A nursery is available on the First Floor for infants and children under 3 years.

After Children's Time, preschool through 5th grade is invited to **Children's Church** in the Children's Wing. When communion is served, the children will be brought back into the sanctuary and are invited to take communion with their family.

Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in honor of James L. Lowry, Jr. and Ann Lowry Healy by Layne Stone and Carol Charles.

Liturgist: Ted Petoskey

Ushers: Mary Scruggs, Rick Scruggs, Mike Woodrum, Robbie Cooper

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PRAYER list

Beth Brewer
Gary Brewer
Arthur Cummings
Cathy Hanks
David Holder
Toni Holder
Patti Moran
Carol Mueller
Tracie Powell
Andrew Reitzel
Jerry Reitzel
Maxine Reynolds
Fred Robinson

Scan code to give online

Church Office Hours
Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Brad Gray
Pastor

Chad Deetz
Youth Minister

Dale Fischer
Director of Music

Jennifer Bartless
Coordinator of Children's Ministry

Kristine Lee
Organist

To all who are weary and need rest; To all who are burdened and need relief; To all who are lonely and need friends; To all who are looking for something that only God can provide; To all who sin and need a Savior; To whosoever will come, Bethel UMC, the House of God, opens her doors, and in the name of Jesus Christ says, "Welcome!"

December 1, 2024 **1st Sunday of Advent**

11:00 AM Worship Service

Prelude *"Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"* Lyndell Leatherman

Trinity Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Advent has come and along with it another journey in need of beginning.
We gather in hopeful anticipation of our Savior's birth.
This journey of waiting will have moments of sabbath and service.
We take a break from our busy lives to ponder and wonder.
As we seek the newborn king, worship is that which directs our search.
We seek that which has saved and will save us forevermore.
Come, let us worship and seek our savior with hope and thanksgiving!

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"* UMH 213

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, without the hope we have in you we would be pitied above all. With hearts open and thankful, we come before your presence to wait, watch, and wonder. We ask that you would come to us as we are but not leave us as we were. May we emerge from these travels having found your newborn son and having found our true selves along the way. This we pray in the name of our coming Savior. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting Alex & Maggie Perez family

Congregational Response

While fear, anxiety, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.

Offering

Offertory Anthem *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* arr. John Purifoy
Sanctuary Choir

*Doxology *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH 95

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Children's Time

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.
Response: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.

Scripture Reading Jeremiah 33: 14-16

14 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the
house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a
righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the
land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the
name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Sermon *"The Promise of Truth"* Rev. Brad Gray

Invitation, Confession, and Pardon UMH 12

The Great Thanksgiving UMH 13

Giving the Bread and Cup

*Hymn *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"* UMH 196

*Benediction

*Postlude *"Preparation for the King"* Arcangelo Corelli
(from *"Concerto Grosso" Op. 6, No. 1*)

**Please stand if able*