



United Presbyterian Church
1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

November 19, 2023

The Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
812-332-1850 www.upcbloomington.org

United Presbyterian Church
November 19, 2023 25th Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
PRELUDE *Spirit of the Living God*

Reverend Cheryl Montgomery
Benjamin Watkins, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 123)

Elder Stephanie Worden, liturgist

Liturgist: To you we lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

People: As the eyes of a maid look to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, Giver of every good gift.

Liturgist: Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Look with favor upon us, O Lord, and be pleased with our praise and thanksgiving.

***Opening Hymn** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #464



PASSING OF THE PEACE (liturgist & congregation)

Liturgist: Called to live as children of light, let us build one another up as we share signs of peace, and words of love. Let us share signs of Christ's peace: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

MUSIC for MEDITATION *"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us* Sadie O'Connor, soprano

Call to Confession

We know that our sins are too heavy for us to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. But we also know that you can lift that weight from us and transform our lives. So we lift our prayer of confession to you:

PRAYER of CONFESSION (In Unison with Liturgist)

We are not always awake, O God. We are not always aware. We do not always pay attention— to others, even to you. We do not always treasure your blessings— the gifts you give to us, the time you spend with us, the people you offer us, the work you entrust to us. We take it for granted, God. We take you for granted. We wander away. Help us wake up, Holy One. Remind us to be aware. Show us the way back to you. And help us find meaning in you once more. Amen.

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Liturgist: Paul reminds us: "Since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ" Therein lies our assurance of pardon.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

Shea Henry Olivia McKenzie Kathleen Olds Rev. David Rosen Anita Steverson
Roby Lorimer Patty Lucas

His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by the Colby's

Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

Our military men and women around the world

The people of Ukraine The people of the Middle East

Our military men and women stationed around the world

The faculty and staff of Monroe County United Ministries

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley Staff

Administrative Associate for Office Support, Rhonda Seymour lives in Bloomington with her husband, Ken. They have two adult sons, Roman and Donovan, who both live nearby. She appreciates prayers for all who are coping with long term health challenges.

Administrative Associate for IT Support, Stephanie Worden lives near Ellettsville with her husband, Bill, their children, Logan and Caroline, and their dogs, Storm and Molly. She appreciates your prayers for continued health, peace, and happiness.

Treasurer, Jean and her husband, Larry, moved to the Dallas area in late July. She requests prayer for all impacted by that move—Jean and Larry as they navigate the many things to be done and changed with a move to a new state; their son Eric and his wife, Katy, who stayed behind in Bloomington; their son Greg and family (Lanett and grandsons Maxton and Preston), who now become the primary caregivers if needed; and the presbytery adjusting to a long-distance treasurer and trying to discern the way forward relative to the treasurer position.

Stated Clerk, Joe Kimmel lives near Paoli Indiana with his wife Nancy, 1 dog, 2 cats, and 11 bee hives. Their three sons, three daughters-in-law, and 11 grandchildren (one in heaven) celebrate family. Prayers are appreciated for each of them in their varied missions with people of all races, disabilities, and religions.

Susan McGhee has served as **Executive Presbyter** since 2009. She lives in Bloomington with her new kitty, Abby Cadabby. This year she had to say goodbye to her Calicos Kate and Allie, though she trusts that they are chasing mice in fields of glory! Susan welcomes your prayers for her family and friends, for the congregations and pastors in our presbytery, and for a spirit of civility in government and society.

United Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor – Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

(317) 260-7378 – pastor.upcbloomington@gmail.com

Secretary – Allen Pease – office (812) 332-1850; cell (812) 325-7849

Treasurer–Andy Hill andy@andyhill.us

Music Director – Benjamin Watkins – (864) 980-7731

benjamintaylorwatkins@gmail.com

Christian Education – Melanie Mathis-McBride – susieq_msm@yahoo.com



2023 ADVENT

United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 3 — 10 a.m.

First Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Peace — Gerrit & Vera Heitink

The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Wednesday, December 6 — 6 P.m.

UPC Music Program in Concert

Conducted & Directed by Dr. Benjamin Taylor Watkins

Sunday, December 10 — 10 a.m.

Second Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of Candle of Peace — John & Colleen Swanson

The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Wednesday, December 13 — 6 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner & Dessert Auction

Celebrity Chefs: Darian & Melanie Mathis McBride, Benjamin Watkins

Celebrity Auctioneers: Fadi Haddad, Souheil Haddad

Sunday, December 17— 10 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Joy — Fadi & Aline Haddad

Members of the UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Sunday, December 24 — 10 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Advent & Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of Candle of Peace & Christ Candle

Nyarko Family

Receiving of the Joy Offering



Holy Communion officiated by Rev. Cheryl Montgomery,
prepared by UPC Deacons, Served by Elders Darian & Melanie Mathis McBride
Sharing the Light



UPC Youth Dessert Auction

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Enjoy your dinner and bid on your dessert
Purchase one to share and one for your holiday affair
All proceeds will support the music program this year
So grab a bid paddle and let the fun begin

