

December 27, 2020

** (Indicates, please stand as able)

Prelude "Star Medley" arr. by Marilyn Ham
Greeting/Life of the Church Rev. Andy Wagner

** Call to Worship

L: Come, join the search for all God will reveal.

We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.

P: God has sent light to dispel our fears.

The glory of God has risen upon us.

L: The gospel of Christ reveals God's grace.

We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

P: We gather together and lift up our eyes.

Our hearts thrill to the sight and our lips rejoice.

L: Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known.

There is rich variety to meet each one where we are.

P: The radiance of truth surrounds us.

Boldly and confidently, we approach our God.

**Opening Hymn "We Three Kings" UMH#254

Opening Prayer (unison)

God beyond our knowing, grant us today new glimpses of who you are and what you intend for us to be. The powers of this earth bow before you in humble adoration. Mighty nations are tiny blips on the screens of your eternity. Our lives are insignificant except as you enlist us to be a part of your eternal purposes. You draw us irresistibly toward the light. We are attracted to your revelation. We need the sense of purpose you engender among us. Come, Holy Mystery, to reveal as much of your truth as we can stretch to understand and receive into our lives. Amen.

Prayer Hymn "The First Noel" (v.1,2) UMH#245

Testimony Cindy Elliott

Prayer Hymn "The First Noel" (v.3,4,5) UMH#245

Prayers of the Faithful & the 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

Gospel Lesson Matthew 2:1-12

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sermon "Discovering Wisdom with the Magi" Rev. Andy Wagner

** Closing Hymn "Joy to the World" UMH#246

** Sending Forth

** Postlude "March of the Kings" by Carl Simone



Monday 28	Cub Scouts	6:10 pm	Rm 15 A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	Rm 15 C
Tuesday 29	Xenia HS Winter Guard	3:30 pm	FCC
Wednesday 30	DEADLINE FOR 1/3/21 BULLETIN		
Thursday 31			
Friday 1			Office Closed
Saturday 2			
Sunday 3	Traditional Worship	9:00 am	Sanctuary
	Sunday School	10:00 am	Rm 6, 12, 15 C, 16 A-B Parlor, Library
	Contemporary Worship	11:00 am	FCC

Sunday School Studies

Explorers meet in Room 6, Leader Char Lee study of "Faithful-Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph by Adam Hamilton.

Double I meet in 15C, Leader Wayne Cook study of "Dickens, A Christmas Carol."

Open Doors meet in Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study "Yes, Lord I Have Sinned But I Have Several Excellent Excuses" by James Moore.

Friends & Followers meet in the Library, Leader Chad Mossing.

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A-B, Leader Joyce Smith.

Preschool – Grade 5 Join the children in Rm 12 under the leadership of Karen Mossing, and Kylie Fleming for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.




 Sharing Faith, Building Community

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

December 27, 2020

Worship Team

Ushers	Rob Smith, Rick Smith, Dick Strous Ed Stidham, Jim Osburn
Liturgist	Sandy Pramer
Acolytes	Micah Fleming & Morgan Fleming
Organist	Carol Stewart

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 2:1-12

The Visit of the Wise Men

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Announcements

PLEDGE ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE: This year's pledge envelopes can be picked up in the narthex during the 9:00 am service and in the community center during the 11:00am service.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE NOW ONLINE: We know that the Christmas season is not full of joy for all. This video is for those who are missing someone important this season. Know that no matter how hard life is, there is always hope. Embrace the season, and celebrate those you miss, let them live on in those that remember them. Go to www.fcum.org and click on watch services online or go to www.YouTube.com and search for Faith Community United Methodists Xenia.

Blue Christmas Bonus Music: For those that do not wish to participate in the traditional Blue Christmas service this is purely music great for quiet meditation or just something to listen to. Find joy in everything, even in the darkest rooms there is always joy in God.

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2021: The flower calendar for the New Year 2021 is on the table in the narthex. You will be responsible for ordering your altar arrangement and delivery to the church on Friday morning or you can pick it up and bring it to the church. It will be refrigerated until Sunday. Someone from the office will call the week before to get the information for the bulletin and remind you about ordering the flowers. You can order from Flower Stop at 372-1436 in Xenia or Furst Florist in Dayton at 223-1213 or any place you choose.



If you ordered poinsettias; you can pick them up after the 9:00am Service on Sunday, Dec 27

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