

# EAST FAIRFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Lisa Courtwright

Organist: Ruth Rowley  
Pianist: Nancy Setinsek

Ministers: The Congregation  
Choir Director: Randy Hart

## Sunday, December 31, 2023 A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

### GATHERING

*O Come, All We Faithful - Scott*  
*Christmas Carol Medley - Hughes*  
*What Child Is This? - Martin*

### CHRIST LIGHT ENTERS

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY UPDATES Missy Roberts, Liturgist

### CALL TO WORSHIP

L: O come let us worship and lift our hearts . . .

**P: Not because the world is good and all are at peace, but because the earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the God of the whole Earth.**

L: O come let us worship and raise our hands . . .

**P: Not because our lives are all sweetness and light, but because even those who walk in darkness can see a great light, the Bright and Morning Star.**

L: O come let us worship and bow down . . .

**P: Not because God gives us what we want, but because God gives us what we need –the holy child Jesus, God's Unspeakable Gift.**

\*CAROL Sing We Now of Christmas #237

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### OFFERING OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

### INVITATION

OFFERTORY *Coventry Carol - Smith*

### \*DOXOLOGY

### \*DEDICATION OF GIFTS

## A SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

### THE BIDDING PRAYER

### OUR LORDS PRAYER

### FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

CAROL Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus UMH #196

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises to Abraham that by his descendants  
all the nations of the earth shall obtain blessing.*

CAROL O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs 1,2,4,7) UMH #211

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.*

CAROL Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (vs 1,2) UMH #216

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

*The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor  
and peace for all of God's creation.*

CAROL O Little Town of Bethlehem UMH #230

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

*The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary  
that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.*

CAROL Angels We Have Heard On High UMH #238

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

*Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.*

CAROL Away in a Manger UMH #217

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

*The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.*

CHOIR ANTHEM Brazilian Christmas

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11

*The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.*

CAROL The First Noel UMH #245

\*NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

*John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

\*CAROL Joy to the World UMH #246

\* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

May the Christ who by his Incarnation gathered into One things  
earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace  
and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the  
Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go forth in peace and joy.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

\*LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD

NEXT SUNDAY

Liturgist: David Vollnogle

**Please keep in mind that the service is live-streamed and recorded for public access. Please keep prayer requests brief and do not use last names or identifying details.**

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

**December 31, 2023**

**To submit a prayer request call Denise at 330-457-2465 or 330-727-9832**

**If you desire a home or hospital visit call Pastor Lisa (440-339-6463)**

**Prayer Blankets: call Joyce Ward (330-692-3346)**

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**Betty B** – hospitalized with possible pneumonia.

**Rich** (friend of Cha'Lette)

**Jim C** (Kay Crook) – in need of prayer.

**Jeannie's cousins** in Florida – in need of prayer.

**Jim Freeman** – passed away Dec. 20. Pray for Vicki and the family.

**Susan Kellner** (Walt's daughter) - passed away Dec. 17. Pray for family.

**Wendy Groves** (Carol Foy's sister) – passed away Dec 17. Pray for family.

**Perri S** – recovering from ankle replacement surgery. In rehab.

**Abby** (Marge) - 9 yr. old granddaughter hospitalized. Some improvement.

**Jackson** (Cindy Rupert) – niece gave birth prematurely. 1 lb. 9 oz.

**David C** – recovering from shoulder surgery.

**Bob M** (Gary Fieldhouse's brother) - recovering from triple bypass.

**Carrie W**

**Brittany** (Malory's co-worker) – two more cancer treatments.

**Tucker** (Georgia's cousin)

**Warner** (Jeannie's father)

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## **HOMEBOUND**

Betty B.                      Anita M.                      Mary V.                      Ray & Carren

Thelma A. (Whispering Pines) still at Salem Hospital for rehab.

Lucille F. (Whispering Pines) still at Hampton Woods for rehab.

Joanie R. (Whispering Pines)

Zelda C. (Whispering Pines)

Evalyn M (Parkside)

Shirley K (Grace Woods)

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## **IN MINISTRY**

Lisa Courtwright              Tyler Rollinson              Jeff Pellin.

Edie Boles                      Jim Gaston                      Georgette Gaston

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CCLI # 1994841 CVLI #504 011 134



**East Fairfield  
United Methodist Church  
Sunday, December 31, 2023**

**9:30 AM**



**A Service of  
Nine Lessons & Carols**



Rev. Lisa Courtwright  
440-339-6463  
45675 State Route 558  
New Waterford, OH 44445

*"Working, playing, and praying together on our  
faith journey, to share Jesus Christ with everyone."*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Dec 31</b> 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship at Rogers	<b>Jan 1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>Jan 2</b> 8:30 Men's Coffee	<b>Jan 3</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>Jan 5</b> Pastor's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>Jan 6</b> <b>11:00 4H Denim &amp; Dust</b> (Ali Cusick)
<b>Jan 7</b> 9:30 Worship at E F 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship at Rogers	<b>Jan 8</b> 6:30 Cub Scouts	<b>Jan 9</b> 8:30 Men's Coffee - Ladies' Day	<b>Jan 10</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>Jan 11</b> <b>10:00 Membership Care Meeting</b>	<b>Jan 12</b> Pastor's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>Jan 13</b>
<b>Jan 14</b> 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship at Rogers  <b>4:00-5 4-H</b> (Jamie Stacy)	<b>Jan 15</b> 6:30 Cub Scouts  <b>7:00 LEADERSHIP BOARD</b>	<b>Jan 16</b> 8:30 Men's Coffee	<b>Jan 17</b> <b>5:30 Rogers Leadership Board</b>  7:00 Choir Practice	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Jan 19</b> Pastor's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>Jan 20</b> <b>8:30-10:00 Feed My Sheep at Rogers UM</b>
<b>Jan 21</b> 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship at Rogers	<b>Jan 22</b> 6:30 Cub Scouts	<b>Jan 23</b> 8:30 Men's Coffee (Newsletter Deadline)	<b>Jan 24</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>Jan 25</b> 9:00 Mailing Committee	<b>Jan 26</b> Pastor's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>Jan 27</b>
<b>Jan 28</b> 9:30 Worship at EF 10:30 Coffee Time 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship at Rogers	<b>Jan 29</b> 6:30 Cub Scouts	<b>Jan 30</b> 8:30 Men's Coffee	<b>Jan 31</b> 7:00 Choir Practice			

**Mission of the Month for December**  
**General Mission Fund – Fund #2**

**4C's Item - Sugar**

**Feed My Sheep Item - Shampoo**