

First Sunday of Advent Wreath Lighting Liturgy

But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ... But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come ... in the evening, or at midnight, or at dawn. Keep awake. ([Mark 13:24-26, 32, 33, 35, 37, NRSV](#))
Such amazing things happen in the sky to herald the return of the Son of Man:

...Jesus, coming in the clouds

...the sun grows dark

...the moon doesn't shine

...and stars fall from the heavens

So different from that first coming more than 2000 years ago:

...with angels singing of God's glory and peace on earth

... with the single star guiding the way to the manger

...with shepherds and wise men – rich and poor – coming to worship

And so we watch, and wait, and stay alert, waiting again for the coming of Jesus. And we light a single candle in preparation for that glorious day.

[Light the first candle on the Advent wreath.]

...And even if the sun should grow dark

... even if the moon refuses to shine

... even if the stars should fall from the sky

...we will have Jesus, the Light of the World, to shine brightly in our hearts, lighting our way.

ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.

The Choir Will Sing:

"My Lord, What a Morning," The United Methodist Hymnal, no. 719, stanza 1

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Special Offering for Church Staff

Once again this year we are asking that members of the congregation make a monetary donation for our church staff. The donation cannot be used for tax purposes. We would like to be able to give the funds to the staff on December 14th. The funds will be divided between, Becky Rogers, Rick Galyean, Lisa Soechtig, Steve Guerrant, Jan Tate, Robert Holbrook and David Barker.

Pastor's Wild Idea

Rev. Goodman came across an Outreach idea that was being done at a Church. It is a Share Card that can be purchased for soup. We are looking for 8 people that would like to prepare soups for the Outreach Program. You would be preparing enough soup for twelve quarts per month. If you would like to help with this project, please contact the church office.



December

Announcements

Skip Skinner

Greeters

Jackie Mainous, Patty Cooper

Children's Message

7-Holy Communion

14-Nancy Toney

21-Patty Robbins

28-Bill Cole

Money Counters

7-Martha/Kenny Spurlock

14-Diane Botts/Christy Smith

21-Chris Higgins/Rob Moore

28-Kim Parsons/Bill Cole

Ushers

Phil Robbins, Bill Hendrick, Ruben Allmen,
Mike Allen

Scripture

7-Chris Higgins

14-Diane Botts

21-Phil Robbins

28-Kim Parsons

Nursery Workers

7-Paula Barton

14-Donna Mahan

21-Kenny Spurlock

28-Pat Bowden

Van Drivers

7-Gary Mahan

14-Pat Bowden

21-Chris Higgins

28-Kenny
Spurlock

Fellowship

Supper

Martha/Kenny

Spurlock, Nancy

Toney, Paula

Barton

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