

Prayer Concerns

Let Us Pray...

For the world:

Ecumenical prayer cycle: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger
All those affected by the coronavirus

For our family and friends:

Cliff Burris	Grover Williams	Hardy Porterfield
Priscilla Gregory	Charles Bland	Martha Orr
Andy Carver	Beverly Montgomery	Cynthia Lawrence
Myrl McKellar	Lillian Smith	Marc Hall
Jett Heermans	Pauline Eng's daughter Laurie	
Adalid Verastegui	Sterling and Marilyn Hartman and Sterling's sister-in-law Pattie	
Brice Bridges (Sally Johnson's great-grandson)	Steve Sullivan (friend of the Howards)	
Corrie Van Rensburg's sister Poppie	Marcia Pridgen (Karen Bowker's sister)	
Karen Packard's sisters Cindy and Connie and Connie's granddaughter Neva		
Debbie Ozolins and Peggy MacWilliams (Sue Sidney's cousins)		
Jeff Slater, Penn Westwood (Carol Slater's son and cousins)		

Prayers of sympathy:

Walter Wilson and Charles Bland on the death of Walter's brother Paul

If you wish to add a prayer request to this list, please complete a Prayer Card available in the chair pouch in front of you and place it in the collection basket as you come forward for communion. Please indicate how the person we are to pray for is related to you.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29th

Reflection on Previous Sunday

Monday

Numbers 17:1-11
2 Peter 3:1-18

Tuesday

2 Samuel 7:18-29
Revelation 22:12-16

Wednesday

Isaiah 1:24-31
Luke 11:29-32

Preparation for Coming Sunday

Thursday

Malachi 3:5-12
Philippians 1:12-18a

Friday

Malachi 3:13-18
Philippians 1:18b-26

Saturday

Malachi 4:1-6
Luke 9:1-6

Sunday, December 5th
Second Sunday of Advent
Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

600 West Park Street, Cedar Park, Texas 78613

(512) 335-9540
CPFUMC.org

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

*A Spiritual Oasis
Committed to Christ
Committed to Peace
Committed to Service*



First Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church
First Sunday of Advent
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** indicates an invitation to stand as you are able*

GATHERING

WELCOME

Suzette Thorpe Johnson

PRELUDE/BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Jodi Blount

*GREETING

People of God, let us worship God: In times of crisis and uncertainty, some hide in fear, dive into activity, distract themselves with pleasure, or sink into despair.

Some look for signs of the end and count who they think will be saved.

But our hope is in the name of Jesus, Jewish child of Jewish parents:
healing and teaching, welcoming outcasts,

crucified by imperial power, risen from the dead, and endlessly alive.

Therefore, let us declare our faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Thanks be to God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

*OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

What are these candles for? These Advent candles remind us of God's love in Jesus Christ. There are five candles. We shall light a new candle each Sunday from now until Christmas. What is the point of doing this? Because the old proverb is true: "What I hear, I forget. What I see, I remember. What I do, I understand."

As we light our Advent candles, may they bring us together in the warm light of God's love.

The Gospel of Luke speaks about the future:

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth, distress among nations. People will faint from fear and foreboding." *(Luke 21:25-26)*

Because our world is full of fear and distress, we light our first candle, trusting that Christ is alive on earth and that the Spirit of Christ lives among us.

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There are many different opportunities for spiritual enrichment here:

Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 10:45am

Sunday School at 9:45am for adults and children

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grades) — Sunday, noon-1:30pm

United Methodist Women — day and time varies

Young At Heart (older adult fellowship) — day and time varies

Sanctuary Choir — performs Sunday at 10:45am, practices Sunday at noon

Contemplative prayer group — Monday, 7:30pm in the Sanctuary

Tuesday prayer service — Tuesday, 9:30am in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

Weekly Bible study — Tuesday, 10am in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

Prayer shawl ministry — Tuesday, 11am in the Sanctuary

Weekly women's coffee — Friday, 10am in the Sanctuary

A Child's Haven (preschool) — Monday through Thursday, 9am-1pm

(Fall thru Spring; contact Reanna Eddy director@childshaven.net for more info)

The United Methodist Church is a 12-million-strong global church that opens hearts, opens doors, and opens minds through active engagement with our world.

John Wesley and the early Methodists placed primary emphasis on Christian living, on putting faith and love into action. This emphasis on what Wesley referred to as "practical divinity" has continued to be a hallmark of United Methodism today.

We invite you to learn more about our rich theological heritage by visiting the website for The United Methodist Church (UMC.org).

If you would like to learn more about Cedar Park First UMC or have questions about joining the church, e-mail one of our pastors or check "Desire a Call" on the attendance registration pad when you sign in today.

Rev. Peter Castles, Pastor Peter@cpfumc.org
Rev. Suzette Thorpe Johnson, Pastor Suzette@cpfumc.org
Dr. Jodi Blount, Music Director
Laurel Fabian, Nursery Coordinator

This week at Cedar Park First UMC

SUNDAY, November 28th — First Sunday of Advent

- 8:30am WORSHIP with Holy Communion
9:45am Sunday school for adults:
Followers of the Word are studying *Hebrews* (MMB Conference Room and Zoom)
Seekers are studying *Religions of the Axial Period* (MMB Back Room)
9:45am Sunday school for children in MMB Classroom 3 and by Zoom
10:45am WORSHIP with Holy Communion
Noon Choir practice in the Sanctuary
Noon BE LIGHT Youth Fellowship in the Youth Room

MONDAY, November 29th

- 7:30pm Contemplative Prayer in the Sanctuary

TUESDAY, November 30th

- 9:30am NO Service of Morning Prayer
10:00am Bible discussion group meets in the Sanctuary and by Zoom
11:00am Prayer Shawl ministry meets in the Sanctuary (come crochet or knit with us!)

FRIDAY, December 3rd

- 10:00am Women meet for coffee in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY, December 5th

- 4:00pm Church Conference on Zoom (email Peter for the link)

Sunday Noon meals needed for BE LIGHT Youth!!

If you can provide a meal for 10
(including one vegetarian option)
please see the sign-up sheet
on the table in the Lobby.



Visitors and Newcomers:

We invite you to participate to the extent you feel comfortable. *UMH* indicates a song from *The United Methodist Hymnal* (found under the chair in front of you). *TFWS* indicates *The Faith We Sing*, the soft-bound hymnal out on top of the chairs. Words will also be shown on the screen at the front. Childcare is provided for infants and preschoolers in the Nursery next to the Lobby. Ask an usher for directions. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us, and we thank you for the gift of your presence.

(The first candle is lit.)

Living Christ, give us faith to trust you.

We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (stanzas 1 and 2)

UMH 211

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

Let none that wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,

for the sake of you goodness, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD;

therefore the LORD instructs sinners in the way,

and leads the humble in what is right,

and teaches them their way.

**All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep the LORD's covenant and testimonies.**

*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 21:25-36 (p. 80 in the pew Bible NT)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People's response: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

CHORAL ANTHEM "Gratia Agimus Tibi" Sanctuary Choir
(Music by Andrew Parr, © 2021 Alfred Music, ONE LICENSE, License #A-734424)

PRAYER SONG "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH 206

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS
People's response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

MISSION MOMENT

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 23-24
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .
. . . And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ . . .
. . . And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here . . .
. . . Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen, Amen, Amen

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 temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen**

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Because the table at which we gather belongs to the Lord, it is open to all who respond to Christ's love, regardless of age or church membership. All, including children, are invited to receive both bread and cup. If you desire gluten-free bread, please ask for it when you come forward to be served.

Place your pledge cards, along with your regular or special offering in the offering basket as you come forward for communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN "People, Look East" UMH 202

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*SINGING THE SHALOM