

Prayer Concerns

For the world:

Ecumenical prayer cycle: Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam

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 15th

Reflection on  
Previous Sunday

Monday  
Isaiah 29:17-24  
Acts 5:12-16

Tuesday  
Ezekiel 47:1-12  
Jude 17-25

Wednesday  
Zechariah 8:1-17  
Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34

Preparation for  
Coming Sunday

Thursday  
2 Samuel 7:1-17  
Galatians 3:23-29

Friday  
2 Samuel 7:18-22  
Galatians 4:1-7

Saturday  
2 Samuel 7:23-29  
John 3:31-36

Sunday, December 21st  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 7:10-16  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-25

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*



Third Sunday of Advent  
December 14, 2025

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church  
Third Sunday of Advent  
December 14, 2025

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

GATHERING

WELCOME *Suzette Thorpe Johnson*

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

\*GREETING  
This is the earth’s quiet season, the season of waiting.  
**We rest in the shelter of God’s love.**

This is the season of darkness, when we seek stars to guide us.  
**We trust in the light of God’s promise.**

This is the season of solitude, when we listen for our own heart’s rhythm.  
**We find warmth in the signs of God’s presence.**

This is our season to make room, a time to make ready.  
**For we shall join in the angels’ chorus.**

Peace on earth, goodwill to all.  
**Peace on earth, goodwill to all.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE *"Blessed Be the God of Israel"* UMH 209

\*OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE *Russ Lundstrom*  
In Isaiah 35:5–6, the prophet declares that when God comes among us,  
the deaf shall hear, the blind shall see,  
and the tongue of the speechless shall sing for joy.  
We light this candle as a sign of our hope  
that God’s love in Christ brings healing to us and to the whole world.

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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 (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:Peter@cpfumc.org)  
Rev. Suzette Thorpe Johnson, Pastor [Suzette@cpfumc.org](mailto:Suzette@cpfumc.org)  
Dr. Jodi Blount, Music Director  
Laurel Fabian, Nursery Coordinator

This week at Cedar Park First UMC

SUNDAY, December 14th — Third Sunday of Advent

- 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

MONDAY, December 15th

- 7:30pm Contemplative Prayer in the Sanctuary

TUESDAY, December 16th

- 9:30am Service of Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
- 10:00am Bible discussion group meets in the Sanctuary and by Zoom
- 5:30pm Prayer Shawl ministry meets in the Sanctuary (come crochet or knit with us!)

THURSDAY, December 18th

- 10:00am Sanctuary Preparation

Looking FORWARD !!

- December 24 Christmas Eve worship services  
—Family-friendly service with children’s performance, 5pm  
—Traditional service with carols, communion, and candlelight, 7pm
- December 28 One combined worship service, 10am

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.

(The candle is lit)

As we witness to the power of healing love, in ourselves and in others—  
Risen Christ, Light of the world,  
shine in our lives and shine among us now.

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (stanzas 5 and 6) UMH 211

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

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

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SONG "Peace of God” Sanctuary Choir

FIRST LESSON Luke 2:1-7 (p. 54 in the pew Bible NT) Lisa Feazell

SONG "Bethlehem” Sanctuary Choir

SECOND LESSON Luke 2:8-16 (p. 54 in the pew Bible NT) Anita Rizley

SONG "Embrace the Child” Sanctuary Choir

THIRD LESSON Matthew 2:1-12 (p. 1 in the pew Bible NT) Walter Wilson

SONG "Fit for a King” Sanctuary Choir

FOURTH LESSON John 1:1-14 (p. 86 in the pew Bible NT) Steve Howard

SONG "Glory to the Newborn King” Sanctuary Choir

\*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 "Joy to the World" UMH 246

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

\*SINGING THE SHALOM  
*As we depart, please join hands with your neighbor to sing a community song of peace.*