

ANNOUNCEMENTS: WEEK OF NOV 28



Breakfast with Santa Saturday, December 4, 10:00 AM – Noon. Mark your calendars and make plans to bring the kids or grandkids! The young and the young-at-heart are invited for a pancake breakfast where you can also decorate cookies, make a Christmas craft and visit with Santa!



The First Christmas CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
Sunday, December 12 at 11:00 AM
Children's Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 12, 11:00 AM. All children in PreK – 6th grades are invited to participate in this year's Christmas pageant, "The First Christmas." Rehearsals are being held at Children's Chapel during weekly worship. Mark your calendars and join us!



ALPHA IS COMING Make plans to join our Alpha program on **Wednesdays starting January 5th!** We'll meet for dinner around 5:45 pm and end at 8 pm each week through March 9th. Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the basics of faith in an open and informal environment. EVERYONE is welcome, no matter where you are in your faith journey! Want to learn more? Plan to stay for a preview video right after worship on Dec. 19 or Jan. 2! Sign up on the entryway board or at www.polkcityumc.org/grow



UMW WINTER DONATION DRIVE Bring in winter mittens, gloves, hats & scarves of all sizes for the NP Comet Cupboard food pantry ministry. Place in the red barrel in church entryway.

WELCOME GUESTS! If you are visiting, please stop by the Welcome table to fill out a Connect Card and pick up a Welcome Bag!

#LOVELIKEJESUS TUMBLERS can be purchased for \$10 at the Welcome Table (each purchase covers the cost of a free tumbler for our guests)



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 28, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CONTACT US: Melody Webb, Pastor: melody.webb@polkcityumc.org or 314.630.0768
Lauren Wilken, Children & Youth Director: lauren.wilken@polkcityumc.org

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GATHERING SONG

“Everlasting God”

WELCOME/CONGREGATIONAL GREETINGS

www.polkcityumc.org/online-worship

Please record your presence in the Facebook comments or the website attendance card

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Scott Mead

Leader: Can one be homesick for something you’ve never known?

People: We are homesick for a just world, for peace like rivers, for the end of suffering.

Leader: Yes, we are homesick—

People: for joy that is contagious, for nations that feel like neighbors, and for hospitals that run empty.

Leader: We are homesick for the world God promises.

People: We are homesick, but we are on our way.

Leader: God is here. God is still creating.

People: Let us worship Holy God.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CANDLE-LIGHTING CAROL

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (vs. 1)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we find ourselves with two options every day—to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win. Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel? Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it’s impossible? Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world. Kindle in us a hope that won’t let go. Gratefully we pray, amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36 (NRSV)

SONG OF REFLECTION

“King of Kings”

Children age 3 & up invited to follow ministry leaders for children’s chapel; they return during closing song

SERMON

“Longing for Home”

Pastor Melody Webb

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS & PRESENCE

Turn to a neighbor to share joys and concerns, or submit prayer requests in the Facebook comments or the Attendance Card on our website www.polkcityumc.org/online-worship

PASTORAL PRAYER / 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

Your gift in-person, by mail or mobile device, or online at www.polkcityumc.org/give supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. Thank you for your extravagant generosity! Find this week’s announcements on the back side of the bulletin, or on our website at www.polkcityumc.org

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, we are homesick. We long for the day that you spoke of when swords will be beaten into plowshares, the lion will lie down with the lamb, and justice will roll like waters. Until that holy day comes, take these gifts and use them to build that world here. We are hopeful. Amen.

SONG OF SENDING

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/King of Heaven”

BENEDICTION

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Advent is about the joy of longing for home – the kind of home that will complete us, the kind of home that will transform the world. It is about helping us remember that we have a mission and a hope. We are people who see God at work in this world, and we are partners in that remaking. We are the disciples who make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Worship with us this Advent and Christmas season. **Come home for Christmas!**

Sunday Worship, Nov. 28 - Dec. 19, 9:30 AM *(in person & online)*

Blue Christmas Worship: Dec. 21, 7:00 PM *(in person & online)*

Christmas Eve Worship: Dec. 24, 7:00 PM *(in person & online)*

Sunday after Christmas: Dec. 26, 9:30 AM *(ONLINE ONLY)*
