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Date \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

I check in at \_\_\_\_\_ am / pm

Surgery is at \_\_\_\_\_ am / pm

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☐ Please do not publicize.

☐ Please have a pastor call me.

**To give an electronic offering  
via your PayPal account,  
please scan the QR code.**



**Welcome, guests!**  
If you are our guest today, we welcome you in the name of Jesus. We want you to enjoy worship and experience it in a way that is best for you.

*\*Stand only as you are comfortable and able.*

**The altar flowers are in loving memory of Betty Lou Harris by Lisa.**

**Ongoing Food Drive with Community Services League**

With the growing need for food in our community we are delivering to CSL after the 2nd and last Sunday of every month. The shopping cart will be out to collect your donations and remind you to bring donations at any time. With your help, we will increase the tangible ways we are loving our neighbors struggling during this difficult time. CSL requests:

- Meals in a can with pop tops (chili, stew, chicken, tuna or ravioli).
- Cases of bottled water.
- Electrolyte drink packets or bottled drinks like Gatorade.



**Christmas Karaoke with Santa 12/20 4pm -6 pm**

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is by singing loud for all to hear." ~Buddy the Elf (if you haven't seen Elf, you're missing out!). Our next Karaoke night will be all about Christmas and SANTA! Come sing your favorite Christmas tunes, make a Christmas craft, and snap a photo with Santa. It's sure to be a great time!

**Hillcrest Transitional Housing**

Hillcrest offers individuals, families, and unaccompanied youth a disciplined educational program within a caring, supportive environment to move beyond homelessness. For many years, we have supported families and youth at Hillcrest, and this Advent we will be focusing our efforts to support their ministry through the Hat and Mitten Tree, as well as our special Christmas offering from the Sunday before Christmas and Christmas Eve. There will be continuing opportunities to clean apartments, provide for the food pantry and come alongside them in missional partnership.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 12/8 Making Room Devotion, 5:30pm - 6:00pm in the Library
- 12/8 Children's Choir, 5:30pm - 6:00pm in the Sanctuary
- 12/9 Making Room Bible Study, 2:00pm - 3:00pm in the Library
- 12/9 Choir Practice, 7p in the Sanctuary
- 12/10 Glory Ringers Bell Choir, 7:00pm in the Bell Choir Room
- 12/11 Prayer Circle, 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
- 12/11 Starshine Preschool Program, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary
- 12/20 Christmas Karaoke with Santa, 4:00pm-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service, 4:00pm in the Sanctuary

**Order of Worship - 10:15 am**

*\*Stand as you are able*

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

*Carol of the Bells*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*Lift up your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #213 (verses 1, 2, 3 & 4)*

**\*Call to Worship & Opening Prayer**

**PRAISING**

**\*Praising Hymn**

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed #203 (verses 1, 2, 3 & 4)*

**PROCLAIMING**

**Lighting the Advent Wreath**

**Children's Moment**

Tricia Green

**Proclamation Hymn**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel #211 (verses 1 & 3)*

**Prayer for the People & Lord's Prayer**

Pastor Ross

**Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSV)

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Message**

*Welcome Strangers*

Pastor Angie

**RESPONDING**

**Communion**

**Offering**

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

**\*Doxology**

**\*Responding Hymn**

*The First Noel #245 (verses 1, 2 & 5)*

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*The Golden Trumpet*

**DECEMBER 7, 2025**

Welcome to Independence First UMC!

We are glad you are here! We want to know you are here, please fill out and tear off this section, then put it in the offering plate.

**Name(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to receive church emails and the Weekly Connection.

☐ 1st Time Guest      ☐ Member

☐ 2nd Time Guest      ☐ Regular Attendee

☐ Looking for a church home.

☐ Out of town guest.

**Poinsettia Order**

The cost is \$10 per plant.

Final date to order is December 8.

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In appreciation of \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of plants ordered** \_\_\_\_\_