

Sandi Perl, Pastor                      Elly Stempien, Organist  
Ron Miller, Choir Director      Ron Salyer, Worship Leader

Welcome in the name of Jesus!

Centering Prayer

**Song of Praise      Kids Choice**

**Sharing of the Peace – please take a moment to greet those around you in the Name of the Lord.**

**Anthem                      A Tiny Child Will Come**

**\*Call to Worship**

L: This is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a time to rejoice in the wondrous things that God is doing.

**P: Our hearts are filled with the hope that is coming into the world.**

L: The time is fast approaching, not for parties or presence, but for the awareness of God's loving gift to us--the gift of the Christ child.

**P: Help slow us down, Lord, that we may realize that your gift of love is at the center of our lives and our celebrations.**

L: Thanks be to God who again reminds us of God's eternal love.

**P: Open our hearts, O Lord, to receive your blessed gift. AMEN.**

**\*MORNING PRAYER**

It's time to dream again. Not because we think we are or can make the dream, God's dream, happen. But because we know we can't.

We're like Joseph, stuck with situations in our lives and the life of the world God loves that promise us and those we love nothing but pain. We long for solutions that will reduce everyone's pain, and our own. We may even decide we have found some and try to ask God to bless us as we pursue it. But if we're honest, we know even our best solutions fall short, far short. So we pray, not telling God what to do, but trusting God to show us what we can do.

We pray, not to control the world, or any outcome, but, as Joseph did, to open ourselves, to let go, to release ourselves and the world God loves into God's loving hands, to let the dreams come, and follow where God leads. So let us open up our hearts, let's open up our hearts to our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn of Praise      Kids Choice**

Prayer Time – Please share your joys as well as your prayers.

**TIME OF PRAYER (FWS) 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayers**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER – Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptations but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

**Party with the Preacher**

**Story  
Film Premier**

**Offering (Doxology page 95)**

**Loving God, as we present our tithes and offerings to you this morning for your blessing, we remember the greatest blessing the world has ever received: your precious Son, sent to redeem us, to pay the price for our sins. Thank you for showing us how to give from the heart. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn - (UMH)      Kids Choice**

**\*Good News**

**Now send us, Jesus O, for you've brought us, You've brought us a mighty long way, keep us dreaming, O, keep us dreaming... Your holy dream, Lord! Keep us moving, keep us moving in your Mighty good way! Amen.**

**FWS – Faith We Sing**

**UMH – United Methodist Hymnal**

Please join us for coffee and conversation after  
Worship.

### **SERVING THIS WEEK (12/23/18)**

Greeters: Carol and Dick Pinneo  
Ushers: Marilyn Sands and Meredith Neilson  
Scripture Reader: Bruce Westerdahl  
Sunday School: Not this week  
Counters: Ron Salyer and Aimee Perry  
Nursery: Terry Fingar and Stacy Wyant  
Door Greeter: Erin Brady  
Fellowship: Marilyn Sands

### **SERVING NEXT WEEK (12/30/18)**

Greeters: Kids  
Ushers: Kids  
Scripture Reader: Kids  
Sunday School: Not this week  
Counters: Ron Salyer and Dill Sutherland  
Nursery: Phil Pearce and Amber Brady  
Door Greeter: Stacy Wyant  
Fellowship:

**\*Under the back table there are tote bags with activities for kids to use during worship. Please put the bags back when you are finished.**



## **Christmas Eve Service – 7:00pm**

In February 2018 the United Methodist Church will be holding a Special Session to have conversation and make decisions around the issues of human sexuality. In preparation for this Special Session you are invited to participate in one or both of the following informational events;

January 7th - 6:30pm - Bluff Point UMC

January 28th - 3:00pm - Penn Yan UMC

The link can be found in the newsletter.

## **BLUFF POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**“THE LITTLE COUNTRY CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART”**

**“BLUFF POINT UMC... FAITH  
AND LOVE...  
IT'S WHO WE ARE. IT'S WHAT WE DO!”**



**December 23, 2018**