

PRAYER CONCERNS

Pam Barrett	Ellen Graham	Annette McGary	Kathi Parker
Randy Boyer	Tammye Green	Mary Meilcarek-Clark	Keith Reynolds
Paula Davis	Ann Irwin	Mary Neitzke	Harriett Silvey
Henry Durbin	Nell Kirkpatrick	Robert Neitzke	Lucille Thompson

ROUTINE FACILITY USAGE:

<u>Sundays:</u> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 1:30 pm PRAY Program	<u>Tuesdays</u> 5:30 pm Soccer Practice HIATUS 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<u>Thursdays</u> 5:30 pm Soccer Practice HIATUS 7:30 pm N A
<u>Mondays</u> 5:30 pm Soccer Practice HIATUS 6:00 pm Choir Practice	<u>Wednesdays</u> 10:00 am FUEL 11:00 am Ann's Closet (1st & 3rd) 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm N A	<u>Fridays</u> 6:30 pm Sea Scouts <u>Saturdays</u> 4:00 pm N A

THIS WEEK at ST. B:

December 24 at 6:00 pm: Please join us as we celebrate, with quiet anticipation, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at our annual candlelight service.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

PLEASE NOTE:

The Christmas Card Box is on the table outside of the Sanctuary and ready for your St. B family Christmas cards. The Box will be taken down after Epiphany Sunday so insert your Christmas Cards soon.

The Church Office will be closed December 24 through January 1, 2026 in observance of the Christmas and New Years holidays.

Upper Room: Pickup a copy, at either Sanctuary entrance, to guide your daily devotional.
Attendance: Please fill out the attendance pad at the end of your pew.



Growing disciples of Christ for the transformation of our community.



2201 Old Russellville Pike, Clarksville, TN 37040
931- 647-5126 | www.stbumc.com | stbumc@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Corrie Alexander-Willette

All Are Welcome As We Gather To Worship
Fourth Sunday of Advent / Signs & Faithfulness
December 21, 2025

PRELUDE	A Christmas Lullaby	Margaret Fisher
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ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO LIVE IN OUR FAITH Liturgist, Nita Heilman

GREETING:

L: Beloved, God calls to us—like Joseph—through angels and messengers, inviting us to listen for the Spirit's guidance in the midst of half-truths and distractions.

P: We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.

L: Sometimes, angels surprise us (as they did Mary) with good news too fantastical to believe and yet too real—realer than real—to ignore.

P: We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.

L: For generations, God has sent signs of God's coming kingdom in unexpected places—the birth of a child, the wisdom of the lowly, the faithfulness of a carpenter.

P: We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.

L: Come! Let us worship God who calls out to us, inviting us to faithfulness as we watch, wait, and work for the day when the whole world knows the abundant love and grace of Emmanuel, God-with-us.

P: Come! Let us worship as we listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025

*HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful UMH 234

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH See Bulletin Insert

*GLORIA PATRI UMH 70

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY See Bulletin Insert

*HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH 211, Verse 4

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Christ, we long for your coming. Hasten that day when those who seek you in every nation will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit at the table in we

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (con't)

your kingdom. Hasten the day when your kingdom will come in all its glory, and suffering and pain and sickness and oppression and death will be overcome forever. Hasten the day when we will be resurrected as a great multicultural family and live in peace, harmony, joy, and love together in your kingdom. Amen.

Written by Christine Sine on Godspace; re-posted on the re:Worship website at <https://reworship.blogspot.com/2015/12/advent-intercessions.html>

HYMN	O Little Town of Bethlehem	UMH 230
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*SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25

Word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON Rev. Corrie Alexander-Willette

OFFERTORY	While Shepards Watched Their Flocks Congregation Sings	UMH 236
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*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN *Star-Child* TFSW 2095

*SENDING FORTH

*POSTLUDE *Rise Up, Shepard, and Follow* TFWs 2096

Arrangements: Prelude by Jason Tonioli
****Please stand as you're able in body or spirit***

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin and destiny of us all.

We believe in Jesus the Christ—God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn—who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the face of despair. Plunged into death and hell, he broke free the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace will flourish.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.

We believe in the coming reign of God. Announced by the Baptist, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and will be consummated in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven, when all who have passed through the world's deep sorrow will be raised from the waters, robed in righteousness, and gathered into the joyous fulfilment of God's desire.

For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

— written by Nathan Nettleton, and posted on his Laughingbird website.

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

First Reader: Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary's womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy; God's love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand; God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.

All: With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world's judgment.

Second Reader: We light this candle of love as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.

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