh melody

(10:30) *Hymn of Grateful Praise* adapted by Joel Raney
Chancel Choir

***Singing Our Praises** *Doxology* UM Hymnal #94

***Prayer of Dedication**

Our Church Family in Prayer

Prayer Song *Sanctuary* TFWS #2164

Pastoral Prayer

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.

***Hymn of Going Forth** *Now Thank We All Our God* UM Hymnal #152

Benediction

Postlude

Flowers on the altar today are in loving memory of Evvie Currie, in honor of her birthday this past week, given by her children, Meg and Robert.

Going Forth To Serve

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 24 Thanksgiving Offering

9 AM Confirmation Class
9 AM Worship followed by Coffee Hour
10:30 AM Worship/Sunday School/Coffee Hour
11:30 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal
12 PM Annual Church Conference Meeting
2:30 PM Girl Scouts

Monday, November 25

9 AM Early Birds
6 PM Brownies
7 PM Special K Circle

Tuesday, November 26

7 PM Boy Scouts

Wednesday, November 27

8:30 AM Fixits
6 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, November 28 Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 29 Office Closed

Sunday, December 1 Fair Trade Sale

9 AM Worship followed by Coffee Hour
10:05 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship/Sunday School/Coffee Hour
11:30 AM Youth Choir/Voices of Hope Rehearsal
12 PM Pageant Rehearsal
Blood Pressure Screenings

2019 Ending the Epidemic Summit - Maintaining the Momentum, Expanding the Vision! The New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute (NYSDOH AI) is hosting the fourth annual Ending the Epidemic Summit on December 3-4, 2019 at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center. The World AIDS Day Commissioner's Special Recognition Awards Ceremony will be held during the Summit, on Dec. 3rd at 2:30 PM. This year, the CNY-HIV Care Network nominated three pastors, including Pastor Doug, and University UMC in Syracuse for their years of effort in working with the Network and the HIV Community in Central NY. This nomination was chosen to be recognized by the NY State. Information about the Summit can be found at https://whova.com/web/ndai_201912/

Announcements

TODAY Coffee Hour is hosted by Study Groups

Annual Church Conference Today at noon. All are welcome. All church members have vote, as we elect leaders for 2020, set pastors' salaries, and consider our mission for the coming year.

Our Thanksgiving offering will be taken today during both services. All donations will be given to Concerned For The Hungry, an organization that gives away many Thanksgiving baskets in Schenectady, but is also active all year in helping to alleviate hunger in nearby communities. We are also asking for donations of non-perishable food. Most food will be given to the three food pantries we support (EOC in Saratoga, ECHO in Rock City Falls and SICM in Schenectady), but a small amount is kept here for the pastors to give away at their discretion. Thank you for remembering those who are hungry! We appreciate your kindness.

—The Outreach Commission

Advent Night Friday, December 6. Potluck, music, decorating the Chrismon Tree and lighting the Memorial Tree.

Mayan Hands & SERRV Fair Trade Sale December 1 and 8, after both worship services.

The Early Birds Study is held every Monday at 9 AM. An Advent study, begins November 25. The book is entitled *Light of the World*, by Amy-Jill Levine. **Seekers-Sisters in Christ** will also be starting the same Advent study, using the same book, beginning on Thursday, December 5 at 9:00 AM. For questions, contact Libby Horn at 518-399-3856.

Ushers Needed We have an urgent need for ushers at the second worship service. Please consider giving of your service if you are able. Once a month would be all that is required. There is a sign up sheet outside of Knight Hall, or you may talk with Metta (399-6815).

Community Tree Lighting and Concert On Tuesday, December 3, join in on the 6:30 PM tree lighting and Christmas caroling at The Ballston Library in Burnt Hills. At 6:45 PM, Santa will arrive on a fire truck and pass out candy canes. At 7:30 PM, a free concert by the Music Company Orchestra will be held in the BHBL High School auditorium.

Help us Decorate the Sanctuary for Advent This year our theme is going to be angels rather than creches. Please consider bringing in an angel from home to place on the sanctuary window sills. Advent begins Sunday, December 1, so please bring in your angels starting Thanksgiving week. Don't worry if you don't have an angel to share; we will have an opportunity to make angels at the evening Advent Celebration on December 6.

Memorial Christmas Tree You are invited to remember your deceased loved ones with "paper lights" representing the real lights on our Memorial Christmas Tree. Donations of \$1.00 per name are requested. We will be collecting names and donations during the coffee hour after both services today and next Sunday, 12/1.

The Giving Tree is set up in the sanctuary and full of "ornaments" that you may choose to pick from. On the back of each "ornament" is a gift request. Please purchase the item, wrap it and ATTACH THE ORNAMENT TAG (the ornament information is the only way we know who gets the gift). The best way to attach the ornament tag is to securely tape the string to the package. Bring the gifts to church and place under the Giving Tree by **December 8**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Audrey or Mark Witkofsky (399-2796). Thank you for your generosity.

Heifer International It's that time again for chicks and ducks and of course, that ever-popular water buffalo! We'll be collecting donations during coffee hour in Knight Hall December 1, 8 and 15, for this worthy organization that provides livestock and training for struggling and hungry families in underserved and overlooked parts of our world. We were able to donate an "Ark" (\$5,000) last year, thanks to your generosity and will be receiving a commemorative plaque from Heifer International in special recognition of our generosity. Thank you for your support, as always! Any questions, please call Joy Walsh at 384-0351.

Community Harvest Dinner For International students of Union College who can't go home during the break. Open to all. Location: Hale House on the campus of Union College, Monday, December 2 at 6 PM. Campus Protestant Ministry provides the turkey; community guests provide the sides. RSVP with Tim Coombs at coombst@union.edu

Box Tops for Education Just a reminder for the Box Tops for Education "scanners". When you are asked for the receiver of your "Box Top", tap in *Red Bird Christian School*. Thank you—Dorothy Hughes, Outreach Comm.



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