

United Methodist Church
December 13, 2020
9:30 a.m.



Prelude

Greeting

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11 - Nancy Nielsen

Opening Prayer: Nancy Nielsen

Advent Reading: Kerri & Cassidy Mayo

Call to Worship: Larry French

Our souls proclaim your greatness,
O God.

And our spirits rejoice in you.

We will praise you as long as we live.

We will sing praises to you our whole lives long.

We will not trust in the powerful of this world,
But will trust in you—Creator of heaven and earth,
the One who gives food to the hungry,
the One who enacts justice for the oppressed.

Our souls proclaim your greatness,
O God

As we worship you in this place,
As we light these candles in hope, peace, and joy.

Together with Kids:

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

Music: – “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” (vs. 1,3,4 UMH 218)
Bonnie Hitchingham

Scripture: John 1:6-8, 19-28 (NRSV) - Larry French

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

The Testimony of John the Baptist

¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹ And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²² Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”

²³ He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord,” as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” ²⁶ John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷ the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” ²⁸ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Message: “This Took Place” – Pastor Larry French

Music: “I Come, All Ye Faithful” (vs. 1,3,6 UMH 234)– Bonnie Hitchingham

The Offering

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Participants:

Nancy Nielsen, Liturgist
Kerri & Cassidy Mayo, Advent Readers
Larry French, Pastor

Bonnie Hitchingham, Pianist
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 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Gerry & Lois Collis | Family of Jane Percy | The Brook of C.S.- |
| Alice Powell-Anderson | Audrey Looman | Albert Abel |
| Jerry & Betty VanderWal | Family of Gary Hosmer | Spectrum Hospital |
| Steve Mueller | Family of Gordon "Doc" VanOtteren | Frances Abel |
| Dan & Diane Christie | Neil Young | Phil & Bev Wesche |
| Woody & Jan Avis | Grace Price & family | Metron of C.S. - |
| Wayne & June Price | Carl Anderson & family | Rose Hunter |
| Hal Ringler | Tom Anderson | |
| Fred & Carollee Gunnell | Mark Winegar | |
| Bud & Helen Gambee | Dale Waller | |
| | 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

Simply Give Double Match Days extended!

Meijer has announced that it has added a third Simply Give Double Match Day. It is December 19. So if you would like to send a donation into the church for this, please mark your offering "Simply Give" and it needs to be into the office by December 14th.

Church Building Use: If you have a need to enter the church building during this time, please use the office entrance and remember to sign in so that we know who and where in the building people have been. This will help us to keep areas sanitized and safe for all our staff, members and volunteers.

Missions: We are asking mission offerings for Advent and Christmas for refugee relief through UMCOR. Please mark your offering so we know where to post it to.

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".

Year-end: Make sure that you turn in your receipts for reimbursements into the church treasurer by Monday, December 28, 2020 so that we can close our 2020 yearend at the end of December.

Donations/Offerings: Please remember that any donations or offerings that you wish to apply to your 2020 taxes need to be to the church office no later than Monday, December 28, 2020. Anything received after that date will be applied to the year 2021. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at the numbers listed on the back page of this newsletter. Thank you.

Stewardship Pledge Cards:

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their cards. If you haven't had the chance, please return the pledge cards to the office as soon as possible so that we can finish updating the church budget. You can mail them or make arrangements to drop off at the church— contact the church office if you wish to drop off. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer at the office phone number.

Christmas Cards: If you would like to send a Christmas card to Pastor Larry & Sharon, please send them to the church address.

Contact Information

Pastor: Larry French (616) 551-9280

Pastor Email: pastorlarryfrench@gmail.com

Ministry Assistant: Jennifer August (616) 696-1140

Church Office Email: office@cedarspringsumc.org

Web: www.cedarspringsumc.org