



10:00 Worship Service

December 14, 2025



Welcome to NEUMC!

We're glad you're here! Thank You for joining us today!

Our Mission is to Know Jesus and Make Him Known

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

Third Sunday of Advent

*HYMN, 224

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
Verses 1-3

Processional

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

Reader 1 (CJ Miro): In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God’s salvation.

Congregation: We choose to believe that the day is coming when “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” (Isaiah 35:10).

Reader 2 (Robbie Miro): We light this candle of JOY as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

Light three candles of the Advent wreath (Include the pink or rose candle).

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 218

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”
Verses 1-4

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

“Lamb’s Corner”

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 150
James 5:7-10

SONG

“Sanctuary”

Sing Twice

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living
Sanctuary for You

“Sanctuary” by John W. Thompson | Randy Scruggs
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SERMON AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Antoinette

“A Desert in Bloom”
Isaiah 35:1-10

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERING

There are 4 ways to give. See back of bulletin.

*DOXOLOGY, 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

Wine and grape juice are used for communion. The chalices have wine.
Grape juice is available in the center. Gluten free bread is used for communion.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

Sharing "peace" with one another is an ancient Christian tradition rooted in the teachings of Jesus and practices of the Christian community. It also serves as a way for members to reconcile before receiving Holy Communion. Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love. God's peace be with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and 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 my blood of the new covenant, 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 in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to 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 Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL, Book of United Methodist Worship,
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CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN

“Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love”

Verse 1

Magnificent marvelous matchless love
Too vast and astounding to tell
Forever existing in worlds above
Now offered and given to all
Oh fountain of beauty eternal
The Father the Spirit the Son
Sufficient and endlessly generous
Magnificent marvelous matchless love

Verse 2

Creation is brimming with thankfulness
The mountains exultant they stand
The seasons rejoice in Your faithfulness
All life is sustained by Your hand
You crown every meadow with color
You paint every shade in the sky
Each day the dawn wakes as an encore of
Magnificent marvelous matchless love

Chorus

How great how sure
His love endures forevermore
Magnificent marvelous matchless love

Verse 3

What grace that You entered our brokenness
You came in the fullness of time
How far we had fallen from righteousness
But not from the mercies of Christ
Your cross is our door to redemption
Your death is our fullness of life
That day how forgiveness flowed as a flood
Magnificent marvelous matchless love

Bridge

United in Your resurrection
You lift us to infinite heights
Could anything sever or take us from
Magnificent marvelous matchless love

Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love
Aaron Keyes | Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty |
Luke Brown | Matt Papa

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POSTLUDE

* Please stand as you are able.



We are delighted that you have joined us in worship!
We hope your experience at NEUMC was
enjoyable and encouraging.
Please join us for *Cookie Time* fellowship
following the service.

Sermon NOTES



“A Desert in Bloom”

Isaiah 35:1-10

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus
2 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.

3 Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

4 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.”

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

6 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;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

9 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.

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.

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Lectionary Devotional Reading for the week of December 14

Isaiah 35:1-10

Luke 1:46b-55

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

CHURCH



COUNCIL

MEETING

TODAY | 11:15 AM | ROOM 102



United
Women
in Faith

Today
2:00 PM
Home of Mary Mason
(See Mary for directions.)

An invitation is extended to the women of the church.

Blue Christmas Service The Longest Night

Thursday, December 18
6:00 PM

End of Year Giving

Donate before December 31 to count
towards your 2025 giving tax deductions.

Contributions will continue to be accepted for 2025 through December 31. To receive credit for your 2025 donations they need to be turned in on or before this date. Any contributions received after December 31 will be posted to your 2026 giving statement. Annual statements will be sent by email to the email address that is listed in the church database around the third week of January 2026. Please make sure your email address is up-to-date. Members without e-mail addresses will have their statements mailed. Any questions, please contact Dale Purvis, Financial Secretary at the Church Office.



Join Our Mailing List!
Want to receive the church emails?
Please scan the QR code to sign up.



MINISTRY AND PRAYER NEEDS

Prayer request cards are located in the card holders on the back of the chairs.

- **Enda Huggins**, Sylvia Cousin's sister, experiencing stomach problems.
- **Betty McCall**, Sylvia Cousin's aunt, who has heart problems.
- **Orvie Hetzler**, Forrest Horn's brother-in-law, diagnosed with cancer.
- **Wanda Chandler**, Bianca Brazell's mother, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- **Roger Rexroad and his wife Trisha**, neighbors of Debbo Lackore and Joyce Sawyer. Roger is hospitalized at Lexington Medical Center with a blood infection and suffers with severe osteoporosis arthritis.
- **Marion Crowell**, Stephen Crowell's mother, who experienced complications from her pacemaker lead.
- **Jean**, co-worker of Karen Evans, who has been diagnosed with uterine serous carcinoma. She has completed three of the six chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments. Please continue to pray for her family and her doctors to determine the best treatment plan.
- **Doug Miro**, Ryon Miro's father, recovering from a stroke.
- **Ken Harling**, brother of Debbo Lackore, who has kidney failure. Also, pray for his daughter and caregiver, Alicia Harling.
- **Brooks Shealy**, pray for his overall health.
- **Tammie Sloop**, pray for her overall health.
- **Liz Hetzler**, Forrest Horn's sister, who is suffering with dementia.
- **Gary Hartman**, treatment of peripheral neuropathy in both feet and chronic arthritis in both ankles.
- **Those going through cancer treatment: John Lockard, Mark Grace & Rebecca DiPascali**
- **Mattia Hilmer**, pray for her overall health.
- **Our military and first responders.**
- **Our missionaries:**
 - Matt & Jenny Williams:** Athletes in Action Cru
 - Steve & Stephanie Bredesen:** Nakalanda, Uganda
 - Ben & Jenny Reyes**

HOMEBOUND AND ELDERLY

We are a family and we encourage anyone who feels led by God to visit those who are sick or homebound. Following are our homebound: George Eberhardt Sandra Miller Sabra Stewart

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Team create shawls and other items for you to share with those who need encouragement. When you give a shawl away, you are sharing the love and prayers of NEUMC. The prayer shawls are kept in the Prayer Center if one is needed. Prayer Shawl Ministry Team

ACOLYTE

Youth

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
LAY LEADER	LAY LEADER
Stephen Crowell	Jane Scott
COMMUNION PREPARER	COMMUNION PREPARER
Dianne Markham	Karen Evans
COMMUNION SERVERS	COMMUNION SERVERS
Charlie & Ann Henry & Dianne Markham	Dan & Gaye Christmus & Karen Evans
SCRIPTURE READER	SCRIPTURE READER
Charlie Henry	Crystal Miller
DESIGNATED FRIENDS	DESIGNATED FRIENDS
Heather Cook & Pat Hoesly	Forrest & Diane Horn
GREETERS	GREETERS
Dave & Pat Christiansen	Don & Janice Starner
PRAYER WARRIOR	PRAYER WARRIOR
Jane DeCristofaro	Dan Christmus
OFFERING COUNTERS	OFFERING COUNTERS
Duane Scott & Mary Mason	Jane DeCristofaro & Dan Christmus

There are 4 ways to give:

- (1) as offering is collected
- (2) mail a check to the church
- (3) setup recurring giving online: neumc.com/give
- (4) use the QR Code to give online

Scan to Give Online



CONTACT US

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OFFICE HOURS

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM: MONDAY - FRIDAY



Poinsettias

In Memory of

Myrtle O'Rourke

Jane & Lyle Wright

Charles & Lucy Hollis

Dan & Verdie Christmus (Dan's Parents)

Norma Groover (Gaye's Mother)

Bernice Plunkett

James E. Martin

John O. Gilliland

Gilbert & Janet Hafner (Parents)

Jean Rogers

James L. Broyan

Vivienne & Tom Hambrick

Clair & Hazel Lockard

Lu Lackore

Glenn & Joyce Harling

Jeanne Miro (Ryon's Mother)

Patty Munn

Loved one who have gone before us

Dorothy Shaffner & Richard Shaffner

Our Parents

Roger & Barbara Soucey, Sr.

John, Jr., Margaret, John III

& Michael Voncanon

My Parents & Immediate In-Law Family

Given by

Chastity Cherubin

Dave & Pat Christiansen

Dan & Gaye Christmus

Fred & Sylvia Cousin

Kathy Gilliland

Greg & Melanie Hafner

John & Mary Anne Lockard

Debbo Lackore

Ryon & Kristen Miro

Michael Munn

Melissa & Ira Sansolo

Pizzello & Shaffner Families

Don & Janice Starner

Barbara Voncanon



Poinsettias

In Honor of

Our Family

Our Children & Grandchildren

Andrew Johnson, II
Karen Johnson

Our Family

Joyce Sawyer
Brian Lackore & Family
Caralee Lackore Workman & Family

Brenda Holloman
Melissa Sansolo
Lori Beth Wissler
Tammy Farber

Tammy Farber

First Responders & Medical
Professionals

Our Grandchildren

Our Children & Grandchildren

Given by

Dave & Pat Christiansen

Greg & Melanie Hafner

Karen Johnson

John & Mary Anne Lockard

Debbo Lackore

Sylvia Cousin

Dale A. Purvis

Melissa & Ira Sansolo

Duane & Jane Scott

Don & Janice Starner