

Announcements

Join us Dec 20 at 6:00 pm for our **Christmas movie** night at Stairville.

Join us for our **Christmas Eve services!**

- Sunday, December 21 at 10:00 am at Stairville
- Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 pm at Faith
- Wednesday, December 24 at 7:00 pm at Slocum

Readers are needed for all services.

Join us for **Stretching with the Oldies** Thu mornings at 10:00 am at Stairville.

New Hope Thrift Store is open the 2nd and 4th Sat from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. (Please note new winter hours).

New Hope Community Room & Library is open Tue & Thu 1:00-3:00 pm and Sat 12:00-4:00 pm.

Please Hold in Prayer the Following:

Carl Peters, Sadie Shultz, Helen Spaide, Emily Houser, Sydney Miller, Glen Arnold, Craig Whitebread, Frank Boyer, Sonny Rineheimer, Bob Athou, Getha Ogini, Dave Hilenski, Colt Holt, Leelyn Prochaska, Darlene Taney, Sara Myers, Michael Razvillas, Jason Seltzer, Angel Barber, Delilah Worthington, Pete Webby, Joe Simon, Bonnie Snyder, Bradley Smith, Brian Myers, Heather Spilane, Chris Miodowski, Kevin Gallagher, Neil Fierro, Mary Ann Razvillas, Ida Rossi, Angela Hamm, David Myers, Danny Steeves, Tammy Winterhalt, John Skirchak, Chuck Herring, Audrey Dymond.

For any needs or concerns, please contact

Faith – Wilma Baratta (570) 200-5329

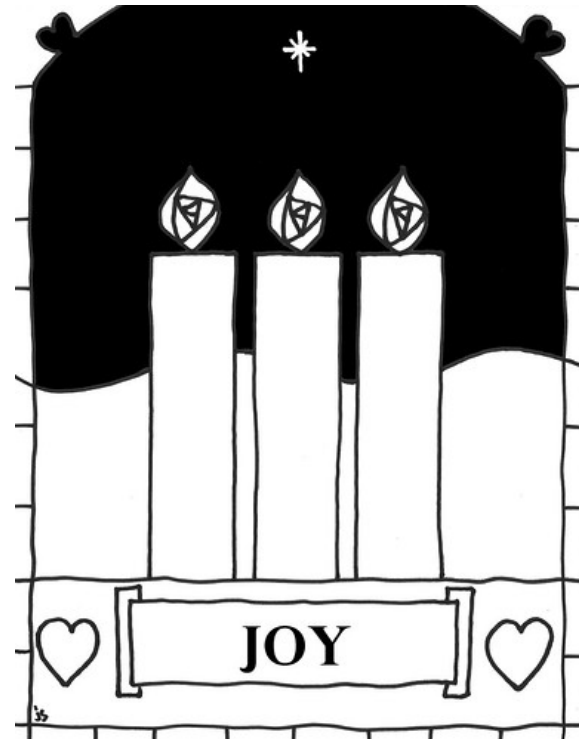
Stairville - Christine Kellow (570) 868-3413

Slocum - Charles Herring (570) 868-6478

Pastor Scott - somiller@susumc.org or 570-200-5388

Worship Bulletin

December 14, 2025



New Hope Wapwallopen

Faith • Slocum • Stairville United Methodist Churches

Facebook: @NewHopeWapwallopen

newhopewapwallopen.org

Rooted • Growing • Going

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome to worship, we're so glad you're here!

* please stand as you are able **BOLD** readings in unison

GREETING, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

R 1: Today we light the Third Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. This candle reminds us that real joy is not found in what we buy, but in the love God brings into our lives.

R 2: Scripture tells us, *"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us."* God's joy came close. God's joy came in person. God's joy came through presence, not possessions.

R 1: During Advent, we often feel the pressure to spend more, do more, and rush more. But the story of Jesus points us in a different direction. The greatest gift God gave was Himself.

R 2: When we give our time, our attention, our compassion, and our presence, we share the joy of Christ with the world.

All: As we light the Candle of Joy, we ask God to help us slow down, simplify, and give from the heart. May our joy come from Christ's nearness and our willingness to be present with others. (*Light the candle.*)

* HYMN "Light the Advent Candle" (v 3) (*Faith*) TFWS 2090

* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In this season of waiting, God meets us in the ordinary.

P: We look for Christ among us.

L: In the quiet places, in the simple moments, in the honest prayers,

P: We find the God who draws near.

L: Come, bring your hopes, your burdens, your longing for peace.

P: We come to worship the One who gives Himself to us.

L: Let us open our hearts to God's presence.

All: And let us worship in joy and thanksgiving.

* HYMN "The First Noel" UMH 245

* OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

Holy God, You come to us in the most unexpected ways. You show up in the quiet, in the simple, in the shared moments of love. We ask that You prepare our hearts today. Clear away the noise that distracts us. Remove the pressure we often put on this season. Open our eyes to see Christ among us, and open our hands to give with generosity and grace. Make this time of worship a place where Your peace settles in us and Your love moves through us. In the name of Jesus, our Emmanuel. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:4-13

L: The Word of God for the people of God. P: Thanks be to God!

OFFERING / CHOIR ANTHEM

* DOXOLOGY / OFFERTORY PRAYER

UMH 95

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow..."

SONG

"Light of the World"

Insert

THE MESSAGE

"A.C. Week 3: Give More, Spend Less"

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Please fill out a blue prayer card and place it on the altar railing.

* HYMN

"Light of the World"

UMH 217

Please use this time to place prayer rocks in the answered jar.

* BENEDICTION

Go into this week with the assurance that God walks beside you. May Christ guide your steps into simplicity, peace, and generosity. May the Spirit give you wisdom to choose what matters and the courage to give yourself in love. And may the joy of God's presence shine through you, lighting the way for others. Go in grace, go in hope, and go in the peace of Christ. Amen.

Where might God be inviting you to slow down, simplify, or be more present with someone this Christmas season?

Light of the World

Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash

Verse 1

Light of the world, treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars, in the wintery sky
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness
Shine across the earth, send the shadows to flight

Verse 2

Light of the world, from the beginning
The tragedies of time, were no match for Your love
From great heights of glory, You saw my story
God, You entered in, and became one of us, yeah

Chorus

Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world

Verse 3

Light of the world, crown in a manger
Born for the Cross, to suffer, to save
High King of Heaven, death is the poorer
We are the richer, by the price that He paid, oh-oh-oh

(Chorus)

Bridge

Light of the world, soon will be coming
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own
Through clouds He will lead us, straight into glory
And there He shall reign, forevermore
Oh, forevermore

(Chorus)

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