



# Laying the Foundation

## Second Sunday of Advent

### GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Moments of Praise

Away In the Manger

UMH 217



Call to Worship

If life was a home, then we would pray—

**may love be the foundation.**

**May God be the cornerstone.**

**May the Spirit be the windows—ushering light in.**

**And may hope be the walls—holding us together.**

In this hour of worship, let us work toward building that home together.

**We may not know the path ahead, but God is here, even now.**

Let us give thanks for a foundation of love.

**Let us worship Holy God.**

**Lighting of the Advent Candles: PEACE** Brinkhuis Family

**Candle Hymn** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Vs. 2 UMH 139

### WORD

Scripture Lesson

Luke 1: 57-80

NRSV

*Scripture on the insert*

L: The word of God to the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

Ladies Rejoice

Children's Time

Sermon

Laying the Foundation

Pastor Kelsey

### RESPONSE

Response Song

Zechariah's Lullaby

Booklet

(To a different Away in the Manger Tune)



Prayers of the People

Passing of the Peace

Offering & \*Doxology

### SEND

\*Closing Song

Your Peace Will Make Us One

(To the tune of Battle Hymn of the Republic)



\*Benediction

Postlude



### December Birthdays

13 - Jennifer Tew-Salisbury

26 - Holly DeVries

19 - Kinian Mack

27 - Sandy Ringler

20 - Mary Herrema

29 - Melanie Velderman

### December Anniversaries

2 - Dick & Judy Weick

14 - Don & Judy Collier

5 - Jim & Bert Tew

30 - Bill & Mary Howard

12 - Todd & Karen Collier

**Need a listening ear or have a faith question?**

Pastor Kelsey is available for pastoral care meetings. Email or call her to schedule a visit.

## Sermon Series Credits

Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman  
Original photography by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity  
Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed  
Scripture Commentary by Elder Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri  
Poetry by Rev. Sarah Speed  
Children's Lesson Guide by Rev. Anna Strickland  
| A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org |

## Welcome to Parents with Children

*Thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church.  
Please know that your family – with all of its noise, struggle, commotion,  
and joy – are not simply tolerated: you are a vital part of this community.  
We love to have you and your children with us.*

**Parents:** please ask an usher for worship packs for your children.

## Hospitality and Accessibility

- Bathrooms are located next door in the fellowship hall.
- Nursery and changing area are located downstairs.
- Large print materials are available in the narthex
- **Join us for food and fellowship next door after worship!**

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## Getting Connected

To receive church updates	text <b>HopkinsUMC</b> to 84576 or <b>flocknote.com/HopkinsUMC</b>
To give electronically	<a href="http://hopkinsumchurch.org/give">hopkinsumchurch.org/give</a>
To contact the Prayer Team	Bertha Tew at (269) 793-7424
To contact the Church Office	Mitzi Crowe at (269) 793-7323 <a href="mailto:hopkinsumcni@gmail.com">hopkinsumcni@gmail.com</a>
To contact the Pastor	Rev. Kelsey French at (248) 613-0366 <a href="mailto:PastorKelseyFrench@gmail.com">PastorKelseyFrench@gmail.com</a> Office Hours: Tues-Thurs by appointment

## Announcements December 5, 2021

**TODAY** - Ornament decorating during coffee fellowship

**Dec. 12** - Stocking decorating for the kids.

**Dec. 6** - Blue Christmas Service, 6:30pm, HUM Hall & Zoom

**Dec 19 - Combined Worship at HUMC at 10am**

On-the-spot Christmas Pageant during service

Family Christmas Party in HUM Hall after church

**Dec 24** - Christmas Eve

**Dec 26 - Combined Worship at SMUMC at 10am**

Lessons & Carols service & take-home worship

## Prayer Requests and Thanksgivings

**We pray with thanksgiving for...** Those who are willing to take part in church leadership; those who work to keep our church buildings and grounds safe and well taken care of; COVID vaccine & booster, the food pantry, those who have gotten jobs.

**We pray God's blessing for...** Oxford High School, those injured & family of 3 killed; Bert & Jim Tew; those dealing with transitions; all caretakers; the many grieving deaths and losses; those without jobs and looking for jobs.

**We pray for the church and for the world...** Haiti; Afghanistan; wildfire zones; Increasing Homeless populations across the US; pandemic continuing and rising in the US; Amelia Green our seminarian; the future of the UMC; Bishop Bard and DS Bagley; Pastor Kelsey and Brennen; immigrants and asylum seekers; all who tend and farm the land; for leadership of our nation; for first responders, health care and essential workers; for teachers, students, and families; for social and racial justice.

**Share your requests!** Call Pastor Kelsey (248-613-0366) or Bert Tew (269-793-7424)

## Worship Volunteers

**December Greeters** - Juanita Curtis & Mary Howard

### **December 5**

**Children's Message** - Pastor Kelsey

**Liturgist** - Alys Edgell

**Coffee Fellowship** - Deb Lemmer

**Communion Servant** - Judy Beck

### **December 12**

Alys Edgell

Mandi Edgell

Amanda D. & Melanie V.

## Luke 1:57-80 NRSV

57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

59 On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. 60 But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." 61 They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." 62 Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. 63 He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. 64 Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. 65 Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. 66 All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

67 Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. 69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, 70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, 71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. 72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, 73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us 74 that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. 76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. 78 By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, 79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." 80 The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

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## HUMC Giving

Weekly budget needs: \$1350.00

Last week's offering: \$1615.00

November, Loose Change for Re-entry kits - \$54.20

December Loose Change will go to the Methodist Children's Home Society.

Check out what they do at <https://mchsmi.org>.

## *In the service between Offering and Closing Song*

### TABLE

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Bread of Life, be Light in our darkness.

**Christ is the Light of the world.**

Cup of Salvation, be Strength for our journey.

**Christ is the Hope of the world.**

The gifts of God

**for the people of God.**

Let us come for all things are now ready.

#### **Breaking the Bread**

#### **Prayer After Communion**

## **Response of Confession after Sermon**

...Let us pray the prayer of  
confession together.

**Holy God,**

**When John was Born, Zechariah leaned down and whispered  
words of love into his ear. We know that you do the same for  
us, day in and day out, yet we fail to hear it.**

**We forget that in the beginning we were made good. We doubt  
that we could possibly be enough. We hustle for our self-worth  
and wear ourselves out aiming for perfection. We deflect  
words of praise. We hide behind shiny first impressions.**

**Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job. Open our  
ears as you open our hearts, so that we might rest on the  
foundation of goodness you have laid for us. Gratefully we  
pray, amen.**

*...Join me in proclaiming this good news:*

***We are loved. We are forgiven. We are claimed. This is our  
foundation. Thanks be to God. Amen.***

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### **Blue Christmas Service**

For those who have experienced loss, the holidays can be a particularly painful time, stirring up grief in acute ways. As a result, churches around the world have adopted the practice of having a “Blue Christmas” or a “Longest Night” service during the Advent season. In the Northern hemisphere, this service is often observed on December 21st, which is the longest night of the year. However, this service can be held at any time throughout the Advent season. We are having it early to recognize the grief throughout the whole season. A Blue Christmas service is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle. In this pandemic season of life, we imagine that grief and loss will be magnified and nearly universal, and a service like this may be needed now more than ever. Therefore, we hope that this service can be a gift to individuals and communities alike, providing a space of calm, quiet, and healing.