

MINISTRY STAFF

The Rev. Tim Sisk
Pastor

Dr. Cassandra Weiss
Music Director

Ms. Adrienne Pylant
Children's Director

Mrs. April Brewer
Youth Director

Mrs. Ashley Herrin
Nursery Coordinator



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Prayer Bulletin

The family of Lois Woodward Pennington

Long Term

Lewis Allred • Gwin Barnes • Millicent Cuevas • Kaia Humphries • Jimmy & Marlana Johnson • Kristin Orr • Jane Palmer • Nancy Pylant • Stan Roberts • Lilah Taylor Kaia Humphries • Sybil Winborne

Church Calendar

Today

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Monday

5:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Talawah)

Tuesday

5:30 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Next Sunday

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Staff Changes

Darla Purvis is no longer serving as our **church secretary**. As you may know, she has been dealing with some significant health challenges. We are grateful for her past service and ask for your prayers for her well-being as she focuses on her recovery.

We are delighted to announce that **Dr. Cassandra Weiss** will be joining us as our **new Music Director**. Many of you will remember her from her previous time serving with our church, and we are excited to welcome her back—along with her family. Please join us in extending a warm welcome home as they begin this next chapter with us!

Church Office Closing

The Church Office will be closed from December 24 through December 29 for the Christmas holidays. Pastor Tim will be available by appointment at (769) 250-9212. We wish you a joyful and blessed Christmas!

March to the Manger

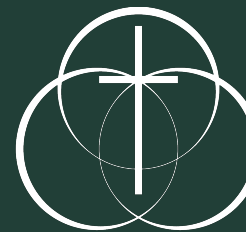
Our March to the Manger offering is being received through the end of the year to support local missions. Thank you for your generosity! Please indicate 'March to the Manger' on your check or envelope.

December 22, 2024



Joyful Expectation

AN ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERIES



PURVIS METHODIST CHURCH

Gathering

Welcome and Congregational Life

Silent Prayer

Prelude

*Hymn #162

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

*Opening Prayer

Libby Chance

Gracious and faithful God, we gather in this season of Advent, hearts overflowing with joy at the nearness of Christ. You have fulfilled your promises through the gift of your Son, Emmanuel, God with us. Today, as we worship, we celebrate the joy of your transforming presence in our lives. May our praises rise to you as an offering of love, and may our hearts be prepared for the arrival of Christ, our Lord and Savior. In His holy name, we pray. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

*Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Madison: Today, we light the fourth candle of Advent, celebrating the joyful presence of Christ in our lives.

Shelby: Luke 1:41–42 says, “When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice, she exclaimed: ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!’”

Madison: Mary and Elizabeth rejoiced together in the presence of Christ, who transforms ordinary lives into extraordinary witnesses of God’s love.

Shelby: As we light this candle, we remember the joy of Christ’s presence.

People: Christ is with us, bringing hope, peace, love, and joy to the world.

Madison: Faithful God, we thank you for the joyful presence of Christ among us. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may recognize and celebrate Christ’s work in our lives.

Shelby: May this light remind us of the joy we share in knowing and following Jesus. Bless us as we worship today and prepare our hearts for His coming. Amen.

Special Music

Mattie Heiser

“O Holy Night”

Alice Duke

Offertory Prayer

Faithful God, all that we have is a gift from your hand. In this season of giving, we offer these gifts with joyful hearts, trusting that you will use them to bless others. May they further your kingdom and proclaim the presence of Christ among us. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Offering/Offerory

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Hymn #192

“O Little Town of Bethlehem

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:39–45

Sermon

“Joy to the World”

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Hymn #197

“Away in a Manger”

*Benediction

May the God of joy fill your hearts with gladness as you go forth in the presence of Christ. May His light guide your path, His love sustain you, and His peace dwell richly within you. Go now in joy and share the good news, for Christ is near. Amen.

*Postlude

Our **March to the Manger** offering is being received through the **end of the year** to support our **local missions**. Thank you for your generosity and all you do to make a difference. Please remember to indicate **“March to the Manger”** on your gift.

All Funds Giving YTD (12/8): \$329,959

YTD (12/8) General Budget Actual YTD: \$278,885

YTD (12/18) General Budget Offering Need YTD: \$255,904

Difference: \$17,758

2024 Budget: \$276,794