

Prayer Concerns

For the world:

Ecumenical prayer cycle: Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

For our family and friends:

- Chuck Trahan

Gayle Caraway

Dave Sidney

Jose Damaso Ramos (Sarah Hernandez' brother)

Martha Orr's brother David Orr and her son David Read

Claire Nicholson (Hyacinth Fenty's sister-in-law in Trinidad)

O.T. and Dee Greer (Todd's parents)

Pattie Fennell's granddaughter Erica

Marsha Suber's great-grandson Brooks

Charlie Woehnker (Darlene's husband)

Leona Mims (Nell Pennington's sister)

Sara Baram (Nancy Holmes' granddaughter)

Valerie Fine (Chuck Trahan's sister)
- Cliff Burris

MaryAnn Mosier

Barbara Bunn
- Alice Wiles

Jane Hilton

Jim and Ruth West

Jerry Troyer (friend of Sue Chesnut)

Anita Stratmann's brother Herschel

Jorge Soto's granddaughter Alina

Gerry Higgins (Brenda's husband)

Mary Howard (Pam Clinch's mother)

Debbi Ozolins (Sue Sidney's cousin)

Mike Trahan (Chuck's son)

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 DECEMBER 1st

Reflection on
Previous Sunday

Monday
Genesis 8:1-19
Romans 6:1-11

Tuesday
Genesis 9:1-17
Hebrews 11:32-40

Wednesday
Isaiah 54:1-10
Matthew 24:23-35

Preparation for
Coming Sunday

Thursday
Isaiah 4:2-6
Acts 1:12-17, 21-26

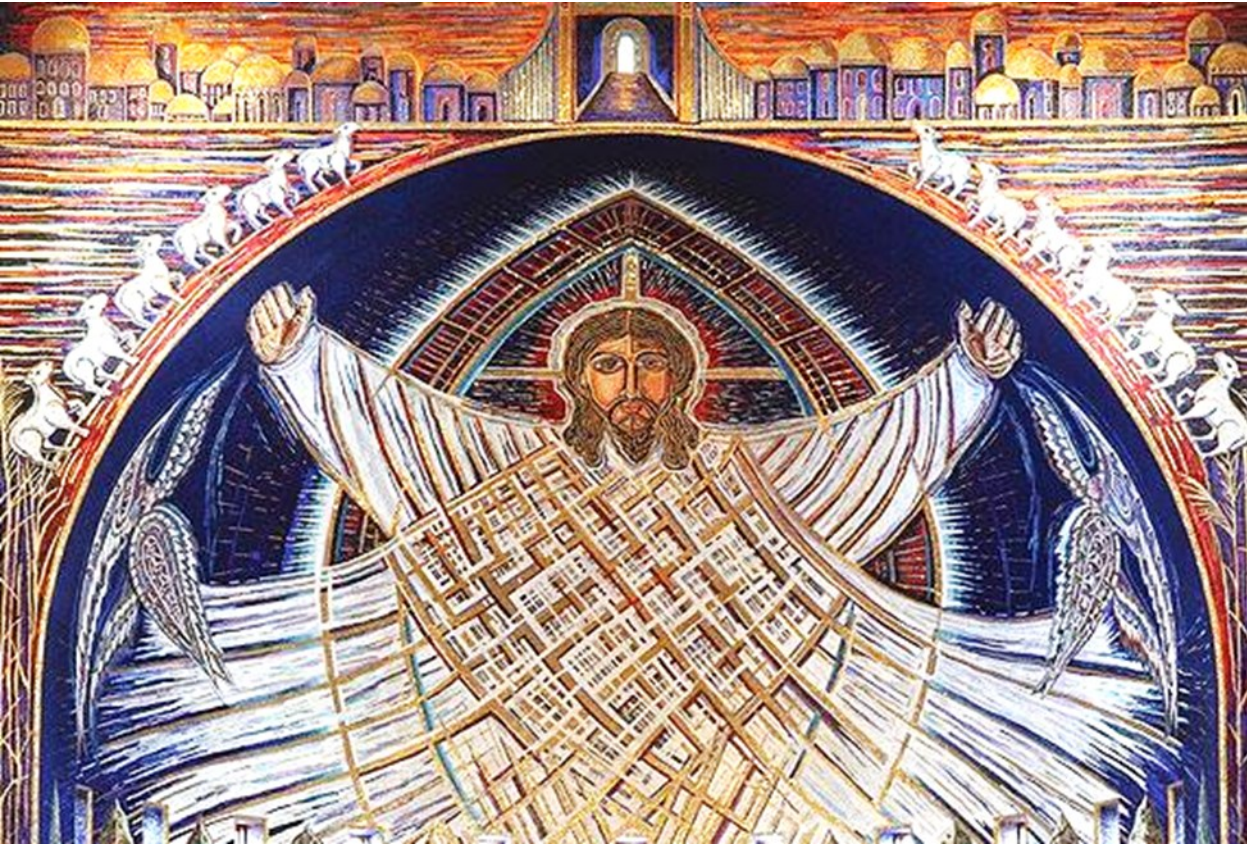
Friday
Isaiah 30:19-26
Acts 13:16-25

Saturday
Isaiah 40:1-11
John 1:19-28

Sunday, December 7th
Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Cedar Park First
United Methodist Church

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



600 West Park Street, Cedar Park, Texas 78613

(512) 335-9540
CPFUMC.org

First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church
First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025

** indicates an invitation to stand as you are able*

GATHERING

WELCOME *Peter Castles*

PRELUDE/BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST *Jodi Blount*

*GREETING

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
With wreaths of holly and ivy telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.

For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that through him the world would be saved.
Glorify to God in the highest!

*HYMN OF PRAISE *"People, Look East"* UMH 202

*OPENING PRAYER *Suzette Thorpe Johnson*

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

We shall light this Advent candle, praying that our preparation for Christmas may help us
To look outward in love, and to look forward in hope.
Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.

In Isaiah, chapter 2, the prophet declares that in days to come God will judge between the
nations and arbitrate for many peoples.

(The candle is lit)

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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, children, and youth
BE LIGHT Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grades) — Sunday, noon-1:30pm
United Women in Faith — quarterly Saturday, 9:30am
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
Weekly Bible study — Tuesday, 10am in the Sanctuary and via Zoom
Prayer shawl ministry — 1st Tuesday, 11am; 3rd Tues, 5:30pm in the Sanctuary
Sanctuary preparation — Thursday, 10:00am in the Sanctuary
A Child’s Haven (preschool) — Monday through Thursday, 9am-1pm
(Fall thru Spring; contact Yaheli Benitez director@childshaven.net for more info)

The United Methodist Church is a several-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 30th — Potato Jar Sunday

HAVE YOUR COINS READY FOR THE POTATO JAR!!

- 8:30am WORSHIP with Holy Communion
- 9:45am Sunday school for Adults:
Followers of the Word are studying Philippians (MMB Conf Room)
Seekers are studying “Jesus and His Jewish Influences” (MMB Back Room)
- 9:45am Sunday school for Children (MMB Classroom 3) and Youth (Youth Room)
- 10:45am WORSHIP with Holy Communion
- Noon BE LIGHT YOUTH Fellowship in the Youth Room
- Noon Choir practice in the Sanctuary

MONDAY, December 1st

- 7:30pm Contemplative Prayer in the Sanctuary

TUESDAY, December 2nd

- 9:30am Service of Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
- 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!)

THURSDAY, December 4th

- 10:00am Sanctuary Preparation

SATURDAY, December 6th

- 11am-1pm Advent Brunch in the Sanctuary



United Women in Faith Advent Brunch

Join us for brunch, music, and fellowship
December 6, 11am-1pm

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. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us, and we thank you for the gift of your presence.

We light this candle because we refuse to let go of Isaiah’s hope that swords can be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, and that nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.
Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (stanzas 1 and 2) UMH 211

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

CHORAL OFFERING "Embrace the Child" Sanctuary Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
O Lord our God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may be obedient to your will and live always for your glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

*GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 24:36-44 (p. 26 in the pew Bible NT)
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People’s response: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

*RESPONSE TO THE WORD (The Apostles’ Creed)
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYER SONG "Jesus Loves Me" UMH 191

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

MISSION MOMENT

*THE PEACE

*ADVENT DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

UMH 23-24

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, which is served by means of intinction — a small fragment of bread is placed in the hand to dip in the cup before consuming. Or you may take one of the small communion cups after consuming the bread. If you desire gluten-free bread, please ask for it when you come forward to be served.

Place 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

"Soon and Very Soon"

UMH 706

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*SINGING THE SHALOM

As we depart, please join hands with your neighbor to sing a community song of peace.