



# **West Grove United Methodist Church**

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Timothy Carl Anderman  
300 North Guernsey Road  
West Grove, PA 19390  
[www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)  
610-869-9334



*Third Sunday of Advent*  
*December 11, 2022*

# 11:00 a.m. Worship

## Prelude

## Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Tim

## Lighting of the Advent Candle is our Joy

*Isaiah 35:10*

*And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our joy!

May the joyful promise of your presence O God,

Make us rejoice in our hope & salvation!

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

## \*Call to Worship (Based on Luke 1:47-55)

Pastor Tim

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior,

**People: For he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servants!**

Leader: Surely from now on all generations will call us blessed,

**People: For the Mighty One has done great things for us, holy is his name!**

Leader: He has shown strength with his arm, and scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts!

**People: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation!**

Leader: He has come to the aid of his faithful children, in remembrance of his mercy,

**People: According to the promise he made to our ancestors in faith, to Abraham and to his descendants forever!**

## \*Opening Hymn

“Hail To The Lord Anointed”

UMH No. 203

## Moment for All Ages

Melanie Hartley

*(The children are invited to go with the Children's Worship leader to Room 12 for their activities.)*

## Opening Prayer (Based on “For God Is With Us” by For King and Country)

Pastor Tim

**God who loves us and comes to be with us,**

**humbly we ask that you give us the courage to dare to imagine,**

**dare to believe in your true love, and the new beginnings you provide.**

**Even though there was no room for you in that little town so long ago,**

**no one even thinking of the coming glory,**

**help us to open our hearts and minds to what you will do.**

**Help us hear for ourselves the prayers people are praying.**

**As it did for Abraham, may the skies break forth, revealing for us**

**heaven and earth face-to-face, forever transformed.**

**Help us to begin with celebration and ceremony that give testimony to you.**

**May the heavens roar, telling of your glory.**

**May our futures be rearranged and the tide begin to change.**

**Be within us Lord God, and may we be with you.**

**In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

|   |   |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|
| <b>Scripture Lesson</b>   | <i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i>   | Pastor Tim           |
| <b>Meditation</b>   | "Her Choices and Our Choices"   | Pastor Tim           |
| <b>Scripture Lesson</b>   | <i>Matthew 11:2-11</i>  | Peter Mullen         |
| <b>Affirmation of Faith: Faith United Church of Canada #883</b>   |   | Peter Mullen         |
| <b>We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God:</b><br><b>Who has created and is creating who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,</b><br><b>To reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.</b><br><b>We trust God. We are called to be the church:</b><br><b>To celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and</b><br><b>resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.</b><br><b>In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us! We are not alone!</b><br><b>Thanks be to God! Amen!</b> |   |                      |
| <b>*Song of Response</b>  | "O Come, All Ye Faithful"   | PraiseWorks Band     |
| <b>Joys and Concerns</b>  |   | Pastor Tim           |
| <b>Pastoral Prayer</b>  |   | Pastor Tim           |
| <b>Invitation to the Offering</b>   |   | Pastor Jim           |
| <b>Offertory</b>  | "Mary, Did You Know?"   | Chancel Choir<br>ZZZ |
| <b>Dedication of Offering</b>   |   | Pastor Jim           |
| <b>*Closing Song</b>  | "Sing For Joy"  | PraiseWorks Band     |
| <b>*Benediction</b>   |   | Pastor Tim           |
| <b>*Postlude</b>  |   |                      |
| <b>Passing of the Peace, Time of Hospitality</b>  | <i>Please join us for a time of Fellowship and Sunday School following the service.</i><br><i>Please stand as you are able    <b>Bold Print = Say in unison</b></i> |                      |

**We now offer a more informal, earlier service at 8:30 a.m.**  
**We invite you to come!**

# 8:30 a.m. Worship

## Ministry Opportunities

### Lighting of the Advent Candle is our Joy

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### \*Call to Worship (Based on Luke 1:47-55)

Pastor Tim

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**People: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation!**

Leader: He has come to the aid of his faithful children, in remembrance of his mercy,

**People: According to the promise he made to our ancestors in faith, to Abraham and to his descendants forever!**

### Hymn

“Hail To The Lord Anointed”

UMH Hymn No. 203

### Opening Prayer (Based on “For God Is With Us” by For King and Country)

Pastor Tim

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### Scripture

*Isaiah 35:1-10*

Page 5

### Message

“Her Choices and Our Choices”

Pastor Tim

### Scripture

*Matthew 11:2-11*

Page 5

### Affirmation of Faith: Faith United Church of Canada #883

Pastor Tim

**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 God. We are called to be the church:**

**To celebrate God’s presence, 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!**

### Invitation to Offering

### Dedication of Offering

### \*Closing Hymn

“People Look East”

UMC No. 202

### Benediction

Pastor Tim

### Passing of the Peace, Time of Hospitality

*Please join us for a time of Fellowship and Sunday School following the service.*

## Scripture Lesson: *Isaiah 35:1-10*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup> it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.]]

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

<sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; <sup>[b]</sup> the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup> A highway shall be there, <sup>[c]</sup> and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, <sup>[d]</sup> but it shall be for God’s people; <sup>[e]</sup> no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

<sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

<sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

## Scripture Lesson: *Matthew 11:2-11*

<sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the Messiah <sup>[a]</sup> was doing, he sent word by his <sup>[b]</sup> disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

### **Jesus Praises John the Baptist**

<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? Someone <sup>[c]</sup> dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? <sup>[d]</sup> Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup> “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

## 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 God's name.*

Welcome, one and all! Church Office: 610-869-9334

Our Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org) Email us at [info@westgroveumc.org](mailto:info@westgroveumc.org)

**WELCOME, ONE AND ALL!** Faith, hope and love are gifts of God. May you find them here. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. We encourage you to join us again. Please honor us by signing the Friendship Pad. Our Welcome Center, located in the lobby, is a place where guests and new attendees can seek information about our church.

### **2022 UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE IN THE LOBBY.**

**Blue Christmas Service Sunday December 11 at 7 PM.** We will host a blue Christmas service, a time when we are intentional in our focus on the grief in our lives, to entrust it to God as a way of preparing for Christ coming into our hearts and lives anew this season. We have many sources of grief today, not just from the death of a loved one. God empowers us to understand the miracle of life that we share, and embrace the depth of his heart in whatever events we experience, trusting in his creativity to renew and transform. We invite you to join us for this sacred time of fellowship together.

**Annual Christmas Giving Tree: SHARING THE SPIRIT OF GIVING WITH RESIDENTS AT TWIN PINES:** As in the past, this Christmas we will be collecting gifts to be given to the residents at Twin Pines Health Care Center in Chatham. We have been given the names of 20 residents and their gift suggestions. Those gift tags are hanging on the small Christmas tree in the lobby. **We ask you to wrap the gifts and put the tag on the outside of the gift. Wrapped gifts should be brought to the church and placed under the tree by Sunday December 18th.** Thank you for your generosity!

**LUTHER HOUSE CHRISTMAS MISSION:** The mission team is returning to our Luther House Christmas by making up goodie bags and inviting residents to our Christmas services. Please sign up in the Narthex to donate individually packaged cookies and candies. Please mark your calendars for **Sunday the 11th of December.** We will be filling the bags with homemade cookies and individually wrapped Christmas Candies after service on that date. We ask the congregation to sign up to indicate kinds and quantities of cookies or candies you wish to bring so we can make sure we have enough for all the residents there.

**AMAZON SMILE:** When shopping this holiday season, **please sign on to Amazon Smile** and chose West Grove UMC as the non-profit you would like have benefit from your shopping. You only have to do this once and then just sign in under Amazon Smile when you shop. **It costs you NOTHING** and the church gets a percentage of all purchases from all shoppers. If you have any questions, contact Donna in the office.

**Disciple Bible Study:** One of the great joys I have had has been in sharing a great fellowship with others in Disciple Bible study. We have several people who have expressed an interest in sharing in the study, where we read 85% of the Bible in 36 weeks, about 3-4 chapters every day; a daily time of individual devotion of about a half an hour is nurtured. We then come together once a week for about 2 hours to share what we have read and learned, and then look at a video tape that gives us more background on our readings. It's the Word of God interwoven with fellowship with sacred friends, a real Methodist experience of holiness. Please contact me if you have any interest or would like more information. We'd need to determine a day & time to meet. Call and leave a message at the office or e-mail me at [pastor@westgroveumc.org](mailto:pastor@westgroveumc.org)

# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## NEED PRAYER?

**Prayer Requests: Please do not leave prayer requests on the prayer chain email. It is not monitored.** Email Donna Fackler at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or 610-869-9334 or Email Susan Paisley at [sbrintonpais1@verizon.net](mailto:sbrintonpais1@verizon.net) or call 610-268-3305. Your request will be shared with the prayer chain, and if you would like, it will be noted below in the bulletin Prayer List.

Dianne Bunch  
(Stuhrke)  
Helen Carlin  
Dick & Mildred  
Chambers

Joann Coates  
Family of Dee Crawford  
Pat Crawl (Shiplet)  
Dan and Liz DePaul (Jackson)  
Irm Devom (Stryjewski)  
Lena Douglas  
Linda Eyster (Combs)  
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)  
Joyce Flowers (Mullen)  
Family of Pat Gaughan  
(Fackler)  
Richard Heacock  
Alan Herb (Shiplet)  
Jennifer Hertzog (Jackson)  
Family of Don Hurst  
Lynn Jackson  
Debbie Kennedy (Coates)  
Erica Lindell (Stryjewski)  
Jeff Luttmann (Miller)  
Ted Lynam (Stuhrke)  
Jim May (Mullen)



Lenny Martin (K.  
Smith)  
Betty Mundell  
Tim Mullen  
Lola Nadolny (Hruz)

Brian Radcliffe (Hruz)  
Michael Raineri  
Rick Renzulli (McGinley)  
Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)  
Rich and Joan Saller  
RoAnn Bates Schneider  
Levi Schrum (Carmichael)  
Linda Shiplet  
Ian Smedley (Heist)  
Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)  
Flora Spiegel (Strewjewski)  
Jeannette Strewjewski  
Jeannie Sullivan  
Stephen Syska (Mullen)  
Mary Weidman (Miller)  
Mary Weidman (Miller)  
Jill Williams (Miller)  
Tyler Winters (Saller)  
Kay Yates



Anderson S. Camp  
Navy, Norfolk, VA (Shaub)

Nathaniel Howard,  
USA

Brian Kubo—Washington  
(Mullen)

LTC Eric Maxwell,  
Fayetteville, NC  
(Sara Ann Ramberger)

Chris Weidman—Idaho  
(Miller)

Dalton Wolfe-U.S. Marine  
Corps

Drew Zumpino—USA  
(Beauchamp)

## God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

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

## Report from December 4, 2022

**General Offering: \$ 4,679**

**Building Maintenance Fund: \$ 150**

**Thanksgiving Offering To-Date: \$ 920**

**Attendance: In-Person and You Tube**

**8:30 a.m.: 27 11:00 a.m.: 106**

**Food Pantry: 23 families on 12/08/2022**

## **SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING**

### **Sunday Morning Servants**

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Live-Stream                   | Michael Duvall, Steve May   |
| Digital Audio, Camera         | Nate Robinson, Will Stuhrke, Doyle Stuhrke, Maggie Stuhrke and Reed Smith |
| Audio/Visual/Live-Stream Tech | Mike Wiwel  |
| Officiating:                  | Rev. Timothy Carl Anderman<br>Rev. S. James Mundell                       |
| Music Director:               | Betsy Smith   |
| Moment for All Ages:          | Melanie Hartley   |

|                     | <b><u>Today: 12/11/22</u></b>    | <b><u>Next Week: 12/18/22</u></b> |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Nursery Aide:       | OPEN                             | Open                              |
| Children's Worship: | Melanie Hartley                  | Melanie Hartley                   |
| Roamers:            | Fran Miller                      | Maryanne Covington                |
| Counters:           | Janice Bowers and<br>TBA         | Joan Leaman and<br>TBA            |
| Lay Readers:        | Peter Mullen                     | TBA                               |
| Ushers:             | July Gambill and<br>John Gambill | Alison Aucott and<br>Gene Aucott  |
| Greeter:            | Ray Leonardo                     | Kim O'Neill                       |

***Thank you to all of our Sunday Morning Servants.  
Please prayerfully consider serving on Sunday mornings.  
Share your interest with the office and you will be connected with the  
correct person to give you information and to sign-up.***