

Meditation Focus

John 3:16

This is how much God loved the world:

He gave his Son, his one and only Son.

And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed;

By believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

The Message

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" P. 230

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Pastor: The humble shepherds in the fields near Bethlehem received a visitor, an angel, who terrified them at first.

Worship Leader: The angel invited them to go to the city of David to see a new baby lying in a manger. And so they did.

Congregation: And we are invited too, to find Jesus where we also may find love and hope, joy and peace in the Christ child.

ALL: We too can be humble servants of God.

*HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" P. 238

STORY WITH THE KIDS

"Christmas Around the Deep Blue World"

*HYMN "Away in a Manager" P. 217

"On the Journey ... to Bethlehem"

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-20

SPECIAL MUSIC "Mary's Baby Boy" Tracy Lubs

MESSAGE "Welcome to the Stable" Pastor John Kasper

*HYMN "What Child Is This" P. 219

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Luke 2, Matt 2)

What greater gift could we receive than the gift of God's own child, a child who is our light and our salvation. We, who have received so much, are called to join the shepherds in sharing our joy; we are challenged to join the magi, in offering our gifts to the Christ Child. Come! Let us give out of our abundance.

Our Christmas Eve Offerings will be designated to "Missionaries Delbert and Sandy Groves" and "Food Truck Ministry" unless otherwise indicated.

Offering Song "O Come, All Ye Faithful" verse 6 and chorus P. 234

Christmas Prayer:

Pastor: Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the.....

shepherds, and the wisdom of the wise men.

Congregation: Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

Pastor: Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Congregation: Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Jesus brings and teach us to be merry with clean hearts.

Pastor: May Christmas morning make us happy to by Your children

Congregation: And may Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus sake.

All: Amen

CANDLE LIGHTING "Silent Night" P. 239

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

*HYMN "Joy to the World" P. 246



The Flowers on the Altar today are given in honor of Our Savior's Birth from John, Barb, Macy, Zackary and Madi.

Minister: Pastor John Kasper **Organist:** LuAnn Humphrey
Pianist: Abigail Mullis & Deniza Derdovski
Office Manager: Judy Bailey **Dir. of Youth:** Rachel MacGregor
Director of Child Care: Melonie Kingsbury
(Day Care Phone: 386-4815)
Choir Director & Children's Choir Director: Tracy Lubs
Liturgist 11:00 p.m.: Kylie Lubs
Office Hours: 9:30-Noon & 1-4:00 p.m. (386-2591)

New Year's Resolution.

As we approach the new year we often make plans for what we'd like to accomplish in the new year. What a better time to resolve to commit to the Clare United Methodist Church as the place you will serve God in and through.

January 14, 2018, Pastor John will begin a 7 week study called "Explore Clare UMC" which gives an overview of what makes Clare UMC unique, what it means to be United Methodist, and what it means to become a member of Clare UMC. We will meet between worship services during the Sunday School hour either in the Trinity Café coffee lounge or in the front of the sanctuary/worship space. Resolve now to "Explore Clare UMC"

Please Continue To Keep In Your Prayers :

We lift up the leadership of our nation and the men and women serving the Armed Forces, as well as the leaders and people of other nations.

Justin Burrows in U.S. Marine Corp. (Ron & Jean's grandson) (Psalm 91:11)

Joey Willman in U.S. Marine Corp.

Wilma Phillips-Shurlow and family on the loss of her husband, Merle Phillips, whom we all loved so much and were blessed to have him in our church family, Family & Friends of Marion Baker (Merri Ann Baker-Radcliffe's mother), Marlene Hales, Ruth VanStraien (sister of Larry Wyman Sr.)

Mike Musser preparing for surgery soon.

Brianna (McGregor) Harris recovering from Hip Surgery

Elaine Green recovering at her son Tim's in California

Bob Seiter recovering from surgery at home.

Gil Dean recovering from a broken ankle (Karen Mater's dad)

Kathy Miller, Carolyn Musser, Sandra Pitchford, Connie Palette, Barb Mahon, Barb Everts, Ed Newman, Mark Musser, Dave Isaac, Sharon

Doxtader, David Wyman: all recovering at home

Jay Williams recovering from a stroke at Autumnwood, McBain rehab.

Donna Oor recovering from bone marrow transplant (Roy Monzo's cousin)

Aaron Burrows for continued healing (Ron & Jean's grandson)

Those with Parkinson's, Diabetes, Alzheimer's & Lupus and other horrible diseases

Those who have been diagnosed with Cancer: Jim Morgan, Tom Beatty,

Wayne Henney (Colene Moore's brother in-law) Patty (Humphrey) Hazen, Mike

Humphrey, Katie Jenkins, Jeff Bergstrom (Sandie Brewer's brother), Bill Carr

(Sandra Pitchford's brother) April Hicks, June Chaffee, Sue Grant (Bob & Ruth Jone's daughter)

Medilodge Nursing

Home, Clare

Shelly Ackerman

JoAnne Maxwell

Coleman Senior Center

June Chaffee

Horizons:

Ardene Wild

Marcia Allen Benner

Northwoods: Don Fuller

Ardene Wild

Marcia Allen Benner

Northwoods: Don Fuller

In their own home: Dale Branden Connie McNerney

Jean Blow, Virgie Wilson Rilla Seibt Janet Hicks

Sandra Campbell Donna Heckman Joyce VanNote

Gail Sowle Ruth Schunk Shirley Burns Ruth Owens

Prestige Place Assisted Living:

Myrna Smith

Mary Guss

Home Care at Marley Park Arizona: Tom Franklin

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SHUT-IN'S NEED TO HEAR FROM

US, THEY LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING MAIL AND SEEING

OUR NAMES.

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Clare United Methodist Church
Open hearts.....Open Minds.....Open Doors

DECEMBER 24, 2017

7:00 p.m.



WELCOME! GUESTS – We have a gift for you!

Please visit the information table

NURSERY CARE is available just next to the Lobby

(by the East Exit Doors) for infants through

5 years during 11:00 a.m. service

And Sunday School hour.

Write your Prayer Request on a prayer card

They will be picked up by ushers during the first hymn.

MISSION:

Know God, Grow in Faith, and Share God's Love

VISION:

We are Jesus Centered, bringing Love, Hope, and Encouragement to People in our Community and Beyond.

MISS A MESSAGE?

Want to “hear” it again? Would like to share it with a friend? Manuscripts of Sunday messages are now available on our website, www.clareumc.org. Messages will be posted by Wednesday following the Sunday it was given and will be available 4 months following.

**SCAN FOR
ONLINE GIVING**



We hope you will join us for Coffee Hour immediately following our Worship Service today, for fun, food & fellowship.

NOTES
