

*December 7, 2025: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*~~ GATHERING BEFORE GOD ~~*

**GREETINGS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ JOYS  
~ CONCERNS ~ GOD MOMENTS ~**

† **HYMN “All Earth Is Waiting”**

**UMH #210**

*The Light of Christ Enters*

**OPENING PRAYER** (unison)

**Gracious Lord who brings new life where hope is lost,  
Open our ears to Your word, awaken our hearts to Your  
love, and renew our spirits in Your presence,  
That we may tell Your story with our lives as all the  
earth awaits Your coming. Amen.**

*~~ PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD ~~*

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 11:1-10

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

† **HYMN “Advent Song”**

**TFWS #2090 v.2**

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

**NRSV**

**CHORAL HYMN “I Come with Joy”**

**UMH #617**

**EPISTLE LESSON:** Romans 15:4-13

**GOSPEL LESSON:** Matthew 3:1-12

**CHILDREN’S/INTERACTIVE TIME**

† **HYMN “Hail to the Lord's Anointed”**

**UMH #203**

**MESSAGE “Signs and Stories”**

*~~ RESPONDING IN THE SPIRIT ~~*

**CONFESSION and PARDON**

**UMH p.12**

*~~ THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION ~~*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**UMH p.13**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**UMH #895**

*All who seek to know Christ are invited to partake.*

## PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

† Doxology

UMH #95

## OFFERTORY / PASTORAL PRAYER

*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."* James 5:16

*~~ SENDING FORTH ~~*

*The Light of Christ Leads Us into the World*

† HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" UMH #196

## BENEDICTION

† Postlude "Love Came Down at Christmas" UMH #242

† *Standing as you are able to the glory of God*

## Scriptures for December 14 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent):

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10;

Matthew 11:2-11

*Thank you for joining us for worship.*

*~~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~~*

## TODAY:

9:00 am Worship – Georgetown UMC

10:30 am Worship – South Otselic UMC

## WEEKLY / BIWEEKLY / MONTHLY:

† **Pastor in the office** – Wed 11 am to 2 pm, Thurs 1-4 pm

† **Youth Group** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, noon to 2 pm, So.Ot.

† **Administrative Board** – Georgetown, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 8:15 am;  
South Otselic, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11:45(ish) am

† **Food Pantry** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month 3-6 pm  
Special requests call Kevin Grewe 607-337-8941

† **Sunshine Shop** Thu 10-4; Fri 11-5; Sat 9-noon  
– Next open Nov 20-22; Dec 4-6; Dec 18-20; *closed Jan*  
– For emergency clothing, call 315-653-7490.

† **60+ dinners** – biweekly, South Otselic UMC, 5 pm;  
upcoming Dec 5, Dec 19; *no more after Jan 1*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

† Christmas Caroling – Dec 19, 5 pm, South Otselic UMC

- † Blue Christmas service – Dec 21, normal service times
- † Christmas Eve – Dec 24, 5 pm Georgetown UMC,  
7 pm South Otselic UMC

**PRAYER LIST:** (Short Term):

**From 11/30** – Dana Brussel, Rose Candey, Linda Ellis, Rufus Greene, Mathilda MacKenzie, Ruby Metcalf, Pam Simmons, victims of Hong Kong high rise fire, homeless

**From 11/23** – Janet Brown, Ella Simmons, Wenda West, holiday travelers

**From 11/16** – Gail Evans-Burpee, Jay (& Patsy) Graham, Gordon Kupiec, Marcia Pagett, Lolita White, family of Scott Bartholomew, family of Betty Law, Georgetown UMC

**From 11/9** – Kevin Grewe, Deena Johnson

(Long Term): Jonna Bartlett, Richard Bishop, David Boyer, Dana Brussel, Paul Carson, Margaret Chase, Ron Colasudo, Kaity Davis, Doug (& Kathe) Evans, Linda Excell, Ted Gargas, Kevin Grewe, Roger Hakes, Chuck Hathaway, Patti Lamandia, Diane MacGregor, Cassandra & Christopher Marquard, Chris Marquard, Maverick Mesko, Aaron Miller, Phil Mudge, Mitch Mullenax, Jenny Naber, Elaine Perkins, John & Carole Roalef, Kate Robinson, Justin Sheldon, Matt & Annette Sheldon, Cathy Silver, Ella Simmons, Normajean Stark, Kenneth Sullivan, Angela (Graves) Szlamczynski, David Wentworth

Travel mercies for family and friends

Our men and women in the military

World leaders, our country, & the need for peace

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:**

**December:** 2-Melissa Nelson; 14-Liz Bronson;

18-Annie Campbell; 19-Pete Kalin; 22-Henry Campbell;

25-Gail Evans-Burpee; 31-Betty Graham

**January:** 1-Paul Carson, BJ Bishop; 4-Rick Benson;

6-Deedrick Bertholf; 8-Peter Kalin; 14-Kaitlyne Davis;

18-Keven Simmons; 23-George Lott; 24-Lonnie Hakes;

31-Madison Davis, Sarah Hite

# SIGNS AND STORIES

A photograph of a small, white wooden church with a tall, dark steeple. The church has a gabled roof and a small bell tower. A sign in front of the church reads "WELCOME" and "SUNDAY SCHOOL". The church is surrounded by green grass and trees.

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## Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

NRSV

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
- <sup>2</sup> **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**
- <sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**
- <sup>5</sup> May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- <sup>6</sup> **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**
- <sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- <sup>18</sup> **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**
- <sup>19</sup> Blessed be his glorious name forever;  
**may his glory fill the whole earth.**  
**Amen and Amen.**

## Isaiah 11:1-10

- <sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of

counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

## **Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness

and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

<sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

<sup>9</sup> and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";

<sup>10</sup> and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

<sup>11</sup> and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

<sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## **Matthew 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,

<sup>2</sup> "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

<sup>5</sup> Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan,

<sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

<sup>8</sup> Bear fruit worthy of repentance.

<sup>9</sup> Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

<sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

<sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."