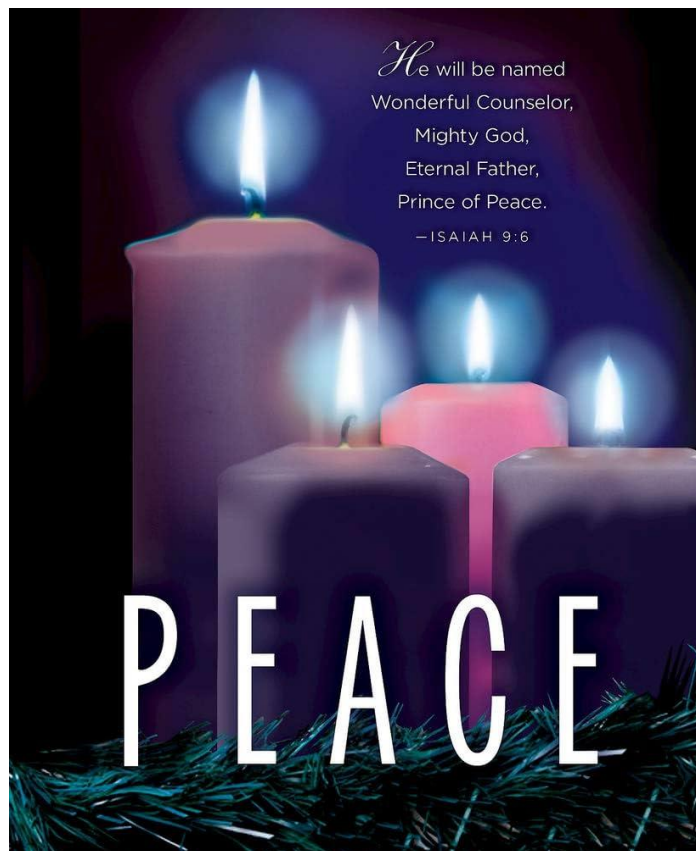


Prospect Street United Methodist Church
185 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302
740-382-6069
Pastor, Joshua Freshour

Sunday, December 22nd, 2024
10:30 a.m.



Mission Statement:

“We are united to love God,
to grow in our commitment to Christ,
to serve others, and welcome all people.”

4th Sunday of Advent

Joshua Freshour, Pastor

*Please stand if you are able

Please silence electronic devices

NOISY COLLECTION

Turning Point

WELCOME

Terry Huff

OPENING PRAISE SONG

“Great Is the Lord”
Great is the Lord,
He is holy and just;
by His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord,
He is faithful and true;
by His mercy
He proves He is love.
Great is the Lord
and worthy of glory!
Great is the Lord
and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord;
now lift up your voice,
now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord!
Great is the Lord!
Great is the Lord,
He is holy and just;
by His power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord,
He is faithful and true;
by His mercy
He proves He is love.
Great are you, Lord,
and worthy of glory!
Great are you, Lord,
and worthy of praise.
Great are you, Lord;
I lift up my voice,
I lift up my voice:
Great are you, Lord!
Great are you, Lord!

PASS THE PEACE

Leader:

The Lord Be With You

People:

And Also with You

CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

**“We are united to love God,
to grow in our commitment to Christ,
to serve others, and welcome all people.”**

PRELUDE

Jim Anderson & Gary Flach

“Three Festive Carols” arr. by Mark Hayes and Marvin Gaspard

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Use this time to prepare your heart for worship

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come to worship because when we enter the doors we feel welcome.

People: And that makes us feel like we belong.

Leader: And belonging brings us peace.

People: It doesn't matter what the world calls us...

Leader: By the grace of Christ, it only matters what the church calls us.

People: And the church calls us brother, sister, friend, and child.

All: May this be the kind of welcoming we show to the world.

*OPENING HYMN

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

#221

**1. In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen,
snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter
long ago.**

**2. Our God, heaven
cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth
shall flee away
when he comes to reign.**

**In the bleak
midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.**

**3. Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved
with a kiss.**

**4. What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can
I give him:
give my heart.**

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

The Boyd Family

WITNESS IN MUSIC

“Drummer Boy”

Senior Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“Jesus Loves Me” vs. 1

Children under age four may go to the Nursery
Children ages four through 5th Grade are dismissed for Junior Worship

OFFERING

Offertory

“Gesù Bambino”

Lynette Burris & Ann Huff

Loose offering to help students at YonSei Medical Center in Korea & PIN

*Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#95

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1: 46b – 55

46b “My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. 50 His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. 52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“Holy Hospitality”

Pastor Josh Freshour

HYMN OF PRAYER

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

#211

**1. O come, O come,
Emmanuel,
and ransom
captive Israel,
that mourns in
lowly exile here
until the Son
of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel
shall come to thee,
O Israel.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

*CLOSING HYMN

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

#240

**1. Hark! the herald
angels sing,
"Glory to the
newborn King;
peace on earth,
and mercy mild,
God and sinners
reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye
nations rise,
join the triumph
of the skies;
with th'angelic
host proclaim,
"Christ is born
in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald
angels sing,
"Glory to
the newborn King!"**

**2. Christ, by highest
heaven adored;
Christ, the
everlasting Lord;
late in time
behold him come,
offspring of
a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh
the Godhead see;
hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us
in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our
Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald
angels sing,
"Glory to
the newborn King!"**

3. Hail the heaven-born
Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun
of Righteousness!
Light and life
to all he brings,
risen with healing
in his wings.
Mild he lays
his glory by,
born that we
no more may die,
born to raise us
from the earth,
born to give
us second birth.
Hark! the herald
angels sing,
“Glory to
the newborn King!”

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“God Be With You”
**God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**
**Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus’ feet;
till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE

“The First Noel” arr. by James Pethel & Stan Pethel

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Liturgist: Faye Roszman

Greeters/Acolytes: Darlynn Blessing & Patty Franklin

*Next Sunday Scripture: Luke 2:41-52 & Sermon Title: “As Usual”*

*The clear candle burning on our altar signifies our appreciation for the men and women serving our country during this time of national concern.*

**Altar Flowers** are placed by Jim & Betty Anderson to the Glory of God.

Thank you to everyone who purchased **poinsettias** to adorn our sanctuary this morning. If you are not here for one of our Christmas Eve Services on Tuesday evening, you may take your poinsettia home after this morning’s worship services.

The **Monday Morning Bible Study Group** will meet **tomorrow** morning at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Sandy Redd.

## Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. - Pre-Service Music  
5:30 p.m. – Early Christmas Candlelight Service  
7:00 p.m. - Pre-Service Music  
7:30 p.m. – Late Christmas Candlelight Service

Our **Free Community Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, December 28**, from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. This community outreach is sponsored by the Men's Prayer Breakfast group and the S.K.I. Group. This breakfast is free and open to all (donations will be accepted). This will be a wonderful opportunity to get involved and support this effort to reach out into our community and build relationships with our neighbors and be fulfilled in sharing the love and grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Come one, come all to help, support or just have breakfast and fellowship. If you have questions, please contact Bill Bess at 740-360-3965. Hope to see you there.

The **UWIF Executive Board** will meet on **Monday, December 30**, at 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Laundry Love Ministry** will be **Monday, December 30**, at 4:30 p.m. at the Southtown Cleaning Village, 355 S. Main Street in Marion.

All **contributions for 2024** must be received by noon on **Monday, December 30**. If you have any questions about your pledge status for this year, please contact the office. Anyone who has enrolled in electronic contributions (E-tithing) for 2025 will have the first processing on January 1 and/or January 15, 2025. If you would like to sign up for E-Tithing, please call Erika at the church office.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be served during both worship services on **Sunday, January 5, 2025**.

The **Board of Trustees** will meet on **Monday, January 6**, at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

You may still bring in your Christmas cards for your church family and save the cost of stamps and place them in the **Christmas Mailbox**. The mailbox will be in front of the sound booth, and Sandy Redd or Dee O'Neil will be there to assist you.

**Offering Envelopes for 2025** are in the foyer. If you would like to have envelopes, please call Erika.

Please contact Erika at the church office. If you have any issues or received the wrong picture from **Universal Church Directory**, please call the church office.

**2025 Wall Calendars** are on sale again this year for \$8.00 in the Welcome Center.

The **Flower Calendar** for 2025 is hanging up in the hallway. The price for fresh flowers is \$46.95. Silk flowers are \$5.00. Select your date to remember a loved one or to honor a family member or friend. Make checks payable to Prospect Street United Methodist Church. Let the office know if you order your own flowers.

**Pastor Josh** will be in the office Tuesday – Fridays from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Call the church office if you would like to set up a time to see him or just come on in!

**Serendipity Sunday School Class** – They meet across the kitchen in the basement.

**New Beginnings Sunday School Class** – They meet in the basement right off the elevator.

**Young Adult Sunday School Class** is meeting in the Upper Room.

**Teen Sunday School Class** - They meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the youth room.

**Upper Rooms** Devotional Booklets for January/February 2025 are on the table inside the main entrance to the sanctuary. **Price increase because we only order 2 large prints now.** Small - \$1.20 Large - \$3.50

**Watch our services on YouTube!** Go to our website [www.prospectstreetumc.com](http://www.prospectstreetumc.com) and click the YouTube link.

**Service DVD's for Shut-Ins!** We have DVD's available of all our Sunday Services for anyone who would like to borrow them or have a copy. We are delivering DVD Players and the DVD's on Monday mornings! Call Erika in the office for information.

**E-Tithing** is an automatic withdrawal from your checking account and is remitted automatically to the church. We can set it up so it will deduct from your checking account on the 1<sup>st</sup> and/or the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Contact the church office for more information!

**Kroger Community Rewards** – Please enroll in the Kroger Community Program. Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and all the details on creating an online account are there. Under Community Rewards make sure you search and select “Prospect St. United Meth. Chur” our Organization number is VF478. Thank you! If you have any questions, please call Erika.

**Attendance December 15:** Sunday School - 18      Worship Services – 20/92

Pastor Josh: [pastor@prospectstreetumc.com](mailto:pastor@prospectstreetumc.com)  
Church Office: [secretary@prospectstreetumc.com](mailto:secretary@prospectstreetumc.com)  
Website: [www.prospectstreetumc.com](http://www.prospectstreetumc.com)