

# *Welcome to Otterbein United Methodist Church*

December 21, 2025

10:30 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.*

## **THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP**

### **We Gather to Worship the Lord**

Welcome

Prelude

*Silent Night*

arr. Gjeilo

#### **\*Greeting**

L: Behold! a teenage girl is pregnant with the God who knit her in her own mother's womb,

**P: strange signs from a strange God who upturns expectations.**

L: She said yes to divine revolution even though it meant social condemnation,

**P: strange signs from a strange God who upturns expectations.**

L: God's Spirit stokes subversive dreams in us to help us defy the status quo,

**P: strange signs from a strange God who upturns expectations. Amen.**

#### **\*Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*What Child Is This*

No. 219, UMH

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Children's Time in Worship

Jim Wingert

## **We Proclaim the Word of God**

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Lesson    Isaiah 7:10-16    (OT, pg. 636)

Anthem                      *An Advent Acclamation*    arr. Nordmeyer

New Testament Lesson    Romans 1:1-7    (NT, pg. 152)

\*Gospel Lesson              Matthew 1:18-25    (NT, pg. 1)

Sermon                      “SET APART”    Rev. Adam Blagg

Announcements

## **We Give Our Thanks**

Invitation, Confession, Pardon, & Peace    No. 12, UMH

\*Hymn                      *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*    No. 216, UMH

\*Doxology                                      VENI EMMANUEL

Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Holy Communion    No. 13, UMH

Pastoral Prayer

## **We Go Forth Renewed**

\*Closing Hymn                                      No. 220, UMH  
*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

Benediction

\*Postlude                      *Angels We Have Heard on High*    Bish

## **This Week's Opportunities**

### **Sunday, December 21**

9:30 am      Sunday School  
10:30 am    Worship  
2:00 pm      Christmas Caroling

### **Monday, December 22**

4:30 pm      Soup Kitchen  
5:00 pm      Clothes Closet

### **Tuesday, December 23**

### **Wednesday, December 24**

#### **Office Closed—Christmas Eve**

7:00 pm      Christmas Eve Service

### **Thursday, December 25**

#### **Office Closed—Merry Christmas!**

### **Friday, December 26**

### **Saturday, December 27**

### **Sunday, December 28**

9:30 am      Sunday School  
10:30 am    Worship

#### **Lay Reader:**

Linda Conrad

#### **Attendance Last Sunday:**

67

#### **Next Week's Nursery Volunteers:**

Carole Barber & Sarah Macomber

## **Otterbein in Prayer**

David Angier  
Rosalie Bailey  
Gary Billingsley  
Marilyn Blagg  
Whitney Bradley  
Millie Bruce  
Earl Cannon  
Rev. Louis Carson  
Nissa D'Andrea  
Cliff Davis  
Diane Cline Davis  
Jo Ellen Dickenson  
Tammy Duxbury  
Mike Earman  
Judi Espinoza  
Ed Gaines  
Ray Griffith  
Fred Hopkins  
Emily Joiner  
Tina Jolly  
Danita Kreeger  
Steve Lily  
Chuck Macklin  
Peggy Miller  
Art & Mary Jo Mitchell  
Maxine Perry  
Judy Pruett  
Dot Swartz  
Carolyn Stroop  
Juanita Taylor  
Michelle VanPelt  
John Walsh  
Hazel Willi  
Baby Charlie Woods  
Gina Wyse



## Announcements

- **Christmas Caroling**—We will be going Christmas caroling to some of our homebound members **today at 2 pm**. Meet in the parking lot if you'd like to join in!
- **2026 Offering Envelopes** are available for pick-up in the High Street vestibule. *Please be sure to pick up the correct box!* If you don't see a box with your name and would like to begin using envelopes for your 2026 giving, fill out your information on the yellow paper and a box will be assigned to you.
- **New OUMM Project**—Beginning the first Sunday in each month in 2026, the men will be collecting canned food for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and any other needy area Food Pantries. Thank you in advance for your support of this monthly project of the OUMM which begins on **January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.
- **Clothes Closet** is **NOT accepting donations** at this time **EXCEPT for the following**: winter coats, hats, scarves, gloves, AND socks (especially white). Thanks and PLEASE tell your friends and neighbors that the Clothes Closet is OPEN with free clothes for all ages every Monday 4:30-6 pm.
- **Inclement Weather Policy**—In case of inclement weather, the church office will follow the status of Harrisonburg City Schools. When the schools close for bad weather, the office will be closed and activities will be cancelled. If the schools are delayed 1 or 2 hours, the office will open at 9 am and activities will proceed as planned. Check WHSV-TV and email for information about worship service cancellations.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** and **large print bulletins and hymnals** are **available**. Please see an usher for assistance.

**TLC Person  
of the Week:**

Ila Kimata  
1820-A Park Road  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

*Remember Ila this week with  
a note or a card.*

*Let's show her Otterbein's  
"tender, loving care"!*

**OTTERBEIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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Office: (540) 434-7747

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 3 pm

Friday: Closed