

WATCH BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ONLINE

The service is streamed live at 10:45 AM, on Sundays, and is archived online for later viewing as well. Share this with persons you know who are out of town or unable to attend our Worship Service in person. **Visit the Church Website** at www.bridgeportumc.org and click "Watch Online".

REVIVE RECOVERY AT JOHNSON AVENUE WORSHIP AT 6:30 PM

Revive Recovery continues to meet each Wednesday evening at our Johnson Avenue campus. Revive Recovery is a program specifically for dealing with the troubles we face in this challenging culture and time. Revive Recovery is, in fact, for all hurts, habits, or hang-ups. Only 1 in 3 are there for substance issues. Sign up to help by preparing a light supper served at 6 PM. Sign up on bulletin board in the main entry.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH is inviting all women of the church to join the United Women of Faith TODAY, Sunday, Dec. 3 in Fellowship Hall from 2-4 PM for a "Celebration of the Carols." We will be making gift baskets for nursing home residents, so bring small lotions, small tissue packs, hard candy, chap sticks, or anything else appropriate. Join us for fun and fellowship as we kick off the Christmas Season.

ANGEL TREE CHILDREN Thanks to all who adopted an Angel Tree Child. Please drop gifts off by Dec. 11 in the Narthex if dropping off Sunday. If dropping off any other weekday, please bring to office. Thanks!

CHRISTMAS ADOPT A FAMILY MINISTRY FOOD BASKET

is an opportunity to help members of our community by providing a complete Christmas Adopt a Family Basket for one of the many families in need. Look for the display in the Narthex detailing the household size and the items needed. Drop off for the basket will be December 18 from 9:30 AM—11:00 AM.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you would like to send cards to persons in our congregation, there is a list on the back table. Please bring them back by December 13 and someone from our church will deliver them.

PROVERBS 31 CIRCLE is starting a college ministry, sending care packages to students throughout the school year. They would like to have your students school address. Please email it to the church office at info@bridgeportumc.org. Thanks.



Weekly Devotional Reading

Sunday: Isaiah 53:1-12

Monday: Luke 10:38-42

Tuesday: Genesis 15:1-6

Wednesday: Isaiah 40:1-11

Thursday: Ephesians 3:14-21

Friday: Psalm 40:1-5

Saturday: Genesis 1:1-13

Breath Prayer this Week:
Faithful God, thank you for calling us to follow and serve you. Help us to rely on you as we step out in faith. Amen.



CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT
December 19 at 7:30 PM at BUMC Sanctuary
MAESTRI VOCALE presents "Welcome Yule". A winter Holiday concert featuring Benjamins Brittens, "Ceremony of Carols"

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S CHILI COOK OFF will be held January 21. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex.

AVAILABLE SERVICES—ASK AN USHER FOR ASSISTANCE

8:30 Service Childcare - infants-5 years, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel

10:45 Service Childcare - infants-2 years, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel

10:45 Service Childcare for 2, 3 & 4 yr. olds, Educ. Bldg. - 1st room on right

Children's Bulletin available on table in the back of the Sanctuary

10:45 Children's Church - ages 5-2nd grade, Children's Church Room

Large Print Hymnals at main entrance to the Sanctuary

Extra Copies of Our Newsletter, "Steeple Talk" available in the Narthex

Prayer Cards to indicate special concerns are located in the pew racks

Membership Directories are available in the Church Office.

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

December 2, 2023

6:15 PM

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

GATHERING MUSIC

*HYMN

Jesus, Name Above All Names

I Love You, Lord

Jim Harris

FWS 2071

FWS 2068

*INVOCATION

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADVENT LITANY AND CANDLE LIGHTING

MINISTRY STEWARDSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES

~ Use the e-giving tab on the website, mail in your donation, or place it in the baskets at the entryways.

~ Please visit our website, bridgeportumc.org, to register for twice weekly devotional e-mails from our pastors.

WORD IN MUSIC

Jim Harris

*SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:67-79

MESSAGE

The Song of Hope

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN

Song of Hope

FWS 2186

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH AND POSTLUDE

FWS-Faith We Sing Hymnal UMH-United Methodist Hymnal

WS-Worship and Song Hymnal

Child Care is available for infants –5 years old in the Nursery in the back hallway by the Chapel

*Indicates standing

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ JOHNSON AVENUE

December 3, 2023

9:45 AM

Gathering to Praise

*Scripture Choruses and Songs

Jim Harris

*Prayer of Invocation and Invitation

Ministry Stewardship and Opportunities

Growing in the Word

Advent Litany and Candle Lighting

The Word in Music

*Scripture

Luke 1:67-79

Today's Message

The Song of Hope

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

Glorifying God Through Communion and Response

Holy Communion

(This sacrament or "Holy Covenant" is a way of visibly remembering

God's Sacrificial Love given in Christ Jesus and receiving anew His grace.)

Going Forth to Share and Serve

*Closing Song

*Benediction and Sending Forth

*Indicates standing

BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

251 WORTHINGTON DRIVE, BRIDGEPORT, WV

December 3, 2023 † 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM



WORSHIP CELEBRATION FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE VISION OF "MATTHEW 25"
We are a community of faith focused on being in ministry with and for the least, the last, the lonely, and the left out. Jesus said, "When you do it to the least of these, you do it unto me." (Matthew 25:40) This is our primary work. Please join us as we strengthen ourselves for the task in worship, prayer, and study and then go forth to serve in Matthew 25 Ministries.

PRELUDE/GATHERING MUSIC Please sign the attendance register
As we gather, we are mindful of our Maplewood Worship Service.
Today's Leader is George Bramble.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Reader: Advent – a season of wondering, watching, and waiting – is upon us.

ALL: Come into our world, Lord Jesus.

Reader: We look for signs of God's presence around us, waiting for God to come in new ways.

ALL: Come into our lives, Lord Jesus.

Reader: We wait with hope, peace, joy, and love.

ALL: Come into our hearts, Lord Jesus.

Reader: Come! Let us worship God who is breaking into our world, our lives, and our hearts in new ways!

ALL: Come unto us, Lord Jesus, and do your work among us.

*INVOCATION

*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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

ADVENT LITANY AND CANDLE LIGHTING

Light of Light (sung with Choir)

**Voices cry out from a world in grief:
prayers of those who seek relief.
End their darkness, hear their call
for peace on earth, goodwill for all.**

Reader: Advent is a time of reflection and renewal.

ALL: God of light, shine in our hearts and renew our hope.

Reader: Advent is a time of self-examination.

ALL: God of light, shine in our hearts and strengthen our resolve.

Reader: Advent is a time of joyful expectation.

ALL: God of light, shine in our hearts and renew our faith.

Reader: Advent is a time of service and searching.

ALL: God of light, shine in our hearts and ignite our compassion.

MINISTRY STEWARDSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES

~ Please fill out a prayer card if desired. A steward will collect them during the final hymn.

~ Use the e-giving tab on the website, mail in your donation, or place it in the baskets at the entryways.

~ Please visit our website, bridgeportumc.org to check for regular updates.

(10:45 Children K-2nd Grade only may leave for Children's Church. Please meet with your leader in the back of the Sanctuary. Younger children see back of bulletin for locations of nurseries.)

*DOXOLOGY **Doxology for Advent** (Tune: VENI EMMANUEL)

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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

THE WORD IN MUSIC **Lord, Before This Fleeting Season** Libby Larson

Lord, before this fleeting season is upon us,
Let me remember to walk slowly.
Lord, bless my heart with Love and with quiet.
Give my heart a leaning to hear carols.
Grace our family with contentment,
And the peace that comes only from you.
Lord, help us to do less this busy season;
Go less; Stay closer to home; Kneel more.
May our hearts be Your heart.
May we simply, peacefully, celebrate You. Lord.

*SCRIPTURE LESSON **Luke 1:67-79**

67 Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: 68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. 69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David, 70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, 71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. 72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant, 73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us 74 that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days. 76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. 78 Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, 79 to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Song of Hope

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Blessed Be the God of Israel

UMH 209

TAKING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, ...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, ... Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanks giving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen, for great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit ... Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (in unison):

Eternal God, we thank you for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us, and we praise you for breaking into the world. Send us out in hope for we have seen, have heard, and been fed by your grace. Keep us faithful and alert for signs of Christ's coming and lead us to live lives marked by truth and light as we testify to the hope we have in you. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

UMH 173

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH

*POSTLUDE

*Indicates standing

Christian Sympathy to Norma Ladd on the death of her husband, Earl Ladd.

Music Participants - Don Gardner - organist, Chancel Choir

Flowers on the Altar In Loving Memory of Michael Ann Gainer, who passed December 1, 2017. We love and miss the best wife, mother and Grammy forever and always. Hugh, Scott, Tawnie, Micah, and Mattie Gainer.



Each year at Christmas we place poinsettias on the altar and in the sanctuary. The Worship Team will purchase enough to adorn our Sanctuary and the remaining monies will go to support hunger ministries within our area. If you would like to place a poinsettia(s) in memory of or in honor of someone special to you, you can place an order by filling out an envelope found in the Narthex and placing it in the offering basket. Deadline to place your order is **December 12. Price is \$12.00.** Make Checks payable to BUMC.

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

GIVEN BY _____

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK (December 3 - December 10)

SUNDAY

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Bread of Life Sunday School	Library
9:30 AM	Faith Family Friends SS	Parlor
9:30 AM	WOW Children's SS (Pre K3-5th)	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Youth Sunday School	Education Building
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:00 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
2:00 PM	Women in Faith Celebration	Fellowship Hall
3:00 PM	Revive Step Study	Johnson Ave. Parsonage
4:30-6:00 PM	Pageant Rehearsal (PreK-high school)	Sanctuary
5:00-6:00 PM	Seraphim Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:00 PM	Youth Meeting	Education Building
6:00 PM	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Balcony

MONDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	Preventicare	Nursery

TUESDAY

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Fowler Heritage Room
10:30 AM	Esther Ruth Circle Meeting	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Maplewood Meeting	Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM	Revive Recovery Worship	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir	Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

7:00 AM	Men's Prayer and Coffee	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	PreventiCare	Nursery
10:00 AM	Lectionary Class	Library
6:00-7:00 PM	Sweet Hour of Prayer Meeting	Johnson Ave. Campus

FRIDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
8:30 AM	Sister's Bible Study	Tammy's Home

SATURDAY

6:15 PM	Saturday Evening Worship	Sanctuary
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SUNDAY December 10

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:45 AM	Handbell Rehearsal	Balcony
3:00 PM	Revive Step Study	Johnson Ave. Parsonage
6:00 PM	Children's Christmas Pageant	Sanctuary
5:00-6:00 PM	Youth Meeting will not meet	Education Building

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



You are invited to come
and see the
Children's Christmas
Pageant
Sunday, December 10
at 6:00 PM