

A young girl without any titles or credits or degrees to her name--no wealth to support her, was visited by an angel of the Lord. And the angel told her three things: Do not be afraid, you have found favor with God, and you have everything already within you to birth salvation and redemption and love into the world. Mary had a song to sing because in a period of such uncertainty, of this she was certain: God is real, redemption is near, and this world is going to change for the better.

Real love is a reminder that we do not have to have it all figured out to bring divine hope, peace, and joy into the world. Real love takes on flesh, meaning it is painfully and beautifully human. Real love is not reserved for some distant, cosmic realm that we might one day hope to see, but quite the opposite. It's so real and accessible that God would give it a face, so wherever you are this morning – the 3rd Sunday in Advent, take a good look in the mirror and repeat these words: my soul magnifies the Lord.

visitors

We are glad you are here!

Find more information at the Welcome Center.

order of worship 12 12 21

Please follow along on the Sanctuary screen.

» Indicates standing when able

Prelude

Welcome

We connect with each other

» Entrance Hymn

We prepare to listen
#204 Emmanuel, Emmanuel
(sing twice)

Lighting of Advent Candle

#211 O Come, O Come
Emmanuel (vs. 3)

» Call to Worship

God speaks to us

» Opening Prayer

We respond to God

Music Ministry

Grown Up Christmas List
Foster

Scripture

God speaks to us
Luke 3:7-18, Philippians 4:4-7

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Message

"Love"

» Hymn

We respond to God's Word
#242 Love Came Down at
Christmas (vs. 1, 2, 3)

Prayers

We respond to God's Word
The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn

We respond to God
#202 People, Look East
(vs. 1, 2, 3, 4)

God's Blessing

We go forth to learn & share

Postlude

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, and
the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

events & programs

altar flowers If you are interested in providing flowers for worship, sign up on the kiosk in front of the Welcome Center.

charge conference Tuesday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact the church office for more information.

Today

9:00 & 11:00 Worship

Deadline for Mission Outreach Giving

Intergenerational Faith Formation Class (IFF)

10:00 a.m.

The Heart That Grew 3 Sizes - Fellowship Hall

Adult Education Class

10:00 a.m. "David" Community Room

12 Days of Christmas Fundraiser

Extended through Dec. 19. Thanks for your generous support.

Confirmation

7:00 p.m.

Coming up

Women of Faith

December 13, 11:30 a.m.

Finance Committee

December 13, 6:00 p.m.

Ad Council

December 13, 7:00 p.m.

Men's Study Group

December 16, 7:00 a.m.

Fireplace Fellowship

December 16, 6:00 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal for 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

December 18, 1:00 p.m.

People I met/am praying for

Notes

Scripture for today: *Luke 3:7-18, Philippians 4:4-7*

Scripture for next week: *Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:39-45*

Shake any family tree and you never know what kind of people might fall out. Don't we all have a relative or two who we try to avoid at family gatherings? Jesus had a few shady characters in his family as well.

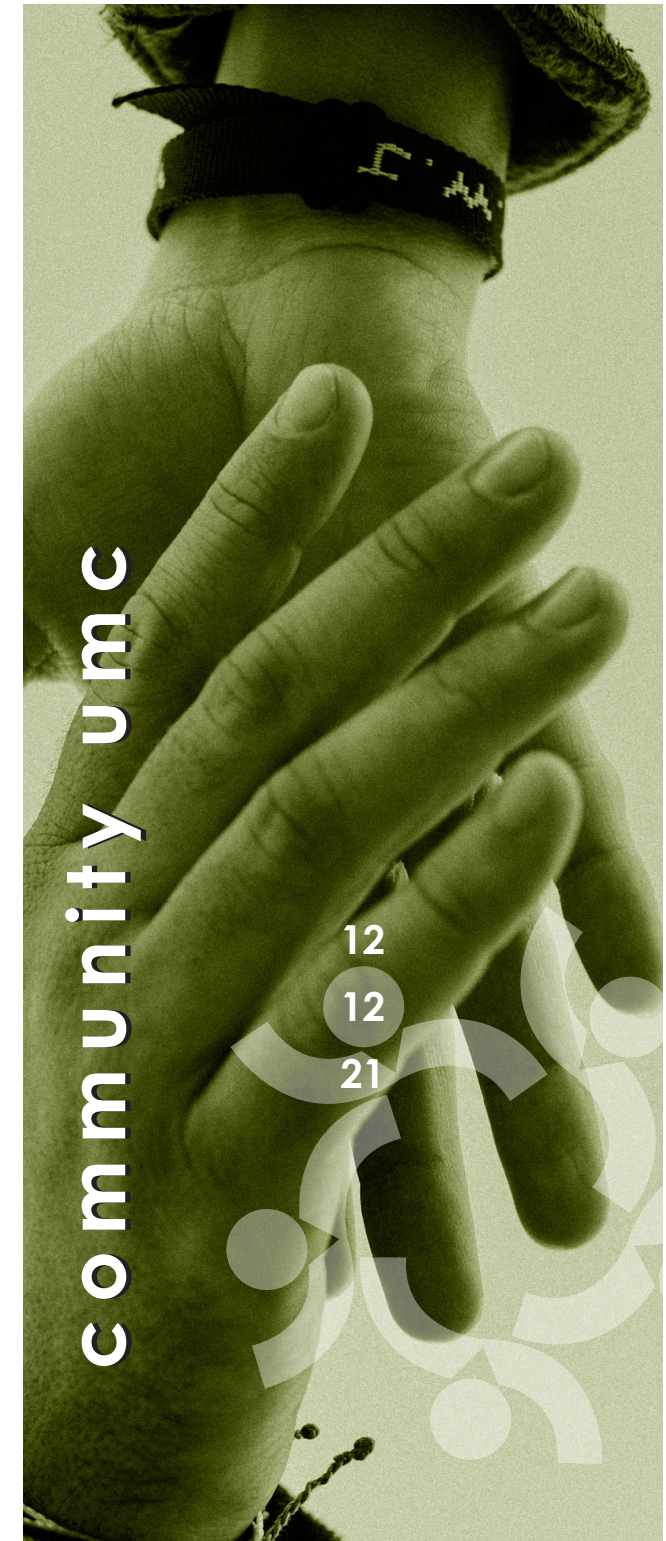
In an invitation to Christmas, Andy Stanley uses a few of these colorful characters to remind us from whom Jesus came and to explain the importance of their roles in the Christmas story. Please join Mike Blodgett in the Community room **next Sunday, Dec. 19th at 10:00** for this one-time class.

adult education
One-time Class

connect

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community umc

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