

Ilam Service



December 7th, 2025

www.bonairunitedmethodistchurch.org

The Cross and Flame emblem is the official symbol of The United Methodist Church. The insignia relates The United Methodist Church to God through Christ (the cross) and the Holy Spirit (the flame). The flame is a reminder of Pentecost, when the power of the Holy Spirit unified the witnesses and caused "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3).

John the Baptist told the people waiting to be baptized by the Jordan River, "He [Jesus] will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

PRELUDE

Psalm Prelude, Set 2, No. 2

Herbert Howells

“Yea the darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as
clear as the day: the darkness and light to Thee are both alike” Psalm 139: 11

WELCOME!

Rev. Mike Mayton

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Beloved, we gather to remember who we are, not who the world tells us to be.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We recall the story of God’s people, how God has called us to live in peace and righteousness in a world full of conflict and twisted morality.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We recount the story of our journey with God, the moments of God’s provision, God’s prodding, and God’s prophetic guidance.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We gather to repent and return anew to God’s story that guides our lives to work for peace and flourishing for all God’s creation.

We gather to tell the story of the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***HYMN UMH 210**

All Earth is Waiting

TAULÉ

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Joe, Lauren, Poppy, and Annabelle Schmitt

First Reader: Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).

All: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.

Second Reader: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

Light the first and second candles.

SUNG RESPONSE UMH 206 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (refrain)

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Loving God, be to us as a bulldozer of the spirit. Clear your road in us; clear a path through the detritus of possessions and obsessions. Thrust aside our divided aims and devious games. Topple the ramparts of pride and the doubts that deride. Make a highway on which Christ may come and take possession of the whole territory of our being. To the glory of your name, we pray. Amen!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

ISAIAH 11:1-10

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 3:1-12

HYMN UMH 216

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS

SERMON

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Mayton

ANTHEM

Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room
Chancel Choir

Lloyd Larson

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION UMH 12 with musical response B, pp. 18-20.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Mayton

This is the joyful feast of God's people! This is the Table of our Lord!

Christ our Lord invites to His Table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place.

Forgive us, O God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life. Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you. May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things (Psalm 72:8).

The most wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ,

"not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

"Those who believe in him are not condemned" (John 3:17,18). Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

SERVICE OF GIVING

OFFERTORY

*Wachet Auf, Ruft Uns Die Stimme
(Sleepers Wake, A Voice is Calling)*

J.S. Bach

*DOXOLOGY UMH 95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

"Lord, all that we have is a gift from you. Now we give back our tithes, our pledges and our offerings. May these first fruits of all you have given us enable us to do your work. Use our gifts Lord to build up your church and the kingdom of God here in our midst". **AMEN.**

We continue the Communion liturgy with THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 13-15.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Mayton

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! **Amen.**

*CLOSING SONG TFWS 2281 *May You Run and Not Be Weary* PRINCE OF PEACE

**May you run and not be weary. May your heart be filled with song.
And may the love of God continue, to give you hope and keep you strong.
And may you run and not be weary, May your life be filled with joy!
And may the road you travel always lead you home.**

POSTLUDE

Fughetta on BESANÇON

Richard Shephard

COMING UP

- The children and youth will present "A Very Noisy Christmas" **Christmas pageant on Sunday, Dec. 14th at 10:00 a.m.**
- On **December 21st**, the Chancel Choir, Wesley Ringers and Bon Air Brass will present **"Singing the Darkness to Light,"** a program of music bridging the Advent Christmas and seasons with songs, anthems and voluntaries celebrating the light of Christmas brought into the world by Jesus Christ.

WEDNESDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

- 11:00am CHRISTMAS COMMUNION - Rev. Mark Rooks presiding
5:00pm FAMILY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
7:00pm TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION
Rev. Mike Mayton presiding
- **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28th - 1 Sanctuary Service at 10:00am**