

## BLUFF POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor, Sandi Perl  
Aimee Perry, Choir Director

Elly Stempien, Organist  
Bill Sutherland, Liturgist

### WELCOME AND GREETING, ORGAN PRELUDE

#### Call to Worship

L: In the days to come the mountains of the LORD's house shall be established as the heights of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hill; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say:

**P: Come. Let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths."**

**KIDS:** With what shall we bring to God's house?

L: Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hand wreathes and garlands.

**P: Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things and our holy play. In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of prophets and seers let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth. Amen.**

#### Morning Prayer

Good Lord, guide our outward actions in such ways that our inward being is formed in faith, hope and love. May the decorations we offer engage our senses during the days of Advent and enliven our praise and worship, in the name of the child of Bethlehem, our risen and coming savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Song O Come, O Come Emmanuel UMH #211**

**(Wreaths & Garland – See Insert)**

Scripture: Hosea 14:4, 8-9

**Song: UMH #140 Great is Thy Faithfulness (verse 1 and refrain)**

**(Placing and decoration of the Christmas Tree – See Insert)**

Scripture: Isaiah 41:17-20

**Song: O Christmas Tree**

**(Advent Candles – See Insert)**

**Candle Lighting Song**

**PRAYER TIME/PRAYER HYMN #2193 (FWS) "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"**

**(Placing of ornaments and symbols of Christ and Faith – Insert)**

Scripture: Revelation 22:12-14, 17

#### Anthem

**\*OFFERTORY/DOXOLOGY (p 95) / PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** Faithful God, giver of all gifts, receive our offerings this day, take and use what we offer, in both money, time, and talents, for the benefit of your kingdom. Help us to freely give what we have, and to remain faithful servants today and always. Amen.

#### CLOSING HYMN

#### \*GOOD NEWS:

We have worshipped together in hope We have sung God's praises. We have shared the hope of new beginnings. Now may God's blessing of help be with us this day, this week, this Advent season.

#### SHARING GRACE:

You will need a large jar. This jar is to be a "Jar of Blessings". Place the jar in a visible place in your home. This week on a piece of paper write down a hope that you have for the world as Advent begins.

Please join us for fellowship – Turkey and biscuit meal following church today.

FWS – Faith We Sing

UMH – United Methodist Hymnal

**BLUFF POINT  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
“THE LITTLE COUNTRY CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART”

**SERVING THIS WEEK (11/27/16)**

Greeters: Helen and Dana Schillinger  
Ushers: Dick Smith and Ernie Pinneo  
Scripture Reader: Sarah Stackhouse  
Fellowship: Turkey and Biscuit Lunch  
Sunday School: No Sunday School  
Nursery: Phil P & Trish deMontfort  
Counters: Aimee Perry and Pam Althouse

**SERVING NEXT WEEK (12/4/16)**

Greeters: Waneta Neilson and Dick Johnson  
Ushers: Fuzzy and Sonya Anderson  
Scripture Reader: Helen Schillinger  
Fellowship: Sunday Brunch – Chris and Stacy Wyant  
Sunday School: Sarah Stackhouse  
Nursery: Sherri H & Michele C  
Counters: Elly Stempien and Bill Sutherland

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Thank you for your generosity in the providing thanksgiving meals to 8 families and hats and mittens to children in our community.

**Corning Glass Museum – We will be leaving from church at 8:30am. We will carpool when possible.**

**Advent Study – Thursdays at 6:00pm at Babs Steinert's home. See Babs for directions.**

**Small Group Study – 10:00am Wednesday at church.**

**Contact Us**

**Prayer requests:** [prayers@BluffPointUMC.com](mailto:prayers@BluffPointUMC.com)

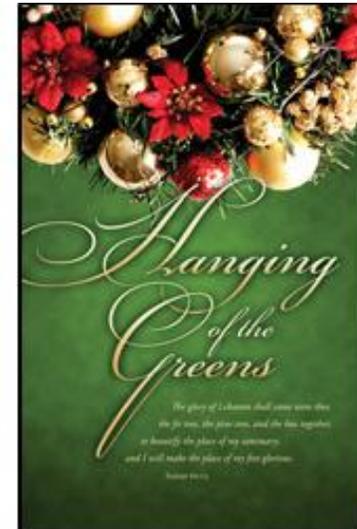
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**Note**

**This is space to note announcements and sermon thoughts**

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



November 27, 2016

# Hanging of the Greens

## Wreaths and Garland

L: People of God, we stand in this church and at that doorway of the Christian year of this first Sunday of Advent. Let us make the church building and our hearts and minds as portals for Christ to enter.

**ALL: Come, Lord Jesus! Come, Lord Jesus!**

L: How shall we make this place a reminder of our need of repentance and that faithfulness and integrity that comes from God our maker and redeemer?

**ALL: Let us hang garlands and wreaths as Hosea speaks the word of God**

## Placing and decoration of the Christmas Tree

L: God, the Holy One of Israel, is a God of comfort and compassion. With the Christmas tree, we remember God's everlasting promises to the poor and needs. Isaiah spoke of God's making of the wilderness a place of blessing where water and plants, even pine trees, would manifest God's loving action to save and provide.

**ALL: Place the tree, strong friends. As we hear God's word.**

## Advent Candles:

**As we light the Advent candle  
with the light of hope burning bright,  
faithfully we wait for his coming;  
faithfully it shines through the night.  
In our humble hearts a fire burns as well;  
hear the prayer these flames would tell.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel.**

Candle-bearer: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

L: One candle shines as shadows lengthen and chaos roars—the dawn of God's kingdom in our midst.

**All: Courage awakens in us, a spark to brighten the way**

(Over)

## **Placing of ornaments and symbols of Christ and Faith**

L: Here is this place we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Here we will remember his Advent, his birth in Bethlehem, weak and helpless as an infant. And here we rekindle our prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus" as we await his coming as the bright and morning star.

**ALL: Hang symbols and signs of Christ – ruler, prophet, priest. Hang stars, crosses, triangle, the "alphas" and the "omega" to remind us of his identity, his story, and the holy trinity.**