WORD IN MUSIC ***Christ Is the World's True Light*** George Wallace Briggs; Walter Kendall Stanton

Christ is the world's true light, its Captain of salvation,
the Daystar clear and bright of every race and nation;
new life, new hope awakes where'er men own his sway;
freedom her bondage breaks, and night is turned to day.

In Christ all peoples meet, their ancient feuds forgetting,
the whole round world complete, from sunrise to its setting:
when Christ is throned as Lord, we shall forsake their fear,
to ploughshare bear the sword, to pruning hook the spear.

One Lord, in one great Name unite us all who own thee;
cast out our pride and shame that hinder to enthrone thee;
the world has waited long, has travailed long in pain;
to heal its ancient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

At 10:45, children in grades K–5 are invited to Children's Church during the Word in Music. Nursery care and classroom locations are listed in the bulletin announcements.

*SCRIPTURE LESSON ***Romans 12:9–21***

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION ***The Gift of Love*** UMH 408

MESSAGE ***A Big Table*** Rev. Dr. Matthew Johnson

*HYMN OF RESPONSE ***Let There Be Peace on Earth*** UMH 431

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH 883

We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

LIVING THE MISSION

- *Visit our website at bridgeportumc.org for ministry updates, events, and opportunities to connect.*
- *Prayer cards are available and may be placed in an offering basket.*
- *You may give online, mail your donation to the church, or place your offering in a basket at the entryway.*

*DOXOLOGY ***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*** UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

MOMENTS OF GUIDED PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Reader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Reader: Eternal and gracious God, Creator of heaven and earth, we give you thanks for your goodness and steadfast love. From the beginning, you have provided for your children and called us to live in communion with you and one another. Through every generation, you have remained faithful to your promises, bringing hope to the weary and welcome to those who have been forgotten.

We thank you for Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, who came to dwell among us. In him, you revealed a kingdom unlike the kingdoms of this world, where the hungry are fed, the stranger is welcomed, the broken are restored, and the least are given a place of honor. Through his life, death, and resurrection, you have opened the way to new and abundant life. And we look forward to the day when all creation will be made new and Christ shall reign forever.

We thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit, who gathers us into one body and sends us into the world as witnesses to your love. Make us generous with the blessings you have entrusted to us, courageous in extending hospitality, and faithful in making room at the table for all your children.

May our gratitude find expression in lives of service, and our love reflect the boundless welcome of your kingdom.

ALL: All glory and honor and praise be yours, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN ***We Are Called*** FWS 2172

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE **Toccata on Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (OLD 100TH)** Michael Burkhardt

Ministering in the Service: Cheryl Bramble – liturgist; Brett Miller organist/pianist; Chancel Choir; Rev. Sarita Robinso

COMING THIS ADVENT – A THRILL OF HOPE: SONGS IN THE NIGHT

In a world longing for hope, the promise of Christmas reminds us that God's light shines even in the darkest night. This Advent, join us for *A Thrill of Hope: Songs in the Night*, a worship series exploring the promises of Scripture and the hope we celebrate in the coming of Christ. The series begins **November 28–29**. Invite a friend and join us as we prepare our hearts for Christmas!

ADVENT PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION

During the season of Advent, join us for a brief, reflective service of prayer and Holy Communion on **Thursdays, December 3, 10, and 17**, at **11:15 AM in the Main Campus Overflow Chapel**. As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, take a moment to step away from the busyness of the season and gather around the Lord's Table. Each service will last approximately 30 minutes, and all are welcome!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK (November 22 – November 29)

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	Young Explorers SS (Pre K3-5th)	Primary Chapel
9:30 AM	Youth Sunday School	Education Building
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Cherub Choir	Primary Chapel
5:00 PM	Jubilate Singers	Children's Church Room
5:30 PM	Elementary Handbells	Children's Church Room
5:30 PM	Seraphim Singers	Sanctuary
6:00 PM	Youth Group Meeting	Gym
7:00 PM	Greater Ckb. Coop Parish Service	Sanctuary

MONDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	Preventicare	Nursery
9:30 -11:00 AM	Thanksgiving Basket Drop Off	Porch

TUESDAY

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting will not meet	Fowler Heritage Room
7:30 PM	L.I.F.E.	Johnson Ave. Campus

WEDNESDAY

6:00 PM	Revive Recovery Dinner not meet	Johnson Ave. Campus
6:30 PM	Revive Recovery Service not meet	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir	Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY (Office Closed)

7:00 AM	Men's Prayer and Coffee	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	PreventiCare	Nursery
10:00 AM	Lectionary Class will not meet	Library
7:00 PM	Bible Study will not meet	Sanctuary Overflow

FRIDAY (Office Closed)

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	Sister's Bible Study	Fowler Heritage Room

SATURDAY

6:15 PM	Saturday Evening Service	Sanctuary

SUNDAY, November 29

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Bread of Life SS	Library
9:30 AM	Faith, Family, Friends SS	Parlor
9:30 AM	Young Explorers SS (Pre K3-5th)	Primary Chapel
9:30 AM	Youth Sunday School	Education Buuilding
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Cherub Choir	Primary Chapel
5:00 PM	Jubilate Singers	Children's Church Room
5:30 PM	Elementary Handbells	Children's Church Room
5:30 PM	Seraphim Singers	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Youth Group Meeting	Gym

STEWARDSHIP 2027

"Freely you have received; freely give" (Matt. 10:8). Thank you to everyone who has already made a financial commitment to support the ministries of Bridgeport UMC in 2027! If you haven't yet returned your commitment card, it's not too late. Cards are available in the pews and church office and may be placed in the offering basket or returned to the office. Together, we continue to share freely the gifts we have received!

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. Visit the Church Website at www.bridgeportumc.org and click "Watch Online".

GREATER CLARKSBURG COOPERATIVE PARISH THANKSGIVING SERVICE
Join us on Sunday, November 22, at 7:00 PM, in our Main Campus Sanctuary for a Thanksgiving worship service with United Methodist congregations from across the Greater Clarksburg Cooperative Parish. Come together with our neighboring churches as we give thanks for God's many blessings!

THANKSGIVING "ADOPT A FAMILY" FOOD BASKETS: Thank you for sharing God's love with families in our community! Through your generosity, we can help ensure that our neighbors have the opportunity to enjoy a special Thanksgiving meal. If you have adopted a family, please bring your completed food basket to the church on **Monday, November 23, between 9:30 and 11:00 AM.**

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM – SAVE THE DATE! Experience the Christmas story in a fun and engaging way at this year's Journey to Bethlehem! Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 6, at 6:00 PM**, and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to make the journey with you as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and the hope, joy, and love of the Advent season. More details coming soon!

UPCOMING YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS All youth are invited to join us on Sunday evenings from **6:00–7:30 PM in the Gym** for fellowship, fun, and growing together in faith!
November 22 – Friendsgiving: Pizza with Friends!
November 29 – Ugly Christmas Sweater Night: Wear your favorite ugly Christmas sweater as we kick off the Advent season! (Matthew 1:18–25). Bring a friend and join us!

SAVE THE DATES – ADVENT AT BUMC! There's so much to look forward to as we prepare to celebrate Christmas! Mark your calendars and plan to join us for these special Advent gatherings:
• Sunday, December 6, at 6:00 PM – Journey to Bethlehem: Experience the Christmas story as we journey together to Bethlehem and celebrate the birth of Jesus!
• Sunday, December 13, at 10:45 AM – Children's Advent Pageant: Celebrate the joy of the season as our children help tell the Christmas story during worship.

Weekly Devotional Reading

Sunday: Matthew 16:24-27
Monday: Jeremiah 2:31-37
Tuesday: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8, 10-12
Wednesday: Amos 4:9-13
Thursday: Titus 3:3-8
Friday: Psalm 104:24-34
Saturday: Matthew 13:1-9

Breath Prayer This Week

Dear Lord, fill us with your peace,
Shelter us in your presence and
protect us. Amen.

• Sunday, December 20 – Christmas Caroling; Silent Night, Holy Bite
Gather at 5:45 PM to spread Christmas cheer through caroling, followed by our Silent Night, Holy Bite Charcuterie Challenge at 7:00 PM!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND BIBLE STUDIES Sunday at 9:30 AM
Adult Classes
Bread of Life - Library
Faith, Family, Friends – Parlor
Youth and Children
Youth SS/Education Building
Young Explorers (ages 3-5th grade) - Primary Chapel
Nursery Care (infants through age 2)- Nursery
Children's Church
Grades K-5 -10:45 AM - Children's Church room, back of Sanctuary
Weekly Bible Studies
Lectionary Bible Study -Thursday - Library/10:00 AM
Bible Study - Sanctuary overflow - Thursdays -7:00 PM
L.I.F.E. Bible Study - Johnson Ave. Campus -Tuesday - 7:30 PM

CHILDCARE & OTHER ASSISTANCE— ASK AN USHER

Saturday, 6:15 PM infants through age 5, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel
Sunday, 8:30 – infants through age 5, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel
Sunday, 10:45 – infants through age 2**,** Nursery, hallway by back Chapel
Sunday, 10:45 – ages 3-4, Education Building – 1st room on right
Sunday, 10:45 – grades K-5, Children's Church Room

Large Print Hymnals at the Sanctuary entrance.

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

November 21, 2026 **6:15 PM**

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

GATHERING MUSIC — Max Garner, pianist

*OPENING HYMNS — ***He Has Made Me Glad*** FWS 2270
We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise FWS 2031

*INVOCATION

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

LIVING THE MISSION
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THE WORD IN MUSIC

*SCRIPTURE LESSON — ***Psalm 100:1-5***

MESSAGE — ***"I Have to Say Something"*** — Rick Curtis

*HYMN OF RESPONSE — ***Give Thanks*** — FWS 2036

PASTORAL PRAYER

*SENDING HYMN — ***All People That on Earth Do Dwell*** — UMH 75

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

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

*Indicates standing as able.

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ JOHNSON AVENUE

November 22, 2026 **9:45 AM**

Gathering to Praise
*Prayer of Invocation and Invitation
*Scripture Choruses and Songs — Jim Harris
Growing in the Word
*Scripture — ***Psalm 100:1-5***
Message — ***"I Have to Say Something"*** — Rick Curtis
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 his grace anew.)
Going Forth to Share and Serve
Living the Mission
*Closing Song
*Benediction and Sending Forth

*Indicates standing as able.

Bridgeport United Methodist Church

251 Worthington Drive † Bridgeport, WV
November 22, 2026 † 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM



WORSHIP CELEBRATION

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.

PRELUDES — ***Prelude on KRESMER*** (We Gather Together) Gregg Sewell
Let All Things Now Living (THE ASH GROVE) arr. by Frank Stoldt
For the Beauty of the Earth (DIX) arr. by John Ferguson

As we gather, we are mindful of our Maplewood Worship Service.
Today's leader is Jack Merinar.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Reader: Come, let us worship Christ our King, whose kingdom is revealed in love, mercy, and grace.
ALL: We give thanks for God's abundant blessings and steadfast love.
Reader: As we gather in thanksgiving, Christ calls us to share what we have received and welcome one another with generous hearts.
ALL: May our love be genuine, our hospitality generous, and our lives filled with praise!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION
Reader: Gracious and loving God, you are the source of every good gift, the giver of life, and the sustainer of all creation. In every season, you remain faithful, and your goodness reaches beyond all we could ask or imagine.
On this day, we celebrate the reign of Jesus Christ, whose kingdom is revealed in mercy, compassion, and grace. Open our hearts to the needs of our neighbors, and teach us to share generously what we have received.
As we worship together, renew our commitment to love one another, welcome the stranger, and serve you faithfully in all that we do.
May our worship bring glory to your name, and may our lives reflect the love of Christ.
ALL: In the holy name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and King, we pray. Amen.

*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 WORSHIP — ***Rejoice, the Lord Is King*** — UMH 715