



REACH. TEACH. **PRAISE.** SERVE.  
MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST

DECEMBER 14, 2025  
*3rd Sunday of Advent*

**“Patiently Waiting”**

Rev. David Christy



If you're visiting for the first time, we'd love to connect with you!  
Please complete the **Guest Welcome Form** at [MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started](https://MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started)  
and stop by the **Welcome Center** to receive your visitor gift.

For families with children, **Praise Packs** are available in the narthex. These special activity bags, designed for kids ages 3–6 and 7–12, help engage them in worship.

**Sensory Bags** are also available at the **Welcome Center**.

We are pleased to offer interpreters for **American Sign Language** at the 9:30 AM worship service. If you or someone you know would benefit from ASL, please see one of our ushers for more details.

**TODAY: UNITED KIDS FAMILY WORSHIP | 9:30 AM | GYM**



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ALL EVENTS &  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

WIFI (WPA2): MUMCguest

Password: methodist

# TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

DECEMBER 14, 2025

8:15 AM

## WE GATHER

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY & CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Lullaby for Christmas  
Handbell Quartet

arr. Linda L. Lamb

WELCOME

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING | The Klotz Family

No. 210 | Toda la Tierra

TAULE

† OPENING HYMN

No. 213 | Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (v. 1, 2, 3)

TRURO

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION | ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S TIME

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns | Pastoral Prayer

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

† SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 5:7-10 (NRSVUE)

Charlene Bush, *Lay Reader*

SERMON

"Patiently Waiting"

Rev. David Christy

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD & OFFER OUR GIFTS

† SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, BuxWV 223

Dietrich Buxtehude

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Sweet Little Jesus Boy  
Ryan Crumpler, *Tenor*

Robert MacGimsey, Arr. Joel Raney

† RESPONSE TO GIVING

No. 234 | O Come, Let Us Adore Him

ADESTE FIDELES

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN

No. 234 | O Come, All Ye Faithful (v. 1, 2, 3)

ADESTE FIDELES

*We warmly invite you to come to the kneelers for a time of prayer.*

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccatina on 'Angels We Have Heard on High'

arr. Richard Elliott

† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit

Rev. David Christy, *Senior Pastor* | Rev. Dr. Susan Heafner-Heun, *Executive Pastor*  
Craig Estep, *Dir. of Music & Worship Arts* | Eon Malan, *Music Ministry Assoc. & Organist*  
Joel Mullis, *Worship Production Dir.* | Chuck DeLong, *Screens*  
Jonnie Hildreth, *Worship Coordinator*

SCAN FOR  
LIVE CLOSED  
CAPTIONING



# Contemporary Worship

DECEMBER 14, 2025

9:30 AM

## Welcome

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Hymn No. 210 | Toda la Tierra

TAULE

### † MUSICAL PRAISE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing (Glory in the Highest)

Rend Collective

Holy Forever (Christmas)

Chris Tomlin, Brian & Jenn Johnson

### † PRAYER OF CONFESSION | ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### † PASSING OF THE PEACE

### CHILDREN'S TIME

### PRAYER

## The Word

### † LESSON

James 5:7-10 (NRSVUE)

Rick Benjamin, Lay Reader

### SERMON

"Patiently Waiting"

Rev. David Christy

## Response

### A SONG OF GIVING

A Christmas Alleluia

Chris Tomlin

### † RESPONSE TO GIVING

O Come, Let Us Adore Him

ADESTE FIDELES

### † MUSICAL PRAISE

O Come All Ye Faithful

Rend Collective

*During the final song, we warmly invite you to come to the kneelers for a time of prayer. Whether you're seeking comfort, guidance, or simply a quiet moment with God, this sacred space is open to you. If you would like a pastor to pray with you, please raise your hand as you kneel. Otherwise, we honor this as your personal time with God.*

### NEW MEMBERS JOINING

### † BLESSING

† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor | Rev. Dr. Susan Heafner-Heun, Executive Pastor

Rev. Bill Roth, Pastor of Welcome & Hospitality

Byron Murphy, Dir. of Contemporary Worship | John Biggers, Assoc. Worship Leader

Tim Martin, Drums | Mike Derby, Bass | Ed Scholl, Keys | Joe Coker, Mandolin

Joel Mullis, Worship Production Dir. | Tom Amann, Livestream | Donna Balisado, Screens

Susan Chambers, Worship Coordinator | Jessica Bridges, ASL Interpreter

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CAPTIONING



# TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

DECEMBER 14, 2025

11:00 AM

## WE GATHER

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY & CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Lullaby for Christmas  
Handbell Quartet

arr. Linda L. Lamb

WELCOME

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING | The Kamenick Family

No. 210 | Toda la Tierra  
Lisbey Arjona Espinosa, *Solo*

TAULE

† OPENING HYMN

No. 213 | Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (v. 1, 2, 3)

TRURO

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION | ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN’S TIME

CHORAL ANTHEM

Mid-Winter  
Sanctuary Choir, Sue Demick, *Flute*, Children’s Choir

arr. Bob Chilcott

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns | Call to Prayer | Pastoral Prayer

## WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

† SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 5:7-10 (NRSVUE)

Howard Nussman, *Lay Reader*

SERMON

“Patiently Waiting”

Rev. David Christy

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD & OFFER OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Sweet Little Jesus Boy  
Ryan Crumpler, *Tenor*

Robert MacGimsey, Arr. Joel Raney

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Rev. Bill Roth, *Pastor of Welcome & Hospitality*

Craig Estep, *Dir. of Music & Worship Arts* | Eon Malan, *Music Ministry Assoc. & Organist*

Sanctuary Choir | Joel Mullis, *Worship Production Dir.* | Tom Amann, *Livestream*

David Wilkinson, *Production Assistant* | Susan Chambers, *Worship Coordinator*

David Bigham, *Acolyte Shepherd* | Rebecca Kamenick & Megan Thompson, *Acolytes*

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LIVE CLOSED  
CAPTIONING



# Our Prayers

In care and sympathy, we lift up family and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

Please lift up **Abundant Life Church**, that their ministry may flourish and be richly blessed.

Also remember those in our church family with **special needs and concerns**.

**We pray for the care and protection of all serving in the military, healthcare, emergency services, law enforcement, long-term care, and education.**



**UNITED KIDS**  
CHILDREN'S CHOIR

# Children's Nativity

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21**  
*DURING THE*  
**8:15AM, 9:30AM & 11AM**  
**WORSHIP SERVICES**

## HANDBELL QUARTET

Susie Verrill, Maxine Starnier, Sarah Sheffield, Annette Clary

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Ashley Broome, *Director*

# Blue Christmas

a service of reflection for the Longest Night

**Sunday, December 21, 2025 at 5 PM**

## 2025 Christmas Eve Services

**1:00 PM | KIDS & FAMILY | Gym**

Worship followed by Live Nativity & Animals in the Courtyard

**2:30 PM & 4:30 PM | KIDS & FAMILY | Gym**

Candlelight Acoustic Worship, Communion & Family Activities

**4:00 PM & 6:00 PM | TRADITIONAL | Sanctuary**

Candlelight Worship with Choir, Orchestra & Communion

**9:00 PM | CONTEMPORARY | Sanctuary**

Candlelight Worship with Praise Band & Communion

**11:30 PM | VESPERS | Courtyard**

30-minute Candlelight Worship with A cappella music, Nativity & Animals

*\*Nursery (3 & under) provided for all services, except 9:00 & 11:30 PM.*

**visit [MatthewsUMC.org](https://MatthewsUMC.org) for more details**

## This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

ALL are welcome at **Matthews United Methodist Church**. We truly mean that. At Matthews United Methodist Church, we practice an “open” table at Holy Communion, which means there are no “requirements” to meet in order to receive the sacrament, and our worship is open to everyone who wishes to participate. We acknowledge that we are different people who think differently about matters of faith and life. In our various worship services we express ourselves differently but seek to proclaim the same God. We hope you feel welcome and accepted here. Our belief is God accepts us where we are. Please let one of our pastors or someone at our **Welcome Center** know you are here and how we can assist you on your spiritual journey. We offer lots of classes, groups, and studies where you can “plug in” to our church. Welcome!

**6:00 PM**  
**YOUTH**  
**WORSHIP**  
**COMMONS**

9:30 AM & 11:00 AM services are Livestreamed at [MatthewsUMC.org](https://MatthewsUMC.org)

