



Union Presbyterian Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025 | 10AM

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

Bold text is read or sung by the congregation.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

This morning's liturgy is adapted from offerings by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed A Sanctified Art LLC sanctifiedart.org.

Confession is our opportunity to be honest with God, so that our relationship may be restored and our hearts reconciled.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient practices of worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

Gather

Welcome and Announcements

Please help us to know you by signing the fellowship pad or scanning the attendance QR code on the card in the pew. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue prayer card. Please place both in the offering plate when it is passed.

Prelude

Extinguishing of the Candle of Misery and Lighting of the Candle of Joy

Jim, Andrea and Luca Vanzant

In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of joy?

We see glimmers of joy in birthday candles and homemade cards. We see joy in the laughter of children and the delight of grandparents. We see joy in meals around the table and in the singing of Christmas songs.

You are right. Even in a fearful world, joy is all around us.

Today we light the candle of joy as a reminder of this good news.

May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, joy is here. Joy is real.

**We only have to look for it. Thanks be to God for that good news!
Amen.**

*Song

Come, Child of Light

Prayer of Praise

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Courageous God, you invite us to live into our call. You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust. Instead of responding with a resounding "yes," we often hide our face. We dig in our heels. We look for someone else to volunteer. Spark courage in us. Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference. Remind us that even when we're scared, we are not alone. You invite us forward. With baby steps, we hope; and we pray...

(Silent prayers of confession)

Responsive Assurance of Forgiveness

Family of faith, no matter where your path has led you in the past, today is a new day. So join me in declaring this good news:

We are known. We are forgiven! We are sent to serve.

May we step forward in faith, always moving closer to God's call. Amen.

*Sharing Christ's Peace

Because God has given us the peace of forgiveness, let us also be at peace with one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn 82

Children of all ages are invited to come to the chancel steps.

To the tune of Hymn 88



Scan QR code to give electronically from your phone

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues out into the world, where we are sent to love and care for God's people.

Engage

***Preparation for the Word** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (Pew Bible OT pg.860)

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Children's Message

Message

Breaking News

*Song

O Come, Take Heart

VENI IMMANUEL

Respond

Offering of Our Time, Talent and Treasure

Financial offerings support the Body of Christ through the life and mission of Union Presbyterian Church. If you have prayers to be shared during our prayers of the people, please place them in the offering plate.

*Doxology

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn #765

May the God of Hope Go with Us

ARGENTINA

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Worship Leaders

Cheryl Martinez, Accompanist

Luca Vanzant, Liturgist

Announcements

Welcome to worship at UPC this morning!

Please help us get to know you by signing the fellowship pad. If you are a first time visitor, please leave your email address or phone number so that we can continue to welcome you. Also, stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex to pick up your welcome gift after the service!

We value children in worship! There are children's materials and crayons available as you enter the Sanctuary, a play area in the north window of the Sanctuary, and a nursery area down the hall to the right of the narthex.

2026 Budget Q&A after worship in the Family Room TODAY. UPC Treasurer Jacob Brooks will offer a brief presentation about the 2026 budget and answer questions.



Angel Tree for Gallatin County CAC

Please return your UNWRAPPED angel gifts by **Sunday, December 14th**. We will deliver the gifts at 9:15am on Tuesday, December 16th. If you'd like to help with the delivery, please sign up in

the narthex or on the website.

Lessons and Carols on December 28th

Our worship on the first Sunday after Christmas is a service of lessons and carols filled with song and some readings. If you have a favorite Christmas carol you'd like to sing that morning, please sign up in the narthex. If you are willing to be a reader, please sign up in the narthex or on the website.

Monday

Session 6:30pm

Tuesday

Angel Tree Delivery 9:15am

Saturday

Longest Night Service 7pm

♠ Adult Activities

Choir Practice

Wednesdays 6:30pm Sanctuary
Adults and teens welcome.

Sunday School

2nd & 4th Sundays after worship Family Room

Chair Yoga

Mon, Wed, Fri 9am Narthex

Wrapped in Prayer Stitchers

2nd & 4th Tuesdays 7pm Choir Room

Florence Women's Club

3rd Tuesday 12:30pm – 2:30pm
Info: Sharon Price 859-391-3984

Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesdays at 8pm

UPS (Union Presbyterian Seniors)

3rd Thursday Lunch at local restaurants
Info: Elaine Johnson

♠ Youth Activities

Sunday School 4th – 7th Grade

2nd & 4th Sundays after worship Room 115

Middle School Youth

Holiday hiatus until January 11th

High School Youth

Holiday hiatus until January 11th

Boy Scouts, Troop 805

Monday at 7pm

♠ Children's Activities

Sunday School K-3rd Grade

2nd & 4th Sundays after worship Room 114

Cub Scouts, Pack 3805

Tuesdays 6:30pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2830

1st & 3rd Wednesday 6:30pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2146

Every other Friday 6pm

Union Children's Choir

Saturdays at 9:30am Holiday hiatus until 1/17

Birthdays

December 17 Drusie Miller
December 19 Callan Lintelman
December 20 Karen Kemp, Becky Melchior

Prayers

Lisa Stenner, Tina Wilcox, Ken Hoffman,
Dan Spanier, April Merkel, Dave Kozlowski,
Molly Gilbert, Lori Ruwe

Anniversaries

December 19 Kevin & Bethany Brewer Ball

LAST CALL: Christmas Eve Poinsettias

Help beautify the sanctuary on Christmas Eve by purchasing a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone or to the glory of God. You may purchase these beautiful flowers by signing up on the sheet in the Narthex or by emailing the church office. Poinsettias cost \$15 each and can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service. A dedication page will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin. The proceeds help support conferences and retreats



Community Christmas ~ TONIGHT at 6pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Stake Center 144 Buttermilk Pike, Lakeside Park, KY

Enjoy a casual evening of worship filled with congregational singing, scriptural reflections, and musical offerings from various congregations as well as the chance to fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ from various denominations. In this holy season, what better way can we witness to our unity in Christ than by worshipping the Lord together? Want to carpool? Sign up in the narthex

Longest Night Worship Service Saturday, December 20th at 7 pm

The Longest Night reminds us that this festive season isn't joyful for everyone. This special worship service is for people who are grieving this holiday season and feel the weight of the darkness not just on the "longest night". Loss of loved ones, of relationships, of jobs, of health, or of many other things can quell our joy during this time of anticipation and celebration. This service will give space for people to acknowledge those feelings while also hearing God's word of hope and healing for all of us. We will also have a time of lighting candles of remembrance for those who have joined "the great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). We hope you will share information about this service with anyone who would be blessed by it. We will worship in person, and the service will stream through the website and on YouTube.



SESSION

Class of 2026

Jacob Brooks
Laura Pears

Class of 2027

Mary Lu Funyak
Erin Kieffer

Class of 2028

Sue Kozlowski
Frank Lindsey

DEACONS

Class of 2026

Danni Kavanaugh
Dave Stenner
Holly VonLehman

Class of 2027

Sam Caudill
Grace Daniel
Cheryl Davis

Class of 2028

Molly Gilbert
Ollie Seidman
Alison Vessa