



# **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)

---



*December 17, 2023 — Third Sunday of Advent*

# 11:00 a.m. Worship

**Welcome and Ministry Opportunities**

Pastor Tim

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Isaiah 35: 10

Peter & Edel Mullen

**Prelude**

Memory Bells

“Sans Day Carol” arr. by Kenneth Lowenberg

**\*Call to Worship (In Unison)** (Based on I Thessalonians 5:16-24)

Leader: Be cheerful, no matter what! Pray all the time! Thank God no matter what happens!

**People: This is the way God wants us all who belong to Christ Jesus to live!**

Leader: Don't suppress the Spirit! Don't stifle those who have a word from the Master!

**People: Don't be gullible; check out everything! Keep only what is good, throw out what is tainted with evil!**

Leader: May God himself, God who makes everything holy, sacred, and whole,

**People: Make us holy and pure and put us all together: spirit, soul, and body!**

Leader: Let God keep us fit and healthy in heart and mind for Christ's coming!

**People: The one who called us is completely dependable! He promises to do it!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

UMH No. 213

**\*Opening Prayer (in unison)** (Based on writing from A Long Obedience) Pastor Tim

**We come to you Lord, because none of us has it within us, except momentarily, to be joyous. We try to get it through entertainment. We pay someone to make jokes, sing songs, but that kind of joy never transforms the deepest places of our hearts. So much of what we try to do only provides temporary results. So we turn to You, knowing we cannot make ourselves joyful. Joy cannot be commanded, purchased, or arranged. So help us do what we can do, help empower us to live in Your abundance, the generosity of Your being, and not under the dictatorship of our own poor needs. Fill us with Your Spirit. Thank you for coming to us personally in Jesus. Now help us receive and embody Your grace and love with joy to our world. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**Moment for All Ages**

Xavier Feliciano

**Scripture**

*Psalm 126*

Pastor Tim

**Meditation**

“Living in Fierce Joy ”

Pastor Tim

**Anthem**

“Rejoice, All Ye Daughters”

Chancel Choir

Tune: Sans Day Carol, Traditional English Carol; words and arranged by Joseph M. Martin

<b>Scripture</b>	<i>Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11</i>	Paulette Bryan
<b>Passing of the Peace</b>		Pastor Tim
<b>Hymn</b>	“People Look East”	UMH No. 202
<b>Joys and Concerns</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Invitation to Offering</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Offertory</b>		Memory Bells
	“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” arr. by Fred Gramann	
<b>Consecration of Offering</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	“Angels from the Realms of Glory”	UMH No. 220
<b>Benediction</b>		Pastor Tim
<b>Postlude</b>		Memory Bells
	“Let There Be Peace on Earth” arr. by Arnold B. Sherman	

*Please join us in the Lobby/ Narthex for a time of fellowship.*  
*\*Please stand as you are able*    **Bold Print = Say in unison**



## 8:30 a.m. Worship

<b>Ministry Opportunities</b>		Pastor Tim
<b>Lighting of the Advent Candle</b>	Isaiah 35: 10	Pastor Tim
<b>*Call to Worship (In Unison)</b> (Based on I Thessalonians 5:16-24)		
Leader: Be cheerful, no matter what! Pray all the time! Thank God no matter what happens!		
<b>People: This is the way God wants us all who belong to Christ Jesus to live!</b>		
Leader: Don't suppress the Spirit! Don't stifle those who have a word from the Master!		
<b>People: Don't be gullible; check out everything! Keep only what is good, throw out what is tainted with evil!</b>		
Leader: May God himself, God who makes everything holy, sacred, and whole,		
<b>People: Make us holy and pure and put us all together: spirit, soul, and body!</b>		
Leader: Let God keep us fit and healthy in heart and mind for Christ's coming!		
<b>People: The one who called us is completely dependable! He promises to do it!</b>		
<b>*Opening Hymn</b>	"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"	UMH No. 213
<b>*Opening Prayer</b> (Page 2)		Pastor Tim
<b>Scripture</b> (Page 5)	<i>Psalms 126</i>	Pastor Tim
<b>Meditation</b>	"Living in Fierce Joy"	Pastor Tim
<b>Scripture</b> (Page 5)	<i>Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11</i>	Pastor Jim
<b>Passing of the Peace</b>		Pastor Tim
<b>Hymn</b>	"People Look East"	UMH No. 202
<b>Joys and Concerns</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Invitation to Offering</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Offertory</b>		
<b>Consecration of Offering</b>		Pastor Jim
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	"Angels from the Realms of Glory"	UMH No. 220
<b>Benediction</b>		Pastor Tim

*Please join us in the Lobby/ Narthex for a time of fellowship.*

## Scripture Lesson: Psalm 126

### A Harvest of Joy - A Song of Ascents.

<sup>1</sup> When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”

<sup>3</sup> The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. <sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. <sup>5</sup> May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. <sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

## Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

### The Good News of Deliverance

<sup>61</sup> The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

<sup>8</sup> For I, the Lord, love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup> Their descendants shall be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. <sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my whole being shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its shoots and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

## 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.*

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. **For those who need them, there are hearing aids available at the sound booth. Please feel free to ask for them.**

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:** are **collecting personal care items**, such as, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioners, to be distributed to our food pantry clients during the holidays. If you would like to help us collect these items, please bring them to the church anytime and place them in the black bin in the lobby marked for this collection. Nancy Howard will see that these items are distributed.

**GRIEF SHARE SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS:** The holidays, while they offer many blessings, can also be a difficult time for people who are missing and grieving loved ones. With so much change happening all around us, we face grief from an overwhelming number of sources. It can prevent us from growing closer to God, our loved ones, and friends as it stifles creativity. There are ways to approach the social gatherings that can help us be blessed, and bless others. Join us for "Surviving the Holidays" **Thursday, at 10:00 am. for the next 3 weeks.**

**PASTOR JIM MUNDELL'S BIBLE STUDY:** Beginning January 8th, 2024 at 6:30 pm., in the sanctuary. The study will be on the teachings of Jesus and how one is to live in the Kingdom of Heaven, here on earth. Known as the "Sermon on the Mount" found in the Gospel of Matthew, our study will take an in-depth analysis of what Jesus was teaching his followers. Please join us as we delve into Jesus's teachings on the "Sermon on the Mount".

**\* \* \*E-MAIL CHANGES\* \* \*:** Please note that we have separated our office email from Donna's, who is now working part time at home as our Financial Administrator. The office email is: [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org). Should you need to email Donna her email is: [Financialadmin@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Financialadmin@westgroveumc.org).

**CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR PASTOR AND STAFF:** It's that time of year once again, when we look to let our Pastor and staff know they are truly appreciated. Please use the enclosed envelope if you would like to participate. You can drop it in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.

### **Christmas Eve Services on Sunday, December 24th** **And Advent Lighting Invitation**

We are inviting families or individuals to help us light the Advent Candles each Sunday at each service and share the scripture that goes with it, usually only a verse or two. Please speak with Pastor Tim if you or you family would like to help.

**8:30 a.m.** Worship Service

**11:00 a.m.** Traditional Worship Service

**7:00 p.m.** Family Candlelight Service with music by our PraiseWorks Band

**9:00 p.m.** Traditional Candlelight Service with music by our Chancel Choir

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

### **Sunday Morning Servants**

Digital Audio: 8:30	Aiden Seltzer
Live-Stream & Audio: 11:00	Michael Duvall
Sound Booth Rotating:	Will Stuhrke, Doyle Stuhrke, Maggie Stuhrke and Reed Smith
Audio/Visual/Live-Stream Tech	Mike Wiwel
Officiating:	Rev. Timothy C. Anderman Rev. S. James Mundell
Music Director:	Betsy Smith
Memory Bells Director:	Peggy Watkins
Moment For All Ages:	Xavier Feliciano

#### **Today: 12/17/23** **8:30 / 11:00**

#### **Next Week: 12/24/23** **8:30 / 11:00**

Nursery Aide:	Open / Open	Open / Open
Children's Worship:	TBD	TBD
Roamers	Maryanne Covington	
Counters:	Joan Leaman & Janice Bowers	Dave Talley & Vicki Owens
Lay Reader: 8:30	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Lay Reader 11:00	Paulette Bryan	Carol McGinley
Ushers: 8:30	Amy & Mark Simonds	Alison & Gene Aucott
Ushers: 11:00	Tom & Charlotte Adams	Paulette Bryan & Nancy Duvall
Greeter: 8:30	Joan Saller	Fred Sullivan
Greeter: 11:00	Nancy Renk-Wise & Scott Renk	Esther Culbertson

***Would you like to be a Sunday Morning Servant? We would welcome your participation as an usher, greeter, lay reader, acolyte (children grade 3 and above), nursery attendant, Children's Worship leader, or Sunday School teacher. If you have an interest in serving in any capacity on Sunday mornings, please contact April Spencer in the church office at 610-869-9334 or [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) for more information.***

# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## NEED PRAYER?

**Prayer Requests: Please do not leave prayer requests on the prayer chain email. It is not monitored. Email April Spencer** 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.

Renee Bergstrom  
Family of Murphy  
Berkheimer (Kapp-  
Benner)

Linda Sue Black  
(Hruz)

Jim (J. Bischoff)

Dianne Bunch (Stuhrke)

Helen Carlin

Beth Castaldi (K. Smith)

Courtney Castaldi (K. Smith)

Dan Castaldi (Castaldi)

Cindy (Karen Hruz Neighbor)

Joann Coates

Dante Danilshenko (Grace  
Kennedy)

Katie Deeter (P. Bryan)

Dan and Liz DePaul (Jackson)

Irma Devom (Stryjewski)

Linda Eyster (Combs)

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Joyce Flowers (Mullen)

Richard Heacock

Jennifer Hertzog (Jackson)

Karen Hruz

Lynn Jackson

Michele Johnson (Spencer)

Maria Kanno (Mullen)

Debbie Kennedy (Coates)



Erica Libdell (Stryjewski)

Tom Kuch (Kuchs)

Ted Lynam (Stuhrke)

Lenny Marten (K.  
Smith)

Jim May (Mullen)

Richard Minnick

Betty Mundell

Peter Mullen

Tim Mullen

Doug Paine (Jackson)

Family of Dan DePaul  
(Jackson)

Don Nixon (Mullen)

Brian Radcliffe (Hruz)

Michael Raineri

Rick Renzulli (McGinley)

Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)

Levi Schrum (Carmichael)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

David Shaver (Hruz)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

Linda Shiplet

Ian Smedley (Heist)

Reed Smith

Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)

Flora Spiegel (Strewjewski)

Gail Stuhrke (Stuhrke)

Jeannie Sullivan

Josephine Tena

Maira Tena

Mary Weidman (Miller)

Jill Williams (Miller)

Kay Yates



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

Nathaniel Howard,  
USA

Brian Kubo—Washington  
(Mullen)

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 10, 2023

**General Offering: \$3575.00**

**Building Maintenance Fund: \$70.00**

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

**8:30: 21 11:00: 46**

**Food Pantry: 105 families on 12/13 &  
12/14 Food donations are appreciated.**