

# Rockport United Methodist Church

November 28, 2021



1ST SUNDAY *OF Advent*

**Rockport United Methodist Church**  
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# First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

10:00 am

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Keith & Nathan Kopko

## & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**LEADER:** But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

**PEOPLE:** **When we light a candle in the darkness, it helps us find our way. In darkness we lose direction. We cannot see where we have been or where we are going. A single candle, shining brightly, helps us find our way home again.**

**LEADER:** A single candle, shining brightly gives us hope. The story begins with the anticipation of a child. A child who will inspire us. A child who will be our living hope.

**PEOPLE:** **We pray to You now, loving Father, that hope is leading us home to You, with this single light brilliantly leading us.**

**LEADER:** We light this candle in hope. (Light Candle) We pray now to renew in us all hope, God of promise, and into our darkness shine on our path home. Amen.

## HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

UMH 211

## UNISON PRAYER

**Righteous one, to you alone we lift our souls; in you alone, we place our trust; for you alone we wait all day long. For you are the God of our salvation, abounding in mercy and steadfast love. Help us remain alert and watchful for the coming of your promised one—the one who comes with power and glory, the one drawing near to bring our salvation. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 25 NIV

1 In you, Lord my God, I put my trust. 2 I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. 3 No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause. 4 Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. 5 Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. 6 Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, are good. Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. 8 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. 9 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. 10 All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.

## THE CHILDREN'S TIME TO LEAD US

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"Pie Jesu from Requiem"  
Flute: Mickey Hopp Piano: Susan Shick

Andrew Lloyd Weber

### PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

PASTORAL PRAYER  
LORD'S PRAYER

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

(Place your offering and 2022 pledge cards in the treasure chest at the back of the church, mail in your giving or go to the GIVE tab on the website:rockportumc.org)

### HYMN

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

UMH 216

### SERMON

"The Best of My Love"

Rev. Don Kraps

### HYMN

"People, Look East"

UMH 202

### UNISON BENEDICTION

**Beyond the darkness, there is a star. Beyond the noise, there is an angel song.  
Beyond the rush, there is a wondrous stillness. May the God of Advent days  
touch our lives with hints of a holy night.**

### POSTLUDE

### SERVING THE LORD AT ROCKPORT

Pastor  
Director of Christian Education/Youth  
Lay Leader  
Music Director/Organist  
Church Office Administrator  
Lector  
Sound/Video

Rev. Don Kraps  
Kira Cimino Holchin  
Jim Spallino  
Susan Shick  
Sara Chapman  
Nathan Kopko  
Scott Holchin

### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

#### Sunday, November 28, 2021

8:30-9:00am - Early Morning Service

10:00am - In-Person Worship & Live Streamed

#### Tuesday, November 30, 2021

6:30pm - Choir rehearsal

#### Wednesday, December 1, 2021

6:30-8:00pm - Good News Kids & M&M's

6:30-8:00pm - Youth Group Homework Hang-out, Rm. 17(Youth Rm.)

#### Friday, December 3, 2021

9:45am - Al-Anon

#### Sunday, December 5, 2021, Second Sunday of Advent

8:30-9:00am - Early Morning Service

10:00am - In-Person Worship & Live Streamed

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:**

To date we have 33 pledges totaling \$67,242. If you haven't turned in your pledge card yet there are some available by the treasure chest in the narthex. Also, we received one pledge for \$35/week or \$1820/year with no name on it. If you think this is yours please see Sara Chapman. Thanks.

**PRAYER TENT:** We welcome you to stop by the Prayer Tent! Feel free to pray, journal, worship, sit, kneel, stand, rejoice, mourn, and everything in-between! Pray in the way that is comfortable to you. This is YOUR quiet time with God.

**MEN'S GROUP DECEMBER CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION:** The Annual Rockport Men's Group Christmas Celebration will be on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Nick Berardi's home: 1377 Adelaide Street, Westlake, Ohio 44145. Nick will provide pasta, meatballs and sausage. Bring a salad, vegetables, side dish or desert and your Christmas spirit! We always have a great time at this festive gathering.

**BOOK CLUB:** Please join us on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the church parlor. We are reading the book *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley. This thriller novel takes place on an island off the coast of Ireland, guests gather to celebrate two people joining their lives together as one. The groom: handsome and charming, a rising television star. The bride: smart and ambitious, a magazine publisher. It's a wedding for a magazine, or for a celebrity: the designer dress, the remote location, the luxe party favors, the boutique whiskey. The cell phone service may be spotty and the waves may be rough, but every detail has been expertly planned and will be expertly executed. But perfection is for plans, and people are all too human. As the champagne is popped and the festivities begin, resentments and petty jealousies begin to mingle with the reminiscences and well wishes. The groomsmen begin the drinking game from their school days. The bridesmaid not-so-accidentally ruins her dress. The bride's oldest (male) friend gives an uncomfortably caring toast. And then someone turns up dead. Who didn't wish the happy couple well? And perhaps more important, why? Hope to see you all on January 17<sup>th</sup> for fellowship and discussion!

**CHOIR:** Enjoy singing? Enjoy laughing? Enjoy being part of a group? Want to be a part of Worship? Then consider joining choir. We meet every Tuesday from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. We sing twice a month at the 10:00am worship. Hope to see you there!