



**Albany**

First United  
Methodist Church

*November 27, 2022*  
*First Sunday in Advent*

**Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor**  
**Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director**

# Centering Thoughts

It is now, at Advent, that I am given the chance to suspend all expectation...and instead to revel in the mystery. —Jerusalem Jackson Greer

Out of the Darkness, Into the Light: The Time before Christmas is the Time of Light and mutual Love.  
—Sir Kristian Goldmund Aumann

One of the essential paradoxes of Advent: that while we wait for God, we are with God all along, that while we need to be reassured of God's arrival, or the arrival of our homecoming, we are already at home.  
—Michelle Blake

Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ.—John Paul II

O Consuming Fire, Spirit of Love, descend into my soul and make all in me as an Incarnation of the Word.  
—St. Elizabeth of the Trinity

## Welcome!

### Prelude

### Invitation to Worship

Debbie Maddy

Let us worship God and invite Christ to reign in our heart every day of the year.  
**Holy God, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Hymn:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

UMH #211 vv. 1-4

**Scripture:**

Isaiah 11:1-10

**The Christian Year:** Advent (purple)

Pastor Lura

**Lighting the Advent Wreath**

Debbie & Bill Maddy

**Hymn:** *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

UMH #251

**The Christian Year:** Christmas (white)

**Scripture:** Luke 2:1-7

**The Christian Year:** Epiphany (green)

**Scripture:** Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

**Hymn:** *We Three Kings*

UMH #254 vv. 1 & 5

**The Christian Year:** Lent (purple)

**Scripture:** Matthew 27:35-39, 50

**Hymn:** *The Old Rugged Cross*

UMH #504 vv. 1 and 2

**The Christian Year:** Easter (white)

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:1-7

**Hymn:** *Up from the Grave He Arose*

UMH #322

**Prayer**

Pastor Lura

**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.**

**The Christian Year:** Pentecost (red)

**Scripture:** John 20:20-22

**Hymn:** *Spirit of the Living God*

UMH #393 x2

**Closing Blessing**

Pastor Lura

The Spirit of the living God falls afresh on you. Follow Jesus Christ through all the seasons of the year. May the deep peace of Christ be with you, the strong arms of God sustain you, and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you, today and always. Amen.

**Postlude**



**Announcements:**

~ Help provide Christmas gifts for the children in the CPS parenting class that meets at our church. There are tags in the Sanctuary entryway. Each tag lists a needed item. Take a tag, buy the item, attach the tag to the item, and return the tagged gift to the church by December 11. Put the gift in a gift bag or leave it unwrapped.

~ There will be an ushers' meeting right after church on Sunday, December 11, in the Sanctuary. Ushers will be scheduling January through June, 2023. Please come and bring your calendar. Anyone who would like to join our ushers, please come to the meeting and/or contact Tam or Tom Turpin.

- ~ During the organ postlude at the conclusion of the worship service, you may choose to leave or stay to listen.
- ~ Volunteers are invited to stay after the worship service today, November 27, and help put up the rest of the Christmas decorations.
- ~ Today, November 27, is the first day of Advent, a season to prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Free Advent devotional booklets and children's books are on the table in the entryway.
- ~ The colored strips in the bulletin will be used during the worship service. If you don't plan to take them home, you may place them in the marked container in the entryway, and our Early Learning Center children will use them for crafts. To make things easier, you may place your bulletin in the container along with the strips and Rachel will recycle it for you.
- ~ The Advent Organ Recitals will be online and in-person in the Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. each Sunday through December 18. Beverly Ratajak, organist emeritus from Corvallis FUMC, will play today, November 27. The meditative music is designed to give you an opportunity to center yourself in the real reason for the season.
- ~ Copies of the December issue of the church newsletter, The Tower Notes, are on the entryway table.
- ~ Choir practice is each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- ~ You are invited to stay for coffee, tea and conversation in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service next Sunday, December 4.
- ~ Our church parsonage is an Oxford House where women in recovery live with their children. Our November special offering will provide Christmas gift cards for the women and children at Oxford House. Note on your check that it is for "Oxford House."
- ~ The seasons and colors of the Christian year are: Advent (purple or blue); Christmas (white and gold); Epiphany (green); Lent (purple); Easter (white and gold); and Pentecost and the season after Pentecost (red and then green).

### **Contact Information:**

Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen  
lura@albanymethodist.org  
**Office:** 541-928-3505  
**Cell:** 503-269-1714

Office Manager: Rachel McKirdy  
rachel@albanymethodist.org  
**Office:** 541-928-3505  
**Church Website:** albanymethodist.org

~ The church office is open Tue, Wed, Thur: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. ~