



SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-6858

www.irwinfirstumc.org

irwinfirstumc@comcast.net

Like us on *Facebook*

Rev. Bruce R. Judy, Pastor - 724-747-6098 (call or text)

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

Ronald Slavin – Youth Pastor

Laura Willby – Contemporary Music Coordinator

December 6, 2020
The Second Sunday in Advent
December Memory Verse: John 16:33c.
“But take heart. I have overcome the world”

The service is under the control of the Holy Spirit.

GATHERING & WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

PRELUDE “Gabriel’s Message”

MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Jesus is coming back.

P: Come Lord Jesus, come.

All: Amen

***HYMN No. 204 “Emmanuel”**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, His name is called Emmanuel.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING - “CLEAN-UP CREW” - LOVE

8:15 John and Darlene Simpson

10:45 Zoey Furin, David Lyons

WREATH HYMN No. 211 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” v. 2

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

A NATIVITY MOMENT

WORD OF GOD 2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹²as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. ¹⁵Bear in mind that our Lord’s patience means salvation,

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

***CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY** (tune: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.
Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,
As we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

***HYMN No. 242** "Love Came Down at Christmas"

1. Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, Love divine,
Love was born at Christmas; stars and angels gave the sign'
2. Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, Love divine,
Worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?
3. Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

HYMN No. 2233 "Where Children Belong"

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
This is where children belong.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

SPECIAL MUSIC God Almighty, We Are Waiting"

8:15 David Lyons **10:45 Chancel Choir**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

For our joys we say: "Praise the Lord."

For our concerns we say: "Lord, hear our prayers."

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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

SERMON SCRIPTURE Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God ²as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" ³"a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

L: The Word of God for the children of God.

P: Thanks be to God

SERMON "Commitment"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SACRAMENT *All are welcome. Please follow the directions of the ushers.*

HYMN No. 210 "All Earth Is Waiting"

1. All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and the open furrows, the sowing of the Lord.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.
2. Thus says the prophet to those of Israel:
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,'
one whose name is 'God with us', our brother shall be,
with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.
3. Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.
He is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.
4. In lowly stable the Promised One appeared;
Yet, feel his presence throughout the earth today,
for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, with his coming he brings us liberty.

***BENEDICTION**

***MUSIC OF PARTING "Noel Suisse"**

(Please allow the ushers to direct you as you leave the sanctuary.)

***Please stand if you are able.**

ASSISTING WITH TODAY'S SERVICE

Worship Host – Robbyn Slavin

Song Leader – David Lyons



STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT: Each year, the Staff Parish Relations Committee collects contributions from our congregation toward Christmas bonuses for our dedicated Church Staff. Please join the SPRC in showing our appreciation for their work by contributing using the envelopes marked "Love Gift." Envelopes will be available through Sunday, December 20th.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

RESERVATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: Due to pandemic, we are forced to take reservations for our Christmas Eve services. We must limit our attendance to 200 at each service. In the bulletin today is a RSVP slip. You may also go to the church website at www.irwinfirstumc.org or Facebook page at [Irwin First UMC](#) to RSVP. Please have your reservations in by December 15th so that we can make preparation to accommodate everyone who wants to participate.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Feel free to contact Pastor Bruce at any time if you are in need of a pastoral visit.
724-747-6098 (call or text) or email at preacherptl@gmail.com

Sunday, December 6 – Holy Communion 2nd Sunday in Advent, Advent Gift Giving

8:15 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM)
9:30 Youth Sunday School (Grades 6-12),
Harvesters Adult Class,
Prayer Shawl Group, BYKOTA
9:30 Toddler – 5th Grade Sunday School
(see announcement)
10:45 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM) Facebook, YouTube, and
Zoom (Meeting ID# 633 303 454 Password
104289)

Monday, December 7

6:30 Cub Scouts

Tuesday, December 8

9-11:30 AM - Nativity set up
7:00 Trustees
7:30 NA

Wednesday, December 9

10:00 Prayer Group Meeting
(Zoom Meeting ID#311 4389 930, Password 3U22u3)
10:00 QC Meeting
1:00 Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom
(Meeting ID: 826 4011 6693, Passcode 400790)
5:00 Youth Center

Thursday, December 10

6:15 Cathedral Bells
6:30 NA
7:15 Choir

Friday, December 11

9:00 Food Bank Truck – help needed
6:00 Brown Bag Meal

Saturday, December 12

9:00 Food Bank – help needed
6:00 PM Contemporary Service

Sunday, December 13

3rd Sunday in Advent

Advent Gift Giving

8:15 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM)
9:30 Youth Sunday School (Grades 6-12),
Harvesters Adult Class,
Prayer Shawl Group, BYKOTA
9:30 Toddler – 5th Grade Sunday School
(see announcement)
10:45 In-Church & Drive-in Church
(Radio 87.9 FM) Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENTS – 12/6/2020

PROGRESSIVE NATIVITY

Second Week 2020

Today we are observing Mary and Joseph in the Village of Nazareth in Galilee. Mary was now obviously pregnant. It is during the time the Roman Emperor, Augustus sent out a decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) You can almost hear the noise and confusion in the background as the Roman Soldier tries to get the attention of the crowd.

It is written:

Luke 2: 1-5 “At that time the Roman Emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census take when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral town to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judean David’s ancient home.”

Advent Week 3 sneak peek: Continues in Luke 2



Sand Hill Berry Pie Sale for the Boiler Fund Result: Thank you to all who ordered pies and the Harvester's Class who were the runners in helping to deliver the pies to the cars on Sunday! Hope all of you enjoy your pies over the Holidays!

Total funds raised for the Boiler Fund: \$669.60 (this also includes the matching funds). Thank you for helping in keeping our Boiler in tip-top shape, producing heat to keep us warm for many tomorrows.

Your Finance Committee

A Big Thank You to our Faithful Congregation! Our Stewardship Campaign has certainly been challenging with the COVID 19 year we are going through. Thankfully, our Congregation has disregarded obstacles and are continuing to "Invest in Hope" (2021 Stewardship Campaign Slogan is certainly appropriate!!) Nothing gets in the way of our love for the Lord and the ministries we have for His Glory. We have surpassed last year's commitments and to date 72 pledges have been turned in for 2021. (2020's pledges total turned in was 65) So, if you were unable to submit your pledge care, do so whenever you can over the next few weeks. Thank You!

Respectively Submitted, The Stewardship Campaign Committee

CALLING ALL CLARK GRISWOLDS! This year the Crazy Christmas Club Committee (CCCC) is inviting everyone to decorate the outside of your house for Christmas for a friendly competition. (You can decorate the inside as well, we just won't be able to see it.) 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes will be awarded to the house that shows the meaning of Christmas the best. If you are interested please provide your Name, Address and Contact Number by December 16th. The CCCC will go around on December 18th starting at 6:30pm and take pictures/video of your house and determine our winners. In this year where everything seems so unexpected, why not share some love, happiness, and the meaning of Christmas for the world (or neighborhood) to see?



SAFETY GUIDELINES: We are still practicing the COVID 19 safety guidelines set by the CDC for social distancing and wearing face masks. Thank you everyone for being so good about this and doing your part to protect yourself and others.

We encourage you to bring your own face mask when you come to the church. The disposable face masks that we have at the church should be used as a last resort as they are getting hard to come by and costly to purchase. And ... it's fun to see all the different mask designs!

Thank you for your cooperation.

TODDLER – 5TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL: this age group has not yet returned to in-church Sunday school. Please use the contact information listed to participate in the Zoom classes:

Toddler Zoom Sunday School - 2-4 year old children - please email or call Dawn Capecci 412 651 2503, missdawn25@yahoo.com or Donna Weber 724 864 4954, donnam_weber@yahoo.com for more information and the Zoom instructions.

Preschool - 5th grade Sunday School - 9:30 AM on Zoom. For more information please contact Becky at 412-816-1906.

The current ***Daily Bread*** is available for you to pick up! It will be in the adult assembly room. These are free and you can take as many as you need! One for each member in your family, each bathroom, stocking stuffers, friends, neighbors. Give them a gift to "Invest in Hope"!

ADVENT GIFT GIVE-AWAY: Pastor Bruce is once again doing the Advent Gift Give-away. Several people go outside the church building between the two Sunday morning services and hand out gifts to the cars that pass by the church. They are just small gifts, but are meant to lift the spirits of those passing by and to let them know that FUMC cares about the people outside our church. If you can help with this mission by donating new, small gifts (around \$1.00 – Dollar Store finds are great!) it would be greatly appreciated. Please bring your donations to the church and Pastor Bruce and his elves will do the rest! If you would like to help pass the gifts out, please let Pastor Bruce know.

MEDIA TEAM: Volunteers are needed to join our media team. Our worship services, and many of our meetings on Zoom, would not be possible without them. You will be trained to use the equipment and assist with the services and meetings. If you would like to become part of the team please call Pastor Bruce (724-747-6098) or Pastor Ron (724-691-7113).

ANGEL TREE - The Outreach Committee will be helping families again by providing gifts for children and gift cards for groceries. The Angel tree is in the Narthex, and to date, we have 63 children on our angel tree and more are coming. Our local elementary school has additional families in need that we will be helping. Please take an angel (or two) from the tree to purchase gifts for the children, and a star if you would like to purchase a \$25 grocery gift card.

This year we will be keeping track of who takes the angels – Robbyn will be near the angel tree to get your name and the angel number you take. If you do not attend church in person but would still like to provide a gift, please contact Anne and she can email or mail you an angel. We will also be trying something new. You (or a group of you) can sponsor a family for Christmas and provide the Christmas gifts for all the children in one family. Please contact Anne and let her know what size family (2, 3, 4 or more kids) you want to sponsor and she will match a family to you as best as possible. Anne can be reached at home (724-744-7278), by email (annegiannetti@gmail.com), or by text (412-582-8397). Please make requests this week before the angel tree is up and decorated. **All gifts are due back to the church by Sunday, December 13th.**

If you prefer to make a donation, please send it to the office and we will do the shopping for you. Any donations not used for the angel tree will be held and used to help families at Easter.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY: If you would have any prayer requests for any serious or pressing problem please contact Jean Barrett at (724-515-5524) or Bernie Johnston at (724-863-6967). This would be for immediate prayer concerns and should not be confused with the prayer list found in the bulletin. If you would like to be included as a prayer warrior, to pray for immediate concerns via text or email, please let us know. Thank you

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After you log-in to Amazon you will be asked to select a charitable organization. Type First United Methodist Church Irwin, PA.. When the listing organizations appears on the screen, select “First United Methodist Church” Irwin, PA. Click in the box that reads “I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.com to support “First United Methodist Church” Irwin, PA.

Click on the “Start Shopping” button and shop any of the thousands of stores available on Amazon. When you have completed your shopping click on “Proceed to Checkout”

Follow the instructions for shipping and payment. Place your order. You will notice near your order number is a notation that you are supporting “First United Methodist Church.”



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1. Enter your email address
2. Type a nickname for your account. Create a password
3. Select a state (PA) and a city (Irwin.) A list of the UM churches and related organizations in the Irwin area will appear.
4. Select "Irwin First United Methodist Church" the click "Signup"
5. At this point you may click on any of the available categories that may interest you or simply click "Skip" to continue and watch the short video clip which demonstrates how to shop using UMC Market.
6. Shop from among thousands of retailers. Each retailer will show what percentage of your donation will be given to our church. When you are finished shopping follow the procedure each store has to "Checkout" your items and make the necessary payment.

UMC Market will automatically receive notification of your sale and will place the funds in their "FUMC" account. When their "FUMC" account reaches \$100.00, UMC Market will send a check for that amount to our church.

Bible passages are taken from the New International Version (NIV) of the Holy Bible.

Call to Worship is taken from "The United Methodist Hymnal"

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CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY (tune: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")

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ZOOM MEETING INSTRUCTIONS: As you can see in "THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH" many of our services, Bible Study, and Prayer Group are all being broadcast using Zoom. If you would like to participate in these activities using Zoom, please follow the instructions below. Please contact Pastor Bruce or Ron if you have questions.

For computer or smartphone:

Go to Zoom.com Click-Join a meeting

When prompted enter Meeting ID, then a screen will pop up to enter password.

(The Meeting ID & Password are noted with the service or meeting)

You will enter the “meeting space”. If you move your mouse to the bottom of the box, it will show you the different options, like chat and video.

For landline or cell phone (Audio only):

Dial 1-646-558-8656. Enter meeting number and follow the prompts.

(The Meeting ID & Password are noted with the service or meeting in “This Week at our Church.”)



THE SALVATION ARMY UNIT OF IRWIN has its own phone number. If you know anyone in need of our services please have them call 724-331-7832. The office hours for the unit are Wednesday mornings from 9:30 until 11:30.

HOSPITAL CALLS AND VISITS: If you or someone you know is in the hospital or would like a visit from the pastor please call the office or Pastor Bruce. *Remember, Pastor Bruce cannot provide care to our congregation if he doesn't know there is a need.*

Pastor Bruce receives calls or texts at his cell phone number 724-747-6098

******* IN PERSONAL CARE & REHABILITATION FACILITIES *******

Dorothy B. ~ Asbury Heights, Mt. Lebanon Marge O. ~ The Grove at Irwin
Wanda H. ~ Redstone, N. Huntingdon James R., Sr. ~ St. Anne's Home, Greensburg
Doris C. ~ Golden Heights (Harrison City) LaVerne F. ~ Walden's View

******* CONTINUOUS PRAYERS *******

Brent L., Kurt W. & Family, Cheryl M., Tim & Diane N., Rick H., Marlin A & Nancy P., Joe S., Joe L., Virginia, Jennifer N., Curt E., Cheryl H., Valerie M., Patty H., Jeanne R., Jeff M., Donna H., John B., Joe and Wava, Dean and Dorothy, Chris E., Rose N., Sara C., Jeanne and Larry A., Fred & Barb S., Mischa & Suzanne S., Diane B., Les H., John G., Noah C., Craig C., Red, Dawn, Amy P., Chuck K., Pat M., Jane I., Ashley, Stu S., Shawn S., Christa L., Rhonda, Beverly and Tom D., Laura, Marlin F., Stephanie S., Dave W., Bill & Elaine M., Kim V. Paul & Iva Lou B., Jackie S.
Bob & Natalie F. & Family (Missionaries in India)
Connie Wieck (Missionary)

******* THIS MONTHS PRAYERS LIST *******

*We will change the prayer list the first Sunday of each month.
Contact the church office at 724-863-6858 with names for the list.*

Vi, Tom and Peggy, Sandy L., George and Kelly, Paul and Michelle, Neil and Alma, Yvonne I. and family, Samantha, Lilliana P., Tiffany M., Joe K., Our Country & World, COVID 19 Concerns, Our Country and Leaders, Our world, Medical & Emergency Personnel, First Responders and Military, All Essential Workers, Teachers and Students, Businesses, The Unrest in Our Country, Helena & Marilyn, George and Lisa S., Joseph D., Sara T., Marilyn F., Ray S., The Lois Frye Family, Jerry L., Janice E., Judy L., Jim L., The Bill G. Family., The Jeff V. Family, The Diane Borza Family, Rolan & Janice W., Ethan D, Randy D, and Cindi D., Connie B.

******* SERVICE PERSONNEL *******

Brandon D. – Korea	Colby S. – Iraq	Sara D.
Angelo W. – Oklahoma City	Nicholas P. – Schofield Barracks, HI	Jeremy L.
David J. – Afghanistan	Amanda M. – Texas	Carl B.
James G. – Texas	Emery M. – Japan	Mark Russak
		Edward J. III

You're Invited!

**Lunch with Santa
and Mrs. Claus**

Saturday, December 19th • 11am-1pm

Dinner, Crafts, Story & Games

Picture with Santa \$5.00

**For Information,
call 724-863-6858**

**or Pastor Ron 724-691-7113/
ronaldslavin@comcast.net**

**First United Methodist
Church of Irwin**

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724-863-6858 • www.irwinfirstumc.org

Blue Christmas Service

Monday, December 21st • 7 PM

**Join us to remember
loved ones lost.
A time of healing and hope.**

Please Wear a Mask

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