

Allen-Lee Memorial UMC

December 19, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude		Kevin Lefebvre
Welcome and Announcements		
*Call to Worship		
	<i>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you. The risen Christ is with us. Praise the Lord!</i>	
*Opening Prayer		
	<i>Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.</i>	
*Hymn	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	UMH 211
*Hymn	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	UMH 230
Old Testament Reading		Micah 5:2-5a
Advent Reading & Lighting of Advent Candle		
Psalter Reading	Psalm 24	UMH 755
*Hymn	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	UMH 234
Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer		
Special Music		Kristen Osterhage
Epistle Reading		Hebrews 10:5-10
Sermon		Tim Reber <i>Candidate Director, Africa Inland Mission</i>
*Affirmation of Faith		UMH 881

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING FOR MISSIONS

Dear friends, as we take part in this celebration of blessing and commissioning, we are reliving a practice of the early church.

**Please stand as you are able.*

We read in the book of Acts that the Holy Spirit set apart Saul and Barnabas for the work of mission, and the church at Antioch, after fasting and praying, laid hands on them and sent them out.

The early church eagerly sent its members to other peoples, to assist those who were already of the household of faith and those who did not yet believe in Christ.

Today we also send our sister to serve the needs of the Church across the world. This commissioning and sending will strengthen the bonds we maintain with the faith-filled communities to she is going,

and the prayers we offer are an expression of the ties that bind us together in the larger body of Christ.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace. So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your name. Amen.

Today we present Kristi as one being sent by Allen-Lee Memorial United Methodist Church to serve the people of Kenya working alongside local missionaries to train and equip them in their work. She will serve as a partner with Christ in mission, accompanied by our prayers:

We bless you, O God, and we give you all the praise and glory. We ask you to bless your servant. Fill her heart with the power of the Holy Spirit. We send her forth as a messenger of salvation and peace in your name, marked with the sign of the cross and anchored in your grace. Bless the cross we now give as a sign of Christ's love and a token of our faith.

Amen.

Kristi, I commission you to take the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ into all the world, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***Hymn** *Away in a Manger* UMH 217

***Benediction**

Postlude Kevin Lefebvre

WELCOME TO ALLEN-LEE

We hope that you will feel the warmth of this loving congregation while you are here worshipping with us. Please let us know if you need anything or want more information about our church. We are an open and welcoming fellowship. It is our hope that you will come again and often!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This is a red-letter day in Allen-Lee's history as we commission Kristi Threatt for missionary service in Kenya. We welcome all of those from Africa Inland Mission and Kristi's many friends who are joining us today.
- Mask wearing is optional. Thank you for being thoughtful of others and taking steps to avoid spreading Covid.
- There are envelopes in the bulletin for donations to the United Methodist Committee on Relief to help with areas ravaged by tornadoes in Kentucky and nearby states. You can place these in the offering boxes. You can also mark the memo line of a check to Allen-Lee with "UMCOR" or "tornado."
- Everyone who took part in the Hometown Holiday Celebration in Moreland last Sunday afternoon has a great time. Between the sale and the donation jar, we have \$243 to add to the building fund.
- Remember the change in service time for the next two Sundays. Our friends from Luthersville UMC will join us here at Allen-Lee for worship next Sunday, December 26, at 10 a.m. On January 2, the service will also be at 10 a.m., and we will be going to Luthersville UMC.
- Allen-Lee Christmas ornaments are on the front pew near the piano. They are \$20 each with all proceeds going to the building fund. You can pay Peggy Parker for them.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

O God of Elizabeth and Mary,
you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption
in the coming of the Savior.
Make our hearts leap with joy,
and fill our mouths with songs of praise,
that we may announce glad tidings of peace,
and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.

Allen-Lee Memorial United Methodist Church



Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds

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Church website: <https://allenleeumc.weebly.com>

PRAYER LIST

Long-Term Requests

Gail Barber	Mark Evans	Juanita Marshall
Patricia Bassett	Donald Ford, Sr.	Tony Rosser
Joy Burks	Jennifer Hillyer	Steve Saucier
Margaret Camp	Pat Kee	Gilbert Sheets
Glenda Cox	Bo Kelly	Craig Simpson
Annette Duffey	Clair Kight	Roger With

Current Prayer List

Kay Bugg	Jackie Flournoy	Amy Henderson
Rosalind Edmondson	Hank Foster	Patrick Hendrickson

Military/Contract Personnel

Brandon Davis – Florida	Austin Shelton – Fort Stewart
Jack Edmonds, III – N. Carolina	Cessily Skinner – Arizona
Davis Gray – England	Ry Skinner – Georgia
Robert Parker – Washington, DC	Taylor Threatt – Texas

Newly Married

Alex and Jillian Price

In Memory

Dorothy Reeves	Ruth Spencer
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Missionaries

Kristie Threatt, Kenya	Connie Weick, China
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Later, both Elizabeth and Mary gave birth to sons.

Trace the names of their sons.



Elizabeth's baby was

John.

Mary's baby was

Jesus.



Children's Worship Bulletin™



December 19, 2021 • Luke 1:39-56

Mary Visits Elizabeth

Mary went to visit her cousin, Elizabeth.

Help Mary get to Elizabeth's house.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

A large rectangular area containing a path puzzle. The path is made of numbered boxes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. The boxes are arranged in a non-linear pattern. Illustrations include a woman walking at the start, a house, mountains, a sun, a palm tree, and a woman sweeping at the end.

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4720 Lone Oak Road | Grantville, GA 30220

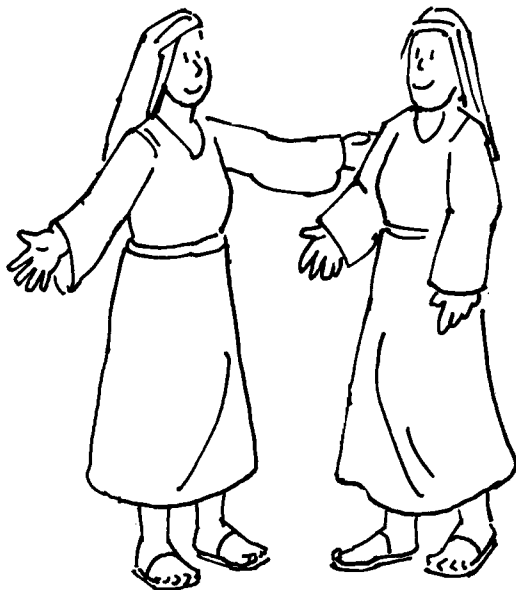
As soon as Elizabeth saw Mary,
she was filled with the Holy Spirit.
What did Elizabeth call Mary?

Use the code to fill in the missing letters.

☾ = S ▭ = L ♥ = B

✝ = O ☸ = D

____ E ____ E ____
♥ ▭ ☾ ☾ ☸



____ Y
♥
G ____ .
✝ ☸

Mary sang a song of praise to God.

Connect the dots. A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P

