

Prayer Concerns

First Responders
Those affected by gun violence
Those suffering from mental illness, addiction & homelessness
Judi W.
Janis J.' brother, Kirk
Nadine B., lifted by Alice W.
Todd and Caroline W., lifted by Barb A.
Dave S., brother-in-law of Jan C.
Michael M., nephew of Jan C.
Jan C.
Daniel C., lifted by Joel & Deb C.
Paul T.'s mother, Alice
Phil t., lifted by Carolyn B.
Bill & Marilyn R.
Matt & Debby, lifted by Janis J.
Carolyn B.
Jennifer G.
Greg & Liz L.
Mario R., Meals piano player
Pat, CJ C.'s mother
Cindy, Reba Y.'s sister-in-law
Nate R.
Bunny, cousin of Liz L.
Vicki and her family, daughter of Rae and Walt S.

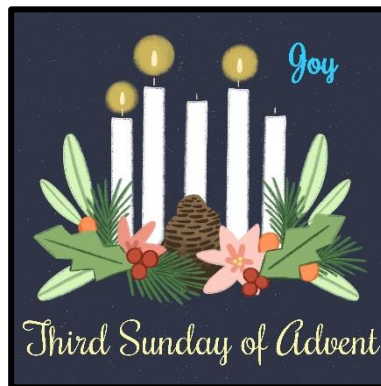
Brenda F.'s niece, Michelle
Bev C., Deb C.'s mother
Lois D.
John, lifted by Mary B.
Keith A.
Judy L.
Carl, friend of Joel & Deb C.
Sarah J.'s brother, Billy
Selene, lifted by Carole A.
Joan H.
Martha, lifted by Janis J.
Ray S.
David N., JoAnn's husband
Joan T.
Donna R., sister of Bob & Carol N.
Will S.
Judy, lifted by Brenda F.
Susan L.
Randall S.
Barbara B.
Doris, friend of Sally C.
Tammy M.'s friend, Kate's, father
Curtis, lifted by Reba Y.
Christ & Ava K., lifted by Jean S.
Joy and Rocky, lifted by Paul & Claudia T.

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

12/15	Floyd Andrews	12/18	Hanna Moore
12/16	Phoebe Tidmore	12/19	Lois Dow
12/17	Barb Clough		

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm
Liturgist: Greg Lavelle
Organist: Javier Gonzalez
Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez
Greeters: Jim & Ellie Yager, Greg Lavelle
Usher: Liz Lavelle
Audio Video Elements: John and Michelle Wolter, Phil Wolter



North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Feeding the Community –
Body, Mind, and Spirit

4600 Dover Center Road,
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070
440-779-6634

www.noumc.org

Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm, Pastor

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024 10:30 am

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

L: The grace and peace of our Lord and Savior be with you.

P: And also with you.

Prelude

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Mark Hayes

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Liturgy for the Advent Wreath and Lighting of Candles

Jeff and Becky Riddlebaugh

L: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kingdom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

P: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence with God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.

L: We light the candles of hope, peace, and joy as signs of our

commitment to be present with ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives, we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation together.

***Call to Worship**

Greg Lavelle

L: Children of God, our world is full of the fruit of humanity's greed, apathy, and neglect for the love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

P: What, then, should we do?

L: Our world is also full of the fruit of God's love that wells up all around us, sustaining us, saving us, reviving us to live as the people of God.

P: What, then, should we do?

L: God encircles us on every side, Love divine, present with us in creation, in community, and in the anticipated arrival of the infant Emmanuel. What then, children of God, should you do?

P: We will live in joyful presence with God and neighbor, turning away from sin and toward a life with God and one another marked by joy, justice, and mercy.

***Unison Prayer**

Eternal Creator, with you each moment of life is full of wonder and surprise. We pray that you make us watchful as we await the coming of Christ. Grant that we may not be found sleeping in sin, but awake and rejoicing in your newness of life. Through the same Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

***Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 12:2-6

***Hymn**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

UMH 160

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession

Creator of the universe, we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our

name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. Amen.

Responsive Words of Assurance and Pardon

L: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

The Lord's Prayer

Penny Sunday

***Prayer for the Offerings/Doxology**

UMH 94

Anthem

O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Mary McDonald

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:7-18

Hymn

What Child Is This

UMH 219

Sermon

"Presence"

Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm

(Third in a Sermon Series: "Come, Let Us Adore Him!")

***Hymn**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UMH 224

***Responsive Benediction**

L: Advent invites each of us into a new way of living in a world to which the kingdom of God has come and is yet coming.

P: Go now, blessed with the gift of togetherness, for it is only in being truly present with God and one another that we live as followers of the coming Messiah.

All: Amen.

Postlude

Fum, Fum, Fum

Mark Hayes

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

(You are invited to be seated for the Postlude before exiting the Sanctuary.)

**Please stand if you are able.*