



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390

www.westgroveumc.org



***First Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 1, 2019***

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

OPEN

Prelude

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Folder located on a chair in your row.
First-time guest or member, let us know you were here!*

*Call to Worship (written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchel)

Susan Paisley

One: Awake, for a new day is dawning;

Many: Hope sparks and catches flame.

One: Arise, for the time is approaching;

Many: Peace seizes the hearts of the people.

One: Announce to the world that the Lord is coming;

Many: Joy fills the air, moves us into the dance of the Spirit.

One: The Advent of our God is here!

Many: God's Love is coming into our world and lives in a new way.

*Processional Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Hymn No. 211

Vv. 1, 2, 4

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Susan Paisley

**Emmanuel, God with us, as we being this Advent season,
we are eager for your coming.**

**Your presence brings the peace for which we have been aching amid darkness and
disconnect. While our ache is personal, we know that our salvation is communal.**

Let us work for peace and reconciliation in communities and among nations.

**May the day come where no longer shall we learn war or covert
actions to bring down those we despise.**

**Turn our hearts back to Jesus and prepare us to receive our Savior,
the Prince of Peace. In whose name we pray, Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace

Susan Paisley

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

GROW

Moment For All Ages

Pastor Monica

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

Susan Paisley

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44

Susan Paisley

*Response to the Lesson

Susan Paisley

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

"The World Awaits Your Coming"

Chancel Choir

Advent Wreath Lighting ~ The Choir sings, and invite you to join in after the litany.

Candle Lighting Song

"The Hope Of Your Coming"

PowerPoint

Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #10 for Children's Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #10. Children ages birth to 3 are welcome to attend the nursery in room #15 to participate in a story and guided activities.

SERVE***Hymn of Response**

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

UMH No. 196

Moment of Impact

Luther House Cookies and Crafts

Pastor Monica

Offering***Offertory Response**

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH No. 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Offertory Prayer (Unison)**

Pastor Jim

God of peace and reconciliation, we bring our gifts this morning as we prepare our lives for the gift of the Christ child. We come reflecting on a poor family of refugees in an occupied territory with their son, the Christ child, born as they spent the night in a stable in Bethlehem. As we dedicate these tithes and offerings to you, we long for the coming of the Christ. May we dedicate our lives to peace and reconciliation in preparing the way of Christ. In the name of the Prince of Peace and Savior of the world, we pray. Amen.

***Invitation**

Pastor Jim

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Pastor Jim

We confess, God with us, we are not ready for you to come fully into our lives. There is much that we still need to control and prepare. There is much that we still wish to manage and figure out ourselves. The reconciliation work with one another calls us to dirty places where we must admit our own mistakes. Forgive us, Christ, for our egos and self-focus. Lead us into your way and your kingdom. Call us as we pray 'thy kingdom come' to release our grip on our lives, turning our lives into your hands. May our lives reflect the fully realized coming of Christ, we pray, Amen.

(Moment of Silence)

Words of Assurance

Pastor Jim

The Great Thanksgiving (Insert)

Pastor Jim & Pastor Monica

*All are welcome. Our communion bread is gluten free and nut free so that all may receive together.
Our cup is grape juice, so that all may partake.*

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Pastor Monica

Communion Hymn

"It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"

UMH No. 218

Prayer After Receiving (Unison)

Pastor Monica

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this sustaining meal that offers us daily bread and hope for tomorrow. May we be renewed through the peace and reconciliation offer to through Jesus. Let us embody Christ's call to give ourselves for others. Amen.

***Hymn of Sending Forth**

"Go Tell It On The Mountain"

Hymn No. 251

***Benediction**

Pastor Monica

***Choral Benediction**

"Christmas Peace"

Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

** = Rise in body or spirit* **Bold Print = Say in unison**

Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 2:1-5*

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 24:36-44

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day[b] your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

*It is your tithes, offerings, and gifts
that impact and change lives for
Christ!*

Report from November 24, 2019

*Combined Worship Attendance: 158
Community Thanksgiving Attendance: 80
General Offering : \$ —
Building Maintenance Fund: \$—
Emergency Groceries YTD: 322 bags
Emergency Aid provided YTD: \$ 3,570.11*

Advent Candle Lighting

One: I was glad when they said to us, 'let us go to the house of Lord. Let us gather together'. (Psalm 122:1)

Many: How beautiful upon the mountain are the feet of those who bring good news and proclaim peace. (Isaiah 57:12)

One: The Prince of Peace is coming. Peace is more than stillness or the absence of fighting. Peace is contentment and trust amid doubt. Peace is comfort with mystery. Peace is work for justice through reconciliation.

Many: Lord, you are our peace as we seek reconciliation with our neighbors.

One: We await the coming of Christ, the Savior of the World. Peace is coming soon! We light this candle as a reminder that we are Advent people. We trust and respond to what we already know about God, as well as what we hope about what is promised to come.

Many: Oh, Lord, you are our peace.

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## The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord is with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Prepare your hearts and make straight the path of the Lord.

**Many: Even so, come, Lord Jesus.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is a good and right and joyful thing always and everywhere to thanks to you, Almighty God. In those days when chaos reigned, creation appeared, Coming God, as you spoke the Word which caused snow to cap mountains; as you breathed the Spirit which give life to sheep and shepherds; as your steadfast loved shaped all that is good and beautiful. All this was intended for those clothed in your image of grace and hope, but we insisted on putting on sin's coat, cinching death's belt around our ways.

Through the prophets of every age, we heard your words of encouragement, but chose to keep looking for life in the seductions offered to us by sin. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. All these we do with all your people now on earth and all the multitude of heaven, praising your name and joining in their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. Jesus came to bring a new way of being a light to the nations, not with might and fright, but with compassion and mercy, joy and peace, justice, and righteousness. Jesus gave us an example of life in which caring for others, standing up to oppressive power, working alongside those who are different, and following the call of God were a vital part of living out the gifts of creation.

By his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from the bondage of sin and the power of death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is the new covenant, in my blood poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a living and holy sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People: Christ has died. Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, your people, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood, offering others the forgiveness and the wholeness that Christ offers to us.

By Your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry with all the world until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us join our voices to pray together the prayer that Christ our Savior has taught us to pray.

### **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.**

# OPEN ~ GROW ~ SERVE

*At West Grove UMC, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith and serving our community and world in His name.*

Welcome, one and all!

We are glad you are here—a place where faith, hope and love abide!

We encourage you to join us again.

Our Welcome Center, in the lobby, is a place to find information about our church.

Church Office: 610-869-9334—Our Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)

***Please remember to silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary for worship.***



Our Assisted Listening system is available to all who could benefit from additional amplification or assistance. Please see our soundboard operators for questions or to use a unit. We would like for you to hear!



**PARENTS NIGHT OUT! SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 5-8PM** Children ages 4 - Grade 6  
Enjoy a night to yourself while giving back to our youth group students! Students and adult leaders will lead children through different activities throughout the evening. All proceeds go towards the youth mission trip to Boston, Mass. in June 2020. Find this event through West Grove UMC's facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/westgroveumc/> You can find the registration form under the "tickets" link. Register by Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Contact Melanie Hartley with questions or concerns: 610-869-9370.

**LUTHER HOUSE COOKIE BAKE:** Last year, we had our first *Luther House Cookie Bake and Craft Make* event and were able to deliver cookies and a small gift to all four Luther House residents! We are looking forward to bringing the same Christmas joy again this year. Would you please **sign-up to donate Christmas cookies** this year? There is a **sign-up sheet in the lobby**. Cookies (and crafts from all the crafters) are **due by Sunday, December 8th at 12:30 pm**. Right after the service, all are invited to join in on the fun of putting all the packages together! The **delivery date** for sharing the cookies and crafts with the residents is on **Monday, December 9 at 10 a.m.** If you are interested in helping Janice Bowers with the delivery, please contact her at 610-444-8470 or [janicesemail2@gmail.com](mailto:janicesemail2@gmail.com)

**FIRST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE:** Bring your Christmas cards for your church family between 12/1/19-1/5/20. We are setting up a wonderful display of "Mailboxes" that you can into which you can deposit your cards. Place your cards into the box with the first initial of the recipients' last name. Pick up your cards at the same time. It is a wonderful way to share the Christmas joy with our church friends!

**Please visit our CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE** in the Lobby starting **Sunday, November 24th**.

On the tree, there will be gift tags for families and individuals from our community in need. The tag will note the child's gender, age and requested item. Some might just have the gender and age and you can pick out a surprise Christmas present! We will be providing gifts to children in the school district, residents at Twin Pines, and additional local families in need. Wrapped gifts, with the gift tag attached, **need to be returned to the church by Sunday, December 8th to ensure they can be delivered in time**. Questions? Please contact Joan Leaman at [jmleaman@comcast.net](mailto:jmleaman@comcast.net).





**Annual  
Christmas Music Celebration  
Sunday, December 8th ~ 6:30 p.m.**



*Sounds  
of The  
Season*

Christmas brings out the best music in all of us!  
Bring your family and invite your friends!  
Our family-friendly time of 6:30 p.m.  
allows all ages to join in the festivities.

Do you sing or play an instrument?

Are you interested in participating in the program?

Let Betsy Smith know of your interest by Sunday, December 1st.

Email: [musicmomva@aol.com](mailto:musicmomva@aol.com) Call 610-869-3941

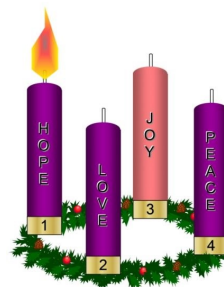


**Thursday, December 5th  
6:30 p.m.**

Join us for a Carol Sing led by our Chancel Choir in the West Grove Town Center outside of the Avon Grove Library! The Missions Team will have a welcome table for the community with hot cocoa as we invite the folks to visit our church, a place where all are welcome and all belong.

## **Advent**

Advent begins on December 1st! We invite you and your family to sign up to **lead the litany and light the Advent Wreath** at 8:30 or 11:00 worship. Sign up in the Lobby.





# THIS WEEK: December 1 through December 8, 2019

~~ Hours for the Church Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ~~

## First Sunday in Advent Communion Sunday

|                   |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | 8:30 a.m.<br>9:45 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m.<br>12:00 p.m.<br><b>5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.</b>                                                                  | Contemporary Worship w/PraiseWorks Band<br>Sunday School and Faith Learning Academy<br>Traditional Worship w/ Chancel Choir and Memory Bells<br>Counters (#2)<br><b>Youth Movie Night! (Sanc.)</b>            |
| <b>Monday:</b>    | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.<br>9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.<br>9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.<br>5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.<br>5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.<br>6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.         | CMO Preschool (9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)<br>Knit Wits (#1)<br>Making Sense of the Bible (#3)<br>Tech Team Meeting (#1)<br>Chime Ensemble (Sanc.)<br>Memory Bells Rehearsal (Sanc.)                               |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.<br>11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.<br>1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.<br>4:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.<br>6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.<br>7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.          | CMO Preschool—Extended (9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)<br>Music Practice (#6)<br>District Committee on Ministry (Sayers Memorial UMC)<br>GS Troop #447 (#8 & 10)<br>GS Troop #41377 (#8, 10)<br>Trustees Meeting (#1) |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | <b>7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.</b><br>9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.<br>9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.<br>2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.<br>6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. | <b>Ministerium</b><br>CMO Preschool (9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)<br>Chapel Time (Sanc.)<br>Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting<br>Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)<br>GS Troop #427 (#8 & 10)                               |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.<br>9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.<br>5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.<br>5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.<br><b>6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.</b>                           | CMO Preschool—Extended (9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)<br>Chapel Time (Sanc.)<br>GS Troop #4099 (#12)<br>GS Troop #4567 (#8 & 10)<br><b>UNWRAP CHRISTMAS! (West Grove Town Center)</b>                                |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.<br>10:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.<br><b>7:00 p.m.</b>                                                                                 | CMO Preschool (9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)<br>Hebrews Bible Study (Alison Theater at Jenner's Pond)<br><b>Girl Scout Overnight Camping begins (Sanc.)</b>                                                          |
| <b>Saturday</b>   | <b>10:00 a.m.</b><br>10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.<br><b>5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.</b>                                                                          | <b>Girl Scout Overnight Camping ends (Sanc.)</b><br>Daily Reflections (#8 and 10)<br><b>Parents Night Out! (Sanc., 8 &amp; 10)</b>                                                                            |

## Second Sunday in Advent

|                |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday:</b> | 8:30 a.m.<br>9:45 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m.<br>11:00 a.m.<br>12:00 p.m.<br><b>12:30 p.m.</b><br>3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.<br><b>6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.</b> | Contemporary Worship w/PraiseWorks Band<br>Sunday School and Faith Learning Academy<br>Jenner's Pond Worship (Allison Theater)<br>Traditional Worship w/ Chancel Choir and Memory Bells<br>Counters (#2)<br><b>Luther House Cookies and Crafts</b><br>GS Troop #41413 (#8 & 10)<br><b>Christmas Music Celebration (Sanc., Lobby, Kit.)</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Moment of Impact—Luther House Cookies and Crafts

Last year, we had our first Luther House Cookie Bake and Craft Make event. With your generosity, we blessed 253 persons in an apartment at Luther House with a Christmas craft and cookies. Sharing the love of Christ through gift is a blessing to our community at Luther House. Luther House is a collection of four buildings in Jennersville with independent senior housing with low-income options. You can share the joy by signing up to bring in cookies, packaging the gifts, or delivering. Thanks be to God for the ways in which we are in ministry with our community.

# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## NEED PRAYER?

**To be added to the Prayer Chain:** Weekdays, contact Donna Fackler at office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334. Evenings and weekends, email prayer@westgroveumc.org. **Prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for four Sundays.** Please contact Donna, if you need the request extended. *If you do not want your name listed in the bulletin, please state that in your request.*

### Community Prayer Focus for November: Youth Ministry Mission Prayer Focus for November: Sunday Breakfast Mission

Darlene Alleger (Guepet)  
Glenn Allen (Mundell)  
Helen Carlin  
Joann Coates  
Dee Crawford



Linda Eyster (Combs)  
Michael Fackler (Fackler)  
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)  
Family of Bill Fili (Bratton)  
Mary Finn (Mullen)  
The Gastaldi Family (Strewjewski)  
Stephen Gaughan (Fackler)  
John Gorman (McGinley)  
Mike Haley  
Ellen Hayes  
Scott Helsel (Stewart)  
Family of Bob Herb (Shiplet)  
Linda Herb (Shiplet)  
Muff Hurst  
Family of Sandy Kates (B. Smith)  
Peg Kent  
Gordon Maule (Phillips)

Joel & Heaven McCree  
(Combs)  
Peggy Mowrer  
Betty Mundell  
Tim Mullen

Lola Nadolny (Hruz)  
Michael Raineri  
Family of Vernon Ramberger  
Wayne Reisler (Shiplet)  
Rick Renzulli (McGinley)  
Joan Saller  
Doug & Joan Smead (Wolff)  
Charlie Smith (B. Smith)  
Reed & Joyce Smith  
Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)  
Flora Spiegel (Strewjewski)  
Maureen Stickel (Fackler)  
Jeannie Sullivan  
Mary Tharp (RAP)  
Tommy Lake (Simmons)  
Bruce Varney (Shiplet)  
Mary Weidman (Miller)  
Gisela Winkler (Mullen)



Tyler Brady—Middle East (Minnick)  
Anderson S. Camp  
Navy, Norfolk, VA (Shaub)  
Daniel Engberg—Iraq (Hruz)  
Nathaniel Howard,  
North Carolina  
Brian Kubo—Washington (Mullen)  
LTC Eric Maxwell,  
Chesapeake, VA  
(The Rambergers)  
Chris Weidman—Japan (Miller)  
Dalton Wolfe—U.S. Marine Corps  
Drew Zumpino—South Korea  
(Beauchamp)

## SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

### This Sunday, December 1

**Ushers—8:30** Gene and Alison Aucott  
**Greeters—8:30** TBD  
**Ushers—11:00** Linda Peirson & Laura Minnick  
**Greeters—11:00** Esther Culbertson  
**Communion** Sullivan, Mundell, Hartley, McGinley, Talley/  
Mundell, Hartley, Paisley, Taylor  
  
**Acolyte 8:30/11** Brady Castaldi / Clarissa Robinson  
**Nursery 8:30/9:45/11** A. Castaldi/A. Castaldi/P. Fulton  
**C. Worship—8:30/11** TBD / TBD  
**Lay Reader—8:30** Carol Schoff  
**Liturgist—11:00** Susan Paisley  
**Moment All Ages** Pastor Monica  
**Roamers** Fran Miller  
**Hospitality 8:30** Nancy Duvall  
**Hospitality 11:00** The Stuhrkes  
**Counters** George Anderson & Donna Shaub  
**Sound Booth** K. Schneider, M. Duvall & Others

### Next Sunday, December 8

Jay and Carol Schoff  
TBD  
Daisey Ingiosi and Jean Kilmartin  
TBD  
  
Lizzy Bohnsack / Owen Jones  
A. Castaldi/K. Smith/K. Rinehimer  
TBD / TBD  
Carolyn Barrett  
**Susan Paisley**  
Pastor Monica  
Joan Leaman  
Shiplet, Smith, Underwood  
Nancy Duvall  
Valerie Kapp-Benner and Alison Aucott  
K. Schneider, M. Duvall & Others

# **Meditations For Your Week**

Sunday, December 1 ~ Saturday, December 8



**Sunday:** *"In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it." Isaiah 2:2.* On this first day of Advent, we thank God for second chances. God's grace is abundant. There is nothing you can do to separate you from God! As many will turn their hearts to Jesus in this holiday season, pray for those who need to hear God gives second chances AND so do we!

**Monday:** *"Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Isaiah 2:3.* Consider that Advent is a time of preparation and growth. As an Advent people, we seek peace and reconciliation. Where is God calling you to walk in God's path of peace?

**Tuesday:** *"He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Isaiah 2:4.* Peace is not just the absence of war but the presence of reconciliation between individuals, communities, and nations. Learning peace is as vital as not learning war. Pray for those who build bridges of peace.

**Wednesday:** *"O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!" Isaiah 2:5.* In the light, we are transparent. We are not defensive about our actions. Pray for our world and community as we seek to build bridges of peace and reconciliation in the light.

**Thursday:** *"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" Matthew 24: 36.* Advent is the coming of Christ. As we prepare for the birth of a baby, we anticipate the full realization of God's reign. We pray that God's reign come on earth as it is in heaven.

**Friday:** *"Keep awake; therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." Matthew 24:43.* Consider that Jesus was not advising insomnia, but rather a way of being alive that keeps us aware of where we see in-breaking of God's reign around us. Celebrate today where you have seen reconciliation in your life with a friend, family member, or coworker. Praise God!

**Saturday:** *"Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." Matthew 24: 44.* When you prepare for a trip, you lay out what you need. How are you getting ready for the coming of Christ? Have you sought out reconciliation with those you can? Pray for those difficult relationships in your life, as well as our national and international conflicts.

# 8:30 Contemporary Worship Service

## OPEN

### Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Folder on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.*

*First-time guest or member, let us know you were here.*

### \*Celebration Set

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”  
“Show Me Your Ways”

PraiseWorks Band

### \*Passing of the Peace

PraiseWorks Band

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

## GROW

### Moment For All Ages

Pastor Monica

### Old Testament Lesson

*Isaiah 2:1-5*

Carol Schoff

### \*Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 24:36-44*

Carol Schoff

**Advent Wreath Lighting** ~ The Choir sings, and invite you to join in after the litany.

### Candle Lighting Song

“The Hope Of Your Coming”

PraiseWorks Band

### Sermon

“Second Chance for Peace”

Pastor Monica

## SERVE

### Moment of Impact

Luther House Cookies and Crafts

Pastor Monica

### Offering

“Glory (Let There Be Peace)”

PraiseWorks Band

### Offertory Prayer (Unison, p. 3)

Pastor Jim

### Prayer of Confession

Pastor Jim

### The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Jim & Pastor Monica

*All are welcome. Our communion bread is gluten free and nut free so that all may receive together. Our cup is grape juice, so that all may partake.*

### Communion Song

“The Table”

PraiseWorks Band

### Prayer After Receiving (Unison, p. 3)

Pastor Jim

### \*Closing Song

“My Peace”

PraiseWorks Band

### \*Benediction

Pastor Monica

### \*Postlude

*= Please stand as you are able*   **Bold Print = Say in unison**