



# 10:00 Worship Service

## December 21, 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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

**\*HYMN, 240**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
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 (Harry Berry):** Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary's womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy; God's love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand; God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.

**Congregation: With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world's judgment.**

**Reader 2 (Christopher Armstrong):** We light this candle of LOVE as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.

*Light the four outer candles of the Advent wreath.*

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, 211**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
Verses 1-3

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

“Lamb's Corner”

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

“One King”

#### OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 80:1-7

Romans 1:1-7

**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

“Somewhere Between Above and Below”  
Isaiah 7:10-16

#### 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.

## CONFESSİON 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, 251

*“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”*  
Verses 1-3

## POSTLUDE

\* Please stand as you are able.

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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.

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Let's learn and  
grow together!

*Sunday*  
**SCHOOL**  
TIME: 9:00 AM

**Overcomers (Room 212)** | Living Into God's Promises  
**Pairs & Spares (Room 214)** | The Case for Christmas by Lee Strobel  
**Iron Sharpens Iron (Room 208)** | The Upper Room - Disciplines  
**Older Kids & Youth (Room 213)** | Lessons in the Bible  
**Preschool & Young Kids (Room 206)** | Lessons in the Bible

# Sermon NOTES



## **“Somewhere Between Above and Below”**

Isaiah 7:10-16

10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying,

11 “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.”

12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.”

13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also?

14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel.

15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Lectionary Devotional  
Reading for the week  
of December 21

Isaiah 7:10-17

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas  
Eve  
Candlelight  
Service  
5:00 PM



MERRY  
*Christmas*

WE'RE THANKFUL FOR  
OUR CHURCH FAMILY



*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:** Nakaland, 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**

#### **LAY LEADER**

Jane Scott

#### **COMMUNION PREPARER**

Diane Horn

#### **COMMUNION SERVERS**

Dan & Gaye Christmus & Diane Horn

#### **SCRIPTURE READER**

Crystal Miller

#### **DESIGNATED FRIENDS**

Forrest & Diane Horn

#### **GREETERS**

Don & Janice Starner

#### **PRAYER WARRIOR**

Dan Christmus

#### **OFFERING COUNTERS**

Jane DeCristofaro & Dan Christmus

### **NEXT WEEK**

#### **LAY LEADER**

Larry Griner

#### **COMMUNION PREPARER**

Danna Griner

#### **COMMUNION SERVERS**

Danna Griner, CJ Miro & Weston Cheatham

#### **SCRIPTURE READER**

Walker Rosier

#### **DESIGNATED FRIENDS**

Jane Scott & Debbie Hoesly

#### **GREETERS**

Forrest & Diane Horn

#### **PRAYER WARRIOR**

Tammie Sloop

#### **OFFERING COUNTERS**

Mike Munn & Pat Hoesly

### **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](http://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