

United Methodist Church
November 29, 2020
9:30 a.m.



Prelude

Greeting

Scripture: Isaiah 64:1-9 - Sue Harrison

Opening Prayer: Sue Harrison

Advent Reading: Danielle & Lizzie August

Call to Worship: Larry French

In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

We recognize God as the source of all goodness.

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.

We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer

Together with Kids:

“Jesus Loves Me! This I Know” (UMH 191, vs. 1) - Scott Family

Music: – “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (vs. 1&2, UMH 196)
Bonnie Hitchingham

Scripture: Mark 13:24-37 (NRSV) - Larry French

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁴“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,

²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he^{is} near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Necessity for Watchfulness

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Message: “Jesus is Nearby” – Pastor Larry French

Stewardship Moment:

“Thanksgiving: A Month of Celebrating our Blessings”

Music: “People, Look East” (vs. 1,2 & 4, UMH 202) - Bonnie Hitchingham

The Offering

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Participants:

Sue Harrison, Liturgist

Bonnie Hitchingham, Pianist

Advent Readers, Danielle & Lizzie August

Larry French, Pastor

Scott Family, Together with Kids

Cedar Springs in Prayer

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office @ 616-696-1140 or email: office@cedarspringsumc.org.

Names will remain on the prayer list for 1 month unless notified. Thank you.

Members	Friends	In Care Facilities
Marty, Darcy, Madelyn & Gibson Reister	Gordon "Doc" VanOtteren Neil Young	The Brook of C.S.- Albert Abel
Alice Powell-Anderson	Grace Price & family	Spectrum Hospital
Ed Abel	Carl Anderson & family	Frances Abel
Jerry & Betty VanderWal	Laura (no last name given)	Phil & Bev Wesche
Steve Mueller	Jane Pearcy	Metron of C.S. -
Dan & Diane Christie	Tom Anderson	Rose Hunter
Woody & Jan Avis	Mark Winegar	
Wayne & June Price	Family of Max Cole	
Gerry & Lois Collis	Teresa Tibbe	
Hal Ringler	Marcia Anderson	
Fred & Carollee Gunnell	Dale Waller	
Bud & Helen Gambee	Tim Price	
	Randy Benedict	

Kids Hope USA: Mentors, Prayer Partners, and Students

In Our Country's Service:

Jordan Ackerman	Aaron Burnside	Tyler Hinton
Mitchell Phillips	Elisabeth Bullen	David Segard III
Nick Segard	Peter & Mikelle Noreen	
Jenny Jo Collin (Mueller)	Russell & Janet (Noreen)	Scott-Evelyn, Noah
James & Jackie (Champion) Finley	Ben & Sarah (Noreen)	Smith- Kate, Jessica

Church News

UPDATE REGARDING IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Dearest Church family, it is prayerfully and with a heavy heart that the leadership team and the "Rethinking Church" Task Force has decided it is in everybody's best interest that we move back to Phase 1 and remain in online worship only through the end of 2020. We understand how difficult it is to not be together through the Christmas Season. We will continue to offer virtual worship opportunities every Sunday morning, and we will have a **special Christmas Eve worship event for you at 7pm on December 24th**. Our prayers are with our whole Cedar Springs UMC Church family in this difficult time.

Winter Snowbirds: Please make sure you give your information to the office of what months you will be gone and your address for the winter. That way we can keep you up-to-date on all the activities and news for the church during the winter months! See you next spring!

Subject: Meijer's Holiday Simply Give Campaign Kick-Off

Now through Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021. Our partnering store for this campaign is:

Meijer Cedar Springs Location - 248 - SOLON TOWNSHIP

During the campaign, we invite you to join our combined efforts to fight hunger by purchasing the \$10 *Simply Give* cards.

Double Match Days Will Continue and be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 and Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020.**

- For every \$10 *Simply Give* card purchased on these dates, Meijer will provide an additional contribution of \$20, bringing the total to \$30 for a single customer purchase.
- Each purchase resulting from Double Match Days will be matched by Meijer up to a maximum amount of \$10,000 for the campaign.

November's Stewardship Campaign is "Thanksgiving: A Month of Gratitude", focuses on being grateful for all that we have, even during a period of distress like we are all now experiencing. God has blessed us all in so many ways, and we are all called to be a blessing for others. I look forward to seeing how God works in our lives through this message of gratitude. We have sent out 2021 Pledge Cards in the mail and are asking for you to think about your pledge and return by 12/01/2020.

Peace and love to you all, Pastor Larry

Christmas Love Offerings: If anyone would like to give a Christmas Love Offering for our staff, please send them to the church office before December 15 and be sure to mark them "love offering- staff" or "love offering-pastor".

Information from Bethany Christian Services -Mission Opportunity

*"As the Holiday's approach and the New Year is around the corner, the urgent need for Refugee Foster Families becomes greater. 20-25 children continue waiting for a foster family after fleeing their homelands due to violence and persecution. Many of these children have been waiting **over 500 days** in a shelter. At Bethany we believe family changes everything, and that everyone deserves to feel loved, connected, and safe. The first step to become a Refugee Foster Parent is to attend a **free, no-commitment, virtual Information Meeting**. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, December 1st at 6pm**. You can register and find additional dates at <https://bethany.org/locations/us/michigan/grand-rapids/events>. For questions and more information, please contact Claire Hopkins at 616-256-2293 or chopkins@bethany.org." Thank you again and please do not hesitate to reach out for anything! Claire Hopkins, Refugee Foster Care Family Recruiter e: chopkins@bethany.org | p: 616-256-2293*

Contact Information

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