

***We are here to: Love God, Love Our Neighbor and Serve the World.***  
**November 26, 2023 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Prelude** *Come, Rejoice in God (Jubilate Servite)* Berthier

**Greetings and Welcome** Pastor Brendan J. Fox

**\*Call to Worship** from Enfleshed Liturgies

Since the beginning, God has been relentlessly pursuing us in love.  
**Though our faithfulness ebbs and flows, God's love endures forever.**  
 Taking on flesh like ours, God became one with humanity in the person of Jesus Christ.  
**God lived and moved and ministered in the margins of power.**  
 God incarnate was not what we expected. We did not recognize God in Jesus. Still, we struggle to recognize God with us.  
**And yet, God continues to dwell in our midst. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* UMH #327

**Congregational Prayer** by Bruce Prewer (adapted)

Gracious God,  
 Open my eyes to see as you see  
 and weep as you weep;  
 Open my heart to love the broken  
 and care for those without hope;  
 Open my hands to hold what I have lightly  
 and to share cheerfully;  
 Open my mouth to speak for the voiceless  
 and to shout for mercy;  
 Open my ears to the gentle whispers of your Spirit  
 and to follow your guiding voice;  
 Open up my life to you, O God,  
 to your Hope, to your Peace,  
 to your Joy, and to your Love.  
 In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Anthem**

**Hymn** *Jesus Loves Me (Verse 1)* UMH #191

**A Time for Young Disciples**

**Hymn** *Jesus Loves Me (Verse 3)* UMH #191

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 25:31-46

**Message** Pastor Brendan J. Fox

\*You are invited to stand as you are able or comfortable

**Hymn of Response** *Holy Spirit, Truth Divine* UMH #465

**Invitation to Generosity: Offering Our Gifts and Our Thanks**  
**Special Offering: UM Student Sunday**

**Offertory** *Give Me Jesus* African American spiritual, arr. Nix

**\*Singing Our Praises** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

**Prayer Song** *Come, Emmanuel* Paris

**Pastoral Prayer** Pastor Brendan J. Fox

**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 Hymn** *Grace Alone* TFWS #2162

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude** *Shepherd Me, O God* Haugen

Please join us for Coffee Hour after the service hosted by the Outreach Committee.

WEEKLY CALENDAR	
<b>Sunday, November 26</b>	
9:00 AM	Worship
10:30 AM	Worship
<b>Monday, November 27</b>	
9:30 AM	Earlybirds
2:00 PM	Special K/KH
5:30 PM	Scouts/KH
6:30 PM	Scouts
6:45 PM	Scouts
<b>Tuesday, November 28</b>	
7:00 PM	Scouts/KH
<b>Wednesday, November 29</b>	
8:30 AM	Fix-its
9:30 AM	Explorers
7:00 PM	AA/Fireside Room
7:00 PM	SJAG/KH
<b>Thursday, November 30</b>	
9:15 AM	Seekers
6:30 PM	Scouts
7:00 PM	Choir rehearsal
<b>Friday, December 1</b>	
6:00 PM	Advent Potluck/Tree decorating
<b>Saturday, December 2</b>	
8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast/KH
10:30 AM	Caregiver's support group/Fireside room
3:00 PM	Shirley Hirt Memorial Service
<b>Sunday, December 3</b>	
9:00 AM	Worship
9:45 AM	Youth Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM	Worship
11:30 AM	Voices of Hope
12:00 PM	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
3:00 PM	Scouts/KH
3:30 PM	Scouts

*To find out the latest event information, please regularly check the **Events Calendar on our website** at [www.nybhumc.com](http://www.nybhumc.com). The calendar is constantly updated. To add something your group would like to share, please fill out a Calendar Request Form located in the Main Office or email us at [burnthillsumc@gmail.com](mailto:burnthillsumc@gmail.com). to have one forwarded to you.*

## Welcome

- **Welcome to worship!** If you are new, **please fill out a welcome card** found in the pews, if you'd like to receive more information. **Thank you for coming** to spend part of your Sunday with us. We hope you experience a sense of God's love and grace here today.
- We will be **collecting prayer cards** during the offering. If you would like your **prayer request** forwarded to the Prayer Chain, please remember to check the appropriate box on the card.
- If you need an updated **church directory**, there are copies available in the mailbox outside the office.

## Announcements

- There will be a memorial service for **Shirley Hirt** on Saturday, December 2 at 3:00 pm. A reception will follow the service.
- The **SERRV/Mayan Fair Trade Sale** will take place after **both services in Knight Hall today and Dec. 3**. There will be Christmas ornaments, woven goods, baskets, placements, tablecloths, fair trade coffee and chocolates. **Come shop where your dollars make a real difference in people's lives.** The Outreach Commission
- **Nov. 26: Student Sunday Offering**—Our congregation partners with other Methodist organizations to equip United Methodist students to lead our church into the future. Support our students in prayer and by giving a generous offering to the Gift of Hope Scholarship. You can give in person by marking your offering "Student Sunday" or online by choosing the "Student Sunday offering" from the drop down menu.
- Our **Thanksgiving offering** will be taken during the month of **November**. All money will be given to **Concerned For The Hungry**. We are also looking for donations of non-perishable food to be given to food pantries we support as well as to **keep food on the shelves near Knight Hall**. Thank you for your kindness. The Outreach Commission
- **Memorial Christmas Lights:** Is there a loved one that you would want to lift up in remembrance this holiday season? Sign up after both services in Knight Hall on **today** or contact Cathy Bryson at [catbryson@aol.com](mailto:catbryson@aol.com) or 518-399-3253 (landline) or Robyn Axon in the office. The tree will be lit on **December 1** after the Advent Potluck.
- The **Giving Tree** is **setup and full of "ornaments"**. On the back of each "ornament" is a gift request. Please buy the item, wrap it and **ATTACH THE ORNAMENT** (the ornament information is the only way we know who gets the gift). The best way to attach the ornament is to securely tape the string to the package (this allows the information to be read). Bring the gifts to church and place under the Giving Tree by **December 17, 2023**. We need the gifts back by this date so we can sort them for distribution prior to Christmas. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mark Witkofsky (669-2978). Thank you for your generosity.

- Heifer International -For more than 75 years, Heifer International has worked with people around the globe to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth. Animals, trees and seeds are provided to families to improve food security. Your gifts save lives. We will have an information table in Knight Hall after Sunday services in December. Please stop by to see the animal gift cards and brochures. Your donation will be gratefully received. The Outreach Commission
- Christmas Offering -Our Christmas Offering helps neighbors near and far. Our church keeps none of your gifts received from this offering. This year we will again support **Schenectady Community Ministries, RISE (support for refugees and recent immigrants), The Guardian House Future Playground Fund, Chocacente Scholars ( Managua, Nicaragua), Captain/ CHS and the food pantries of SICM, Lifeworks in Ballston Spa and Rensselaer UMC**. Thank you for giving to people in need. The Outreach Commission
- **Thank you for the generous pledges that have come in! Pledges for 2024 are still welcome** with this QR code. Pledge cards are available in the narthex or online. Thank you for supporting our shared ministry through BHUMC with your gifts.
- **Pledge envelopes**—They are in the narthex! If you would like envelopes for 2024 giving, please let an usher know.



## Save the Date

- **Dec. 1: Advent Dinner and Memorial Tree Lighting at 6:00pm**
- **Dec. 3: The first Christmas Pageant rehearsal is at 12:00pm.**
- **Dec. 24:**  
**Christmas Eve Services**
  - 9:30 am **Advent IV:** One morning service focusing on the culmination of the Advent season.
  - 3:30 pm **Short and Sweet Christmas Eve**—If you'd like to be home before dark, have dinner guests later in the evening or kiddos to get to bed (fairly!) early, this informal 30 minute service is for you. Come as you are—pj's or Christmas dress—whatever you like! Low sensory.
  - 7:00 pm **Children and Youth Christmas Pageant**
  - 9:00 pm **Traditional Candlelight Service with Lessons and Carols**

**Lead Pastor, Amy Gregory:** [revgregorybhunc@gmail.com](mailto:revgregorybhunc@gmail.com)  
**Church phone: 518-399-5144 press "1"**  
**Associate Pastor, Brendan Fox:** [pastorbrendanbhunc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbrendanbhunc@gmail.com)  
**Church phone: 518-399-5144 press "2"**

# Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

## November 26, 2023



### BHUMC Welcome Statement

*At Burnt Hills UMC, we aspire to be a community of grace and unconditional love, where all people will find hospitality, compassion and mercy. We seek to welcome all on the journey, to grow together in faith and to go out to serve the world. We welcome people of any age, culture, race, nationality, ability, marital status, economic status, sexual orientation and gender identity, as full participants in the life of our congregation. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be part of Jesus' movement of love and justice for all of God's children. All are welcome to worship, grow and serve with us.*

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[www.nybhunc.com](http://www.nybhunc.com)

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