

**Altar Flowers** today are given to the glory of God by Jane & Dwight Beougher, and are bestowed as a token of gratitude for our abundant blessings and our cherished Church community.

# Gay Street UMC

*Experiencing God through Worship, Spiritual Growth, Care, and Service*

**Upcoming dates to remember:**

- Weekly on Thursdays: rehearsals for Wesley Ringers are at 6:30pm and Chancel Choir at 7:30pm.
- December 2nd, Piece Corps Christmas Party, 12pm at Ellen Stopher’s house: 73 Woodlake Trail here in Mount Vernon.
- December 4th, JOY Trip-will be leaving church at 9:30am and plan to be back around 4pm.
- December 6th, Care Team at 11:30am.
- December 7th, Men’s Retreat at Strongsville UMC 10:30am-3:30pm. See Pastor Christopher for more details.



**Sanctuary, December 1, 2024**

***The Prophets***

*Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
that the mountains would tremble before you!*

**-Isaiah 64:1**

**Welcome to Gay Street UMC!**

Ways to stay connected; our website: [www.gaystreetumc.org](http://www.gaystreetumc.org), Facebook, or by signing up for eDevos–our weekly newsletter with devotionals, prayer concerns, and events.

- **Office Hours:** Monday–Friday, 8am–3pm | **Phone:** 740-392-6626
- **Restrooms:** Located at the rear of the sanctuary or through the parlor.
- **Hearing Devices:** Available upon request from an usher.
- **Prayer Concerns:** Share on green cards in pews and place them in the offering plate or give to the pastor.

**TREE OF SHARING**-Thank you for your generosity with choosing cards this past Sunday. There are still about 20 cards that need claimed. Please put your bags, wrapping paper, and tape by the tree in the parlor. All gifts need to be returned by December 15th. With a grateful heart, Gayle James

*This year, monetary gifts designated for Thanksgiving and Christmas will be split between the Center of Hope, Winter Sanctuary, and Royal Family Kids Camp missions. In addition to the designated holiday gifts, we will also be donating any undesignated gifts from the Christmas Eve services to these missions.*

**\*Any gifts that you’re wanting to be included for the 2024 tax year, need to be in the church office, by December 30th.**

**Join us Wednesday evenings for food & fellowship at 5:30pm, in Fellowship Hall. Session #8 ‘Making Sense of the Bible’ study led by Pastor Christopher on Wednesdays, 6:15pm-7:30pm, in the Varsity Room.**

**Youth Bible study led by Logan on the 3rd floor; Wednesdays, 6:15pm-7:30pm**

**Ways to Serve:**

- Hot meals every Fri. @ 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall.
- Worship Services Every Sunday we need volunteers for the following: Liturgist, Lay Readers, USHERS, Live Stream Team, and Sound Board. If you are interested, please call the office. We appreciate your help.



**Our Mission**

To make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.

**Sermon Notes:**

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1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT–HOPE

*The \*asterisk is an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

Rev. Christopher Liberati

PREPARATION

Prelude *Sleepers Wake, a Voice Is Calling*, J.S. Bach Janet Guetle

\*Gathering Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UM Hymnal 213

Lighting of Advent Candle Jaedyn Bayless

\*Unison Prayer

**Dear God, as we light this candle, we open our hearts to Your Gift of Hope. Fill us, Lord, with the confidence that comes from knowing that You will guide us and equip us to do all that you have given us to do through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation: please refer to the bold text)

L: May the joy of the Advent season with its message of mighty hope be with you all!

**C: And also with you.**

L: We begin Advent by celebrating the expectation that the Christ who came as Emmanuel will come again and be with us in every age and every place.

**C: Just as God sent Jesus to an exact time and place, so you and I are sent to this time and place to share the love of Christ.**

ALL PRAISE RESPONSE:

**O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appears.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

INTO THE WORD

Jeremiah 33:14–16 Lay Reader: Todd Brooks

\*Luke 21:25–28

Response to the Word \**Gloria Patri* UM Hymnal 71

Message The Prophets Rev. Christopher Liberati

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer Hymn *God Is So Good* Chancel Choir

Morning Prayer– Liturgist: Rev. Dale Sutton

Invitation and Dedication for the Giving of Our Lives, Tithes, Gifts, and Offerings:  
*When we bring an offering to God, it is a form of worship. Worshipping God with giving of our money reveals our hearts desire. We give sacrificially, generously, and continuously as a way of ascribing value to who God is in our lives. As we do so, our love for God and others grow.*

Offertory *Waiting for the Promise*, by Lloyd Larson  
Chancel Choir, Heather Stewart–Flutist

\*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UM Hymnal 94

\*Prayer of Dedication

RECEIVE

\*Apostles’ Creed UM Hymnal 7

Communion service and responses UM Hymnal 13 & 14

Communion Hymn *What Songs Were Sung* by John Jacob Niles  
Soprano solo by Lori Barbee

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Communion Blessing

SENDING FORTH

\*Hymn of Parting *Savior of the Nations, Come* UM Hymnal 214

\*Benediction

Postlude *Tocatta in E Minor*, J. Pachelbel Janet Guetle

Serving in Worship:

Chancel Choir Director: Terry Dunnavant

Sound: Daniel Burson & Eric Diehl

Live Stream: Carol Moore & Max Heindl

Ushers: The Brooks Family



Did you know?

One of our goals for this upcoming year is to become more intentional in our prayer life. Have a prayer request? Please fill out the green prayer cards located in the pews, place them in the offering plate, and they will be prayed over and shared with the pastors and/or congregation and/or care & connect team based on your request.

Consider lighting a candle at the kneeler at the beginning of this service while offering your prayers to God.