

*You are invited to stand. Feel free to sit at any time.

~8:30 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP~

Announcements

Lighting of Advent Candle

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Everlasting Father

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God. During Advent we look to the one who knows our deepest thoughts.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God. During Advent we look to the One who cares for our deepest needs.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God. During Advent we look to the One who knows our most pressing concerns

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Prayer

Gracious Lord, as we continue our Advent journey, we acknowledge that very little in our world stays the same. Thank you for being our Everlasting Father, who is eternally present with us. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Praise “Hark the Herald/King of Heaven” “The Angel Gabriel” “Mary Did You Know”

Scripture Reading Robbie Milam

Luke 1:26-38 (NIV): 26 In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.” 34 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” 35 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. 37 For no word from God will ever fail.” 38 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Matthew 1:18-24 (NIV): 18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Message Rev. Dr. Jan Justice
Faces of Christmas: “An Unwed Mom and a Stepdad”
Praise “Joseph’s Lullaby” “Breath of Heaven”
Closing Prayer “Everlast God”

~~~10:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP~~~

Announcements

Introduction of Staff Beverly Hulett

Meet and Greet

Choral Introit “Come, O Redeemer, Come”

Scripture Reading from Isaiah 9 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born and he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

Lighting of Christ Candles Haley Cinader and Madison Veith

\*Opening Hymn “Little Drummer Boy”

Opening Prayer Judy Dudley  
This is Advent, season of promise. In our worship we prepare for the birth of a baby in a dusty stable in Bethlehem, and remind ourselves that this child will become the Savior of the World who will return again in power and glory to draw all of his children together with songs of everlasting praise. The promise of the baby is also the promise of eternal life to all who believe. God of hope and promise, be with us throughout this Advent season and draw us ever closer as we journey together toward the stable and the birth of your Son, our Savior. Come and let us worship you. Amen

Lighting of Advent Candles Milam Family

Children’s Moment (we invite children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and younger)

Children’s Church Youth Bible Study Jean Gilliam, Sherri Thornton Bruce Sperry

Special Music “Mary Did You Know” Robbie Milam

Joy and Concerns Rev. Kerry Edwards

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

Giving of Our Gifts

Offertory Prayer

Hymn “Away in a Manger” No. 217

\*Doxology No. 95

Choir “This Child, This King”

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-24 (NIV) Bruce VanMeter (Scripture printed in Contemporary Service)

Sermon Rev. Dr. Jan Justice  
Faces of Christmas: “An Unwed Mom and a Stepdad”

\*Closing Prayer  
This Advent-time we remember Mary and Joseph, giving thanks for their faithfulness, courage and obedience, stepping out into the unknown in the strength of your Spirit, playing their part in the fulfilment of your plan to bring your prodigal people home again. We pray that their example might be the pattern of our lives, that when your gentle whisper breaks through the clamor of this world and into our small corner, we might be ready to listen, and having listened, to act. Amen.

\*Closing Hymn “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” No. 230  
Verses 1, 3 & 4

\*Benediction

Postlude May James

Feel free to remain in the sanctuary after worship to continue your communion with God. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship outside the narthex.

Serving Today  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jan Justice; Pastor Congregational Care: Rev. Kerry Edwards; Choir Director: Robbie Milam; Organist: May James; Liturgist: Judy Dudley; Scripture Reader: Bruce VanMeter; Acolytes: Haley Cinader, Madison Veith; Advent Readers: Milam Family; Ushers: Joan Belanger, Pat Rogers, Jerry & Marielle Crawford, Chuck Schreiber, Rich Symes; Greeters: Liz and Dave Rehbock; Lay Leader: Doris Cherubini

Attendance: Traditional Worship - 154; Contemporary Worship – 9; Sunday School – 6; Children’s Church – na; Small Groups: Women of Christmas – 10; Nutcracker Bible Study – 8; Men’s Fellowship - 3

Volunteers for Christmas Eve  
Liturgist: Doris Cherubini; Scripture Readers: Choir Members; Acolytes: Madison Veith, Destiny Horton; Advent Readers: Doris Cherubini & children; Ushers: Joan Belanger, Pat Rogers, Jerry & Marielle Crawford, Chuck Schreiber, Rich Symes; Greeters: Liz & Dave Rehbock;

Volunteers for Next Sunday, December 29  
Liturgist: Linda Jefferies; Scripture Reader: Bob Schoonover; Acolyte: Redge Perez; Children’s Church: no children’s church; Youth Bible Study: no bible study; Ushers: Joan Belanger, Pat Rogers, Jerry & Marielle Crawford, Chuck Schreiber, Rich Symes; Greeters: Liz & Dave Rehbock;

Happy Birthday

Cal Grabofski - December 26

Happy Anniversary

David & Patricia Sawyer - December 23  
Ken & Linda Jefferies - December 27

This Week  
December 22– December 28

Sunday, December 22  
8:30 am – Contemporary Worship Service  
9:00 am – Sunday School  
10:00 am – Traditional Worship Service

Monday, December 23  
Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Office Closed  
5:30 p.m. - Caroling & refreshments  
6:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Office Closed  
Thursday, December 26 - Office Closed  
Friday, December 27 - Office Closed  
8:30 am – Rummage Sorting till 11:30 am

### Coming Events

**Advent Bible Studies: Tuesday's** at 11:00 a.m., "The Women of Christmas" meets in CLC. **Thursday's** at 10:30 a.m., "The Gift of the Nutcracker" meets in the CLC.

**Holiday Grief Group** – will resume in January. Watch bulletin for dates.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – Join us at 5:30 p.m. for refreshments, 5:45 p.m. for caroling in the Sanctuary and 6:00 p.m. for our Candlelight Service.

### Announcements

**Poinsettias** – Please be sure to pick up your plant following the Christmas Eve Worship service.

**Christmas Card Box** - We are not exchanging personal Christmas Cards as we have done in previous years where we have kept them in the Narthex - simply give them directly to the person. However, we are collecting Christmas cards with little notes inside for both the children's home and for the area nursing homes. We don't want anyone to go through Christmas without knowing that they are loved. We have boxes in the Narthex for the cards. **Make sure they are in the box Today.**

**Church Office** will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup> for the Christmas Holidays.

**Just Desserts – A Dinner Theater You'll Be "Dying" to See!** – save the dates – Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Ticket required price: \$15.00 includes dinner, drink and special *scrumptious dessert!* Table of 8 - \$120.00. Tickets are limited for each date and must be paid in full prior to event. This is a fund raiser for our church. Tickets on sale now in the Narthex or call the church office.

**LLUMC History** – What? Organized in binders so it will be easier to find what you may be looking for to peruse. Look in the library (Sunday School room) on top of the shelves on the right. Enjoy your history! Your loyal historians Diane and Carolyn.

**Upper Room Edwards'** – Will not meet in December but will resume 4:00 p.m., Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> and January 27<sup>th</sup> at the home of Kerry & Sandra Edwards.

**Upper Room Peasley's** – We will not meet in December but will resume 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> and January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**January Bible Studies – Tuesday's January 14 – February 11<sup>th</sup>** at 11:00 a.m. **"Who Is This Man?"** Discover the influence and challenge Jesus has on history and on your life! If interested sign up in the Narthex or call the church office.

**Thursday's January 16<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 a.m. **"Hope Prevails" A biblical study about depression.** Learn you are not alone-depression is common and not shameful. Learn to fight back against the enemy who would steal your joy and peace. Book is \$14.00. Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office.

**New to Christianity or need a refresher?** If you are new to Christianity or need a refresher on what it means to be a Christian, we have a class we are forming called "Alpha" which answers all the basic questions. If you are interested, please see Pastor Jan.

### Open Positions Needing Filled in the Church

If you are interested in helping with one of these positions contact Doris Cherubini at 352-753-3123, [dorris603@aol.com](mailto:dorris603@aol.com) or Pastor Jan at 913-953-7336, [pastorjustice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorjustice@sbcglobal.net)

**Detailed information of each position is available in the Narthex.**

**Individual Positions:** Advertising Coordinator; Children's and Youth Program Coordinator. **Team Members Needed:** Hospitality: Need 4; Visitor Friends: Need 4; Shepherd Program: Need 6; Fresh Expressions/Outreach: Need 4 people; Food Pantry needs volunteers

### Prayer Concerns

(Requests remain in bulletin for 3 weeks)

**Praise:** Don Anderson home after 6 months in hospital & rehab (Selocks)

**Those who are ill or recovering:** Tony Peccia, Betty Sutton, country & lost souls & son John (M Pearce), son's wife & friend Kathy (Dave Sawyer), Jessica (Debbie), Janet (Elsa), Bonnie Landry, Don Roberts (Bruce Mullins), family members (Sheryl), Mark (J Mackenzie), Bill (Prayer Team), Bob Landle, neighbor (S. Jischke), those depressed this Christmas season (J Davis), Maddy Birte & Bill Molo (unsigned), Pastor Kerry (Prayer Team), Barry Horine (J Ray), all unspoken needs (Prayer Team), Martha Oliver (J Ray), Hogarty Family (Selocks), Dana (Addie Smith), Joan Mackenzie (Prayer Team), Sam Meredith (J Ray & B Horine)

**Concerns:** Barry Horine (J Ray), Maria Deschamps, Carolyn Dean, Larry Irwin

**In the hospital:**

**Those in nursing homes, rehab, & special care:** Ernie Joanis (The Willows), Mary Davis (Brookdale of Ocala), Sally Rigo (Lake View Terrace, Altoona), Donna Cross (Frederick, MD), Bud Matthews (Assisted Living, Houston), Gene Nupp (Brookdale of Deland), Tony Peccia (GA rehab Hospital), Thelma Deyton (rehab at home), Jerry Rosenborough, Betty Sutton (Buffalo Crossing)

**Opportunities and ministries:** Mission Society, LOVE, Inc., Ocala Lowell Prison Ministry for women

**Pray for our** Military, Government Officials, Peace in our Nation, Middle East, Israel and the World

**In Sympathy** Geri Foster on death of husband Timothy Lundy Wednesday morning.

### Key Contacts

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## Voices of Christmas



## An Unwed Mom and Step Dad

Mary and Joseph:  
"An Unwed Mom and a Stepdad"

December 22, 2019

*Our Vision:* to be a welcoming church drawing people to Christ.

*Our mission is to:*

*Seek God's Love*

*Teach God's Word*

*Equip Spiritually*

*Provide inspiring Worship*

*Serve the Community*