



Christmas Eve

*Festival of
Lessons & Carols*

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

December 24, 2022, 11:00p.m.

WELCOME! We are glad you are here

Please complete the Attendance Pad located in each pew. Pass it to the next person. When the last person completes it, return the pad to its original place, looking at the names of persons in your pew. Greet one another at the conclusion of our worship.

PRELUDE

Welcome

Sue Combs

Pastor Joe

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the darkness of Creation, God brought forth Light!

That Light flooded over the waters of creation.

From the fear and alienation, God sent forth a leading Pillar of Light!

That Light directed people who were on the path of freedom.

From the cries of the people, God offered the lights of Hope

Those lights beckoned people to God's presence.

From the yearning of the spirit, God's light was born again in a child

That Light shall never be diminished!

All: Praise God for the warm light of God's Incarnate Love.

AMEN.

*CAROL

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" vv. 1,2,3,6

UMH 234

CANTICLE OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS

We look for light but find darkness, for brightness, but walk in gloom.

We grope like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight.

(Singing) **O Come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.**

If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night," even the darkness is not dark to you, the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

(Singing) **O Come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.**

(All) **Blessed be your name O God, forever. You reveal deep and mysterious things; Our darkness is passing away and already the true light is shining. Amen.**

(Singing) **O Come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.**

OFFERING

Offertory

*Doxology (Tune: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel")

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God, all Spirit messengers below.

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

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

*Prayer of Dedication

God of life and possibility, we offer these gifts so that they may be transformed into your good news for the sake of the world. Amen.

FIRST LESSON	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7a	Roy Brown
	<i>The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.</i>	
SOLO	"Noel"	Sue Luken
SECOND LESSON	Micah 5:2-5a	Heather Chambers
	<i>The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all God's creation.</i>	
CAROL	"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" vv. 1&3	UMH 218
THIRD LESSON	Luke 1:26-35,38	Don Stewart
	<i>The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son, whose kingdom will never end.</i>	
SOLO	"Mary, Did You Know?"	Heather Chambers
FOURTH LESSON	Luke 2:1-7	Sue Luken
	<i>Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.</i>	
DUET	Mark and Hannah Hensler	
FIFTH LESSON	Luke 2:8-16	Philip Seely
	<i>The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world and find him lying in a manger.</i>	
ANTHEM	"Run to Bethlehem"	Chancel Choir
SIXTH LESSON	Matthew 2:1-11	Maddie Hensler
	<i>The wise men follow the star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.</i>	
SOLO	"Special Delivery"	Chris Beiser
HOLY COMMUNION	<i>Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another.</i>	
	<i>All are welcome to receive the Sacrament.</i>	
	<i>Please join in singing carols. Words will be projected.</i>	
PRAYER	<i>Lights are Dimmed</i>	
*SEVENTH LESSON	John 1:1-14	Pastor Joe
	<i>John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.</i>	
*Carol	"Silent Night, Holy Night"	UMH 239
*Prayer for Christmas		
	<i>Lights on, candles extinguished</i>	
*CLOSING CAROL	"Joy to the World"	UMH 246
*BENEDICTION		
*POSTLUDE	<i>(*Please rise in body or spirit)</i>	

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys/Concerns

If updates are unknown, these items are listed for four weeks. Extended concerns are listed under "Continuing Prayers."

- 12/22 The family and friends of Becky Black's father, Arno who passed away on December 19. They are close friends of the Mislansky family.
- 12/20 Iris Jones fractured her pelvis and is at Berkley Square for rehabilitation.
- 12/19 The family and friends of Matthew Joseph Rotuno-Johnson, who died suddenly on December 18 at the age of 22. The Rotuno-Johnson family are dear friends of the Mislansky family.
- 12/18 Belinda Peters' daughter, Cynthia Kirkham, has a breast mass with suspicions for malignancy.
- 12/18 Jenni Hensler has Covid.
- 12/18 Brooke Becker's father who was recently hospitalized and for a co-worker's daughter diagnosed with liver cancer.
- 12/18 Jeff Evans to gain strength & recover from his health issues.
- 12/18 Helen Bowman has skin cancer on her head in three places and is doing better now.
- 12/18 Dee Aiken's neighbor with Covid.
- 12/11 Ewald's son-in-law Jeremiah is now closer to home. Thank you for your prayers for more than 400 days!
- 12/11 Thank you, Lord, God, for giving us 65 beautiful years together (Aydlett wedding anniversary 12/14) with our family, friends, and St. Mark's church family.
- 12/11 Pam Guynes Aunt Flo Moore celebrated her 90th birthday!
- 12/11 With great JOY! June Niederman birth of the fourth great-granddaughter, Reese Niederman on December 4, 2022 weighing 8lbs 3oz. Congratulations to all!
- 12/11 Terrill Broshear's sister Leah Menninger had breast cancer surgery and beginning treatments.
- 12/11 Terrill Broshear's son Rick, who had hernia surgery on 12/9.
- 12/11 Suzan Stracke had hip replacement surgery and is home.
- 12/11 Doug Klingel had surgery, is doing well and almost back to full recovery.
- 12/11 Jennie Bernard doing Chemo for breast cancer.
- 12/11 Ron Hamblin is in home.
- 12/11 Rich Mischell back in ICU, pulmonary fibrosis, had lung cancer
- 12/02 Pam Guyne's sister Charlotte Rotroff passed away unexpectedly on 12/01. Prayers of comfort, strength, and condolences during this challenging time.
- 12/04 Rick Marshall's cousin, Donald "Corky" Marshall who passed away after a massive heart attack on Saturday, Dec 3. He was only 59 years old. We pray his memory be a blessing.
- 12/04 Patty Coyle's, friend Teri Pritchard is had a brain tumor removed and thankfully it is not cancerous.

- 11/27 Rich & Karen Turner thanks everyone for all of the love and prayers.
- 11/27 Friends of the Schumacker's, the Demois family in the passing of Mary on November 26.
- 11/27 Betty Jones' granddaughter, Kayla Bates, who had major surgery on Nov 29.
- 11/27 Iris Jones' son-in-law Tim Beltz as he continues tests.
- 11/27 The Klug's sister, Karen Kolde recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- 11/27 Sue Rumley's friends daughter diagnosed with breast cancer.
- 11/27 Julie Dichtl's brother-in-law, Jim Nickens is now home after being in the hospital with a blocked bowel.
- 11/27 Bill Dichtl's mother, Camille is having serious health issues.
- 11/27 Pat Fassnacht's long time friends, Kay & Paul Peterson dealing with a painful life transition.
- 11/27 Ron Hamilton, Royce Butler, and Rich Mischell, may they be healthier very soon.
- 11/20 JOY! Jennie & Rick Marshall's birth of their granddaughter, Belle Morgan Howard on 11/16. Daughter of Jake and Camry joins sisters Millie and Tatum. We are overjoyed!
- 11/20 Aydlett's neighbor Ann Weaver as she is regaining strength and good health.

Continuing Prayers

Please help us keep this list current by emailing or calling the church office with updates. Contact Lyn at L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com or call the office (513) 844-1818.

All service Men & Women

Our Country

First Responders

United Methodist Church

Prayer & Bible Study Groups

Merianne Cardas

Sharon Hamp

Iris Jones (Berkeley)

Charlene Miller (Berkeley)

Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)

Eugene Campbell—lung cancer

(Linda Prohaska's brother)

Peggy Wyatt

Residents at Parkside

Virginia Shaw

Virginia Shaw's son Richard

St. Mark's Homebound:

Vivian Brill

Jean Cottrill

Freida Hawkins

Carolyn Janosik—StoryPoint

Gale Logan—Otterbein Community

Eleanor McCollum

Zediith Pottenger

Greg Pullem—Parkside

Jean Stivers

Virginia Shaw

Paul Schutte—Now HOME

Betty Winkler

Joyce Zugelter (In home health care)

ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Check out our online calendar: fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar

TODAY, 12/24 (Christmas Eve)

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

SUNDAY, 12/25

CHRISTMAS DAY 9:30 LIVESTREAM ONLY

Afternoon: Pastor Joe & Linda leave for Minnesota and return the evening of 1/02

MONDAY, 12/26

10:00 am Ladies Craft Group

TUESDAY, 12/27

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 960 CANCELLED

WEDNESDAY, 12/28

7:30 am Men's Prayer group CANCELLED.

THURSDAY, 12/29

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 12/30

SATURDAY, 12/31

SUNDAY, 1/1/2023 (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed. No Holy Communion
NO G.L.O.W. Nursery open for infants—age 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS DAY

Tune in on Facebook or YouTube at 9:30AM. Pastor Joe will bring a special Christmas message to us LIVE.

JANUARY 1—NEW YEAR'S DAY

A special worship service of Christmas songs and Carols will be led by Chris and Sue. Holy Communion will not be celebrated on this day.

JANUARY 8

Pastor Joe returns. We will have a Service of Baptism Renewal and Holy Communion.

PLEASE HELP TO NOTIFY US "CARDS OF THOUGHTFULNESS"

Occasionally, we miss people who may want to receive a card and to let them know that we are thinking of them. Please help by letting us know of those people in the hospital, illness, temporarily stuck at home, sympathy, celebrations and cheerful cards. Contact Lois Hill at 49seabiscuit@gmail.com or call Lyn Bucalo (513) 844-1818 at the church office.

JANUARY 2023, 6:30PM, WOMEN'S MONDAY NIGHT STUDY(ZOOM)

We will take a break for the Holiday Season and then resume in January. Date to be announced. Contact Sue Luken for details at (513)257-8862 or suzuluken@hotmail.com

JANUARY 4, 2PM, WEDNESDAY GROUP BIBLE STUDY- RESUMES

Everyone is welcome to join us who want to learn about the bible. Currently, we are studying the book of Luke. Feel free to attend when you are able, this is a casual bible study. Contact Sue McDaniel at smcdaniel13@hotmail.com for details.

JANUARY 19, THURSDAY, 7-9PM, MOCKTAILS PARTY

Please join us for a Ladies Night out, "Mocktails & Snacks Party" meeting in the Narthex. It is a fun opportunity to socialize and get to know each other. Please feel free to bring a friend along too. Watch for the sign up sheet in Narthex after January 1, 2023. Sponsored by Children & Family Ministry Team. Contact Sue Luken for more details.

JANUARY 20, FRIDAY, 2 PM, RUTH CIRCLE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Ruth Circle will meet Friday 1/18/23 in Fellowship Hall. For more details, contact Pam Guynes at (513)779-9162, email Pamguynes2@gmail.com.

JANUARY 24, TUESDAY, 12PM, LUNCH BUNCH at OLIVE GARDEN

This month we will meet at Olive Garden on Route 4 (Fairfield). Reservation for this event is January 22. Contact Brenda Smoot at (513) 316-1807 for details.

JANUARY 28, SATURDAY, 9-11AM, MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES

We have a volunteer opportunity and all ages & abilities are welcomed. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex (on bulletin board) for Jan 28, Sat 9-11am. Contact Lynne Schumacker at (513) 382-0488 for details.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, ST. MARK'S—THE 1/2-ACRE LOT HAS SOLD.

The half-acre lot on Anthony Wayne Avenue behind the picnic shelter and garages has sold for \$55,000. Closing on the sale of the property was December 22. Congratulations and thanks to the Trustees; to the listing agent, Terrill Broshear; and to the official signers, Jennifer Marshall, chair of trustees, and Bill Schumacker, treasurer. Proceeds from the sale will be used for capital expenditures only, as specified in the U.M. Book of Discipline.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES WILL BE AVAILABLE
AFTER WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28**



Poinsettias 2022

(A)

In memory of Vernon and Helen Armstrong and In memory of Vernon and Marguerite Samuelson from Bruce & Donna Armstrong (2-Red)
In memory of Donald & Julia Ault from Don & Carol Ault (1-Red)

(B)

In memory of my wonderful husband Bill and In Honor of all The Brabbs Family Children, Grandchildren, and Great-grandchildren from Ann Brabbs (3-Red)
In memory of our parents & my sister from Lyn Bucalo & Bob Ratliff (1-Pink)
In memory of our parents from David & Pam Brockfield (1-White)
In memory of my parents Dick & Helen Moser from Debbie Bryant (1-Red)
In memory of our loved ones and in memory of Judy & Herbert Gross from The Bunte Family (2-Red)
In memory of John Bright, Elza Longmire, Merle & Mae Brelsford, Gloria McGrath & Barbara Newell from Roy & Helen Brown (1-Pink)
In memory of Zura Brown, Sharon Brown, Georgette Brown, Larry Brown and Konar Davenport from Roy & Helen Brown (1-Red)

(D)

In honor of Gale Logan from Bill & Julie Dichtl (1-Red)
In honor of our children from Dick and Edith Davis (1-Red)

(E)

In memory of Beth's mom, Olive Bonham from Beth & Doug Ewald (1-Pink)

(F)

In memory of Lou Fassnacht from Pat Fassnacht & Holly Craig (1-Red)
In memory of Naomi Rowland from Pat Fassnacht & Holly Craig (1-Pink)
In memory of Mike Kinnard from Pat Fassnacht & Holly Craig (1-Red)

(G)

In memory of my parents; Roy & Jolene Goebel from Pam Guynes (1-Red)
In memory of Rose Townsend from Devin & Gale Goodman (1-Red)
In memory of Vina and B.A. Myers and In memory of Joyce and Bob Roberts from Shirley Grant (2-Red)

(H)

In loving memory of my husband Gordon Hill and In honor of my children from Lois Hill (2-White)
In memory of Daniel Hatton from Marlis Hatton (1-Red)
In memory of Marilyn & Scott Schoppenhorst & Jerry McElyea from Marlis Hatton (1-Pink)
In memory of our parents from Mark & Jenni Hensler (1-Red)

(J)

In memory of Betsy Jones from Jim Jones (1-Pink)
In memory of my husband Sam Jones from Iris Jones (1-Red)

Poinsettias Continued...

(L)

In memory of Marilyn Davis and In memory of Carlos Leguina
from Pablo & Tonya Leguina (2-Red)

In honor of my daughter & grandchildren from Alethea LaMar (2-Red)

In memory of our parents Albert & Bettiejean Luken and

In memory of Jim & Shirley Foster from Mark & Sue Luken (2-Red)

(M)

In memory of my husband, John from Ann McWilliam (1-Red)

In memory of Walter & Marilyn Knauff, Mary Shell, and Agnes Adams
from The Mislansky Family (1-Red)

In honor of our St. Mark's Youth Group from The Mislansky Family (1-white)

In memory of Jennie's mother, Karen Mason & Rick's father, Gary Marshall
from Rick & Jennie Marshall (1-Red)

In memory of our grandparents Ed & Ruby Kemp, Raymond Mason, Jewell
Hoskins, Joseph & Eleanore Marshall, and Ignatz & Evelyn Kaczmarek
from Rick & Jennie Marshall (3-Red)

(R)

In memory of Carol Grammel from Tari Randall (1-White)

In memory of Robert Grammel from Tari Randall (1-Red)

In honor of Kristy, Brodie, Kaden and Kallie Theiss
from Susan Rumley (1-Pink)

In memory of Kathryn & Ed Redmond from Susan Rumley (1-Red)

(S)

In memory of French Smoot from Brenda Smoot (1-Red)

In memory of Lou Fassnacht from Rich & Suzan Stracke (1-White)

In memory of our parents from Don & Marilyn Stewart (1-Red)

In honor of our children & grandchildren from Don & Marilyn Stewart (1-Red)

In memory of our parents Bob Schumacker and Craig & Florence Kennedy
from Bill & Lynne Schumacker (2-Red)

In honor of The fabulous children's ministry & servant leaders from
John & Peggy Smith (1-Pink)

In memory of our parents from John & Peggy Smith (1-White)

(T)

In memory of grandmother Rose Stelmach from Rich & Karen Turner (1pink)

In memory of Lee Rumley from Kristy Theiss (1-Red)

(Z)

In honor of our St. Mark's Family from R & J Zugelster (1-red, 1-white, 1pink)

Why is the Poinsettia the most popular Christmas plant?

'Tis the season when United Methodist sanctuaries around the world bloom into shades of red, pink, and white created by poinsettias, the most popular Christmas plant. With leaves shaped like the Star of Bethlehem, the poinsettia has been a decorative staple for decades.

While most people associate the poinsettia with Christmas, what may get overlooked is how the poinsettia actually represents not only the birth of Jesus, but also Christ's resurrection.

"I can't imagine not having the poinsettias in the church," said the Rev. Donna Friddle, senior pastor at United Methodist churches in High Point, North Carolina. "The plants are a visible reminder for us of Christ's birth and His death and the meaning behind those events."

Symbolically, we have Jesus' life story in one plant. The leaves symbolize the star that led the Wise Men to the newborn Jesus, the red leaves are a reminder of the blood of Christ shed during His crucifixion and the white leaves represent Christ's purity.

"We move through the birth of Christ to get to the cross."

[Link for this article:](https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-poinsettia-tells-jesus-life-story)

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-poinsettia-tells-jesus-life-story>

**If you ordered a Poinsettia, pick up is on Dec 24th after the 11:00PM Christmas Eve Service*

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

STAFF

Pastor	Joe Payne
Administrative Assistant	Lyn Bucalo
Director of Music	Chris Beiser
Pianist	Sue Combs
Director of Children & Family Ministries	Peggy Smith
Director of Youth Ministries	Julie Mislansky
Pastor Emeritus	Bob Klingel

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Liturgist	Tonya Leguina
Sound	Rick Kiefer
Lay Leader/Camera	Mark Hensler
Screen	Jennie Marshall

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Contact Lyn Bucalo at L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com to submit content for monthly newsletters on the 3rd Monday each month.

February Newsletter deadline is January 16th

ALTAR FLOWERS:

One Floral: Happy Birthday Marlis Hatton on Dec 25th!

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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513.844.1818
www.Fairfieldstmarks.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

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WIFI: StMarks Guest
PW: HelloFairfield