

WELCOME

We extend a cordial welcome to each person worshipping with us today. If you need any assistance, please call on our ushers or greeters. They would be glad to help you. Following the service, please join us in the Social Hall for refreshments and fellowship. We hope you have a meaningful worship experience and will leave Asbury renewed, fulfilled, and challenged!

The flowers for today's worship service are given in memory of Ned Downing by Callie Downing and Ken Hardigan.



Mission Statement

Asbury Memorial UMC is a place where all people, individually and collectively, develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we become a living example of people who love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.

Our Tithes and Offerings

Weekly Budget Need - \$10,192.31

Given Last Sunday - \$13,876.00

Year-to-Date Budget Need - \$528,163.65

Year-to-date Received - \$500,651.13

Rev. Billy Hester, Senior Minister
Randy Canady, Church Administrator
Laura Angell, Youth Director
Detective Santana Willis, Security

Ray Ellis, Minister of Music
Claudette DeLong, Office Manager
Ashley Stroud, Children's Ministry
Kay Deffley, Organist/Pianist

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E-Mail: church@asburymemorial.org

**Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
December 11, 2016
11:15 A.M.**



***Error Card
Theology***

3rd Sunday of Advent

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE Asbury Musicians

ANNOUNCEMENTS Angie Jenkins

CHIMES Preparing hearts and minds for worship

INTROIT *Come, Child of Light* Asbury Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Like Mary, we praise God wholeheartedly;
from the depths of our souls.

**All: For God has not forsaken us.
God will always show mercy.**

One: As Mary was surprised by the visit of an angel,

All: let us be prepared for the Holy and the unexpected.

One: As Mary carefully thought out the meaning of the angel's visit,

All: let us reflect on the meaning of God's presence in our lives.

*HYMN *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* No. 213

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Hospitality Team
Chris Beaver, Sally Jilek, Lance Wilhelm

ANTHEM *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper* Asbury Choir

Now the heavens start to whisper as the veil is growing thin.
Earth from slumber wakes to listen to the stirring faint within:
Seed of promise, deeply planted, Christ to spring from Jesse's stem!
Like the soil beneath the frost-line, hearts grow soft to welcome him.

Heavy clouds that block the moonlight now begin to drift away.
Diamond brilliance through the darkness shines the hope of coming day.
Christ, the morning star of splendor, gleams within a world grown dim.
Heaven's ember fans to fullness; hearts grow warm to welcome him.

Christ, eternal sun of justice, Christ, the rose of wisdom's seed,
Come to bless with fire and fragrance hours of yearning, hurt, and need.

In the lonely, in the stranger, in the outcast hid from view:
Child who comes to grace the manger, teach our hearts to welcome you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silence & Reflection

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Choral Amen

Rev. Jeanette Purvis

Asbury Choir

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38

*HYMN *Mary, Mary, God Claims You* see insert
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SERMON **Error Card Theology** Rev. Hester

TITHES & OFFERINGS

We recognize and bless the gifts brought to the table and those given
to support the mission of the church through automatic payment.

OFFERTORY *This Angel* soloist, Allie Barnes
David Alley, guitar; Effie Mydell, violin

*DOXOLOGY No. 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN *Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin* see insert

*BENEDICTION Rev. Hester

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Here I Am, Lord* Congregation
The congregation is invited to "sign" and to "sing" the following:
*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

*POSTLUDE Asbury Musicians

* Please stand as you are able.

**Children are invited to attend Children's Church (K-3rd & 4th-6th grades)

Mary, Mary, God Claims You

Refrain:

Mary, Mary, God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Stanza 1:

We this day do all agree,
a child of God you'll always be.
Mary, Mary, God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Stanza 2:

You are young and so afraid,
Know God is there with you every day.
Mary, Mary, God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Stanza 3:

Your child will be the Christ one day.
Your love will always light his way.
Mary, Mary, God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Stanza 4:

If your baby tires or cries,
sing to him this lullaby:
Jesus, Jesus, God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin

("Once in Royal David's City")

Mary gladly told her cousin,
"Praise the Lord! My spirit sings!
For an angel came to visit
God was surely changing things!"
God of love, her words ring true
As we sing her prayer to you:

"Now my soul is gladly singing
at the greatness of the Lord.
I rejoice, for God is bringing
His salvation to the world.
All who live will say I'm blest
Even in my lowliness.

"God is mighty, just and holy,
And he's done great things for me.
Those who love him know the mercy
that God gives us endlessly.
Mighty ones are brought down low;
Lowly ones find blessings flow.

"God has filled the poor and hungry,
And he's sent the rich away.
God is active here in history,
In a real and wondrous way.
God has promised, and I'm blessed,
For I know God's faithfulness."