

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Prayer candles are available at the communion rail Financial gifts may be made in the wooden offering boxes Please silence your electronic devices

THE GATHERING & CARILLON PRELUDE

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lo, How a Rose Mary Beth Bennett E'er Blooming Text & Tune at UMH# 216

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE ENTRANCE HYMN* UMH #211 O Come, O Come Emmanuel vss. 1, 5 - 7

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

God, we confess that we have often placed our hope in people and things that can't fulfill our every need.

We have searched for peace in shallow places.

We have mistaken joy for temporal pleasure and artificial exhilaration.

We have put limits on the ways we love, excluding those who need our loving kindness the most.

God, when we have lost our way, show us yours.

Guide us to the hope in you that will renew our strength.

Lead us to your peace that transcends all understanding.

Fill us with a joy we can only experience in your presence.

Remind us that you have always loved us with an everlasting love, so that we may share that love with

others.

AMEN.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

Pastor

In this season of desolation and uncertainty, it is good to know that God's love for us is sure - that God's commitment to us is definite - that God is guiding us as the compassionate companions that we are called to be for each other. Let us live into this gift.

AMEN.

THE ADVENT RESPONSE* UMH #206 Refrain of *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 35: 1 - 10

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC Stacey Nordmeyer An Advent Acclamation

THE THANKSGIVING & DOXOLOGY*

UMH #219 (verse 3)

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11: 2 - 11

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORDLo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

THE MESSAGE The Reverend Don Ackerman When the Desert Blooms

THE CLOSING HYMN* UMH #206 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

THE BENEDICTION*

THE POSTLUDECreator of the

Pietro Yon Text & Tune at UMH# 692

eator of the Stars of Night

* - Please stand as you are able UMH - The United Methodist Hymnal

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

The Reverend Don Ackerman Pastor

> Tessa Polen Liturgist

Julie Smith
Director of Children's Ministries

The Crossroads Choir

Beth Polen, Director of Music Ministries

Christopher Dazey Organist, Pianist & Carillonneur

THIS WEEK AT CROSSROADS

Wednesday, December 17

Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 am - Conference Room (Last meeting of 2025 - see you again in 2026!)

Friday, December 19

Gibbs Food Ministry 2:00 pm - Education Wing

SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER The Crossroads Chronicle Weekly

the crossrouds chronicle weekly

cantonforallpeople.org/email



12/14 - Thomas Syler 12/18 - Reneé Lilly, Claudia Selby 12/19 - Larry Smith, Michelle Evans 12/20 - Jean Keating 12/21 - Ruth Rice

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias are still available for \$10

Order forms are located on the wooden tables throughout the sanctuary

Forms must be received by

THIS Wednesday, December 17 for publication in the Christmas Eve Bulletin

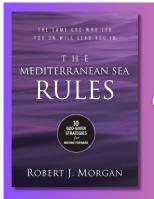
CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24

Our traditional candlelight service at 5:00 pm
Featuring the Camarada Brass
along with our Christmas Festival Choir and organ
Music begins at 4:30 pm

Oatmeal Ministry Gift Bags

TODAY is the last day for socks and candy for our annual Christmas gift bags! Thank you to everyone who has donated already!



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF A
WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP ABOUT
THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA RULES.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE (OFFICE@CROSSROADS120.ORG) OR TALK TO AMY RIVERS ON A SUNDAY MORNING

> If enough women are interested, he group will begin meeting in January!



To help keep our sacred space clean, at the conclusion of the service, please return this bulletin to one of the wooden tables located throughout the sanctuary