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## Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church

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8:00 am and 10:45 am

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

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\*You are welcome to stand as you are able. **Congregational parts in bold.**

### CENTERING MUSIC

Please ponder this quote in you meditations as you prepare and center yourself for worship:

*For outlandish creatures like us, on our way to a heart, a brain, and courage,  
Bethlehem is not the end of our journey but only the beginning – not home  
but the place through which we must pass if ever we are to reach home at last.*

By, Frederick Buechner, The Magnificent Defeat

### WELCOME

Liturgists: 8:00 am- Judy S /10:45 am- Carol S

*(Please take a moment to register your presence on the Fellowship Pad. Please list each individual attending with you separately and all contact information. If you are visiting us this morning, Welcome! We encourage you to pick up a visitor bag on the welcome banner above the visitor sign-in book. Prayer cards are in the chair racks in the Sanctuary. Please place the cards in the offering plate later in the service.)*

INTROIT 8:00 am  
10:45 am

*Sing We Now of Christmas  
A Grown Up Christmas List*

Altar Choir  
Shelly S

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Awake, people of God, and stay alert for Christ's coming.  
Grace to you and peace from God who sent Jesus to us.

**P: Make your ways known to us, O God.  
Show us once more your awesome presence.**

L: We are all God's people; no one is excluded.  
Come together as God's family for worship and prayer.

**P: Let the mountains quake before you, mighty God.  
Let the nations tremble in awe and reverence.**

L: Praise the One who grants us the gift of life.  
Give thanks for God's continuing faithfulness.

**P: Heaven and earth will pass away,  
But the Word of God is true for all times and places.**

### \*OPENING SONG

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

*Red Hymnal pg. 203*

### \*OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious God, we pause from our busyness and our waiting to worship you this day. We admit it is difficult to wait, especially when we are excited. Help us to open our hearts and ready ourselves to be used by you to serve others, just as Mary was ready. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH 8:00 am Jean B 10:45 am Jill W

Luke 1:26-38

53/56

*New Testament/Pew Bible*

Advent Reader 1: The common person waits for a new thing to happen, perhaps thinking that it may never be. Yet God comes in unusual ways, giving new life and breaking through societal conventions.

Advent Reader 2: God came in the form of man to show us what love can do. Through ordinary people, God accomplished extraordinary things. Like Mary, may we expect new life and be ready to say, "Let it be."

*Light the First Candle*

**All: Holy God, through you all things are possible. May we dwell in the expectations of your heart rather than settling for the expectations in our own. Amen.**

SONG OF RESPONSE

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Red Hymnal pg. 211 vs. 1*

A MESSAGE FOR EVERY AGE 10:45 am

L: And Jesus Said . . .

**All: Let the Children come!**

ANTHEM 8:00 am

*Hope of the World, Emmanuel  
(from the "HOPE" Cantata)*

Altar Choir

CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

155/166

*New Testament/Pew Bible*

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:32-37

48/51

L: A word for God's people

**P: Thanks be to God**

*New Testament/Pew Bible*

MESSAGE

*Open Up ...Expectations*

Pastor Wendee Nitz

SONG OF PRAYER

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

*Red Hymnal pg. or 474*

SILENT PRAYER and PRAYERS FOR ONE VOICE

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 sins\*, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

*(\*may also say trespasses or debts)*

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

+*The Invitation* + *The Instructions* + *The Blessing*+

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*(All who love the Lord and desire to be in relationship with their neighbors are welcome at the Lord's table. If you happen to have brought an offering to share with God through the ministries of this congregation, please bring your gift as you move, at your own pace, to one of the four communion stations representing the four corners of the world. Communion is by intinction – dipping the bread into the cup. Please return to your pew to be in prayer.)*

COMMUNION SONG 8:00 am *Merry Carol of the Bells* Altar Choir

\*SONG OF PRAISE (sung) *Red Hymnal pg. 94*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*WE SAY THANK YOU TOGETHER

**Gracious God, we give our best to you, not out of guilt or fear, but with gratitude and faith. You have been our support in times of need. Every breath we take is a gift from you. We would be awake and watchful for opportunities to make a difference, to help others be alert for your presence, to value life in all its fullness, and to learn to care. We dedicate these symbols of thankfulness and all the days of our lives to those purposes. Amen.**

\*CLOSING SONG *People Look East* *Red Hymnal pg. 202*

\*A GOOD WORD AS WE GO OUT

L: We have been challenged to be wide awake and ready. Don't sit idly by waiting for Christmas to happen; rise up and go make Christmas happen in the lives of others. Amen.

\*CLOSING MUSIC

**Mission Statement:**

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Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church is a Christian fellowship whose mission is to: worship God, love and serve all people, grow in faith and invite others to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

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Phone: (414) 762-4600 / Email: [office@occum.org](mailto:office@occum.org) or [pastor@occumc.org](mailto:pastor@occumc.org)  
Website: <http://www.occumc.org> / Newsletter Editor: [office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org)  
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**No matter where you are on your journey, ALL are welcome here.**



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