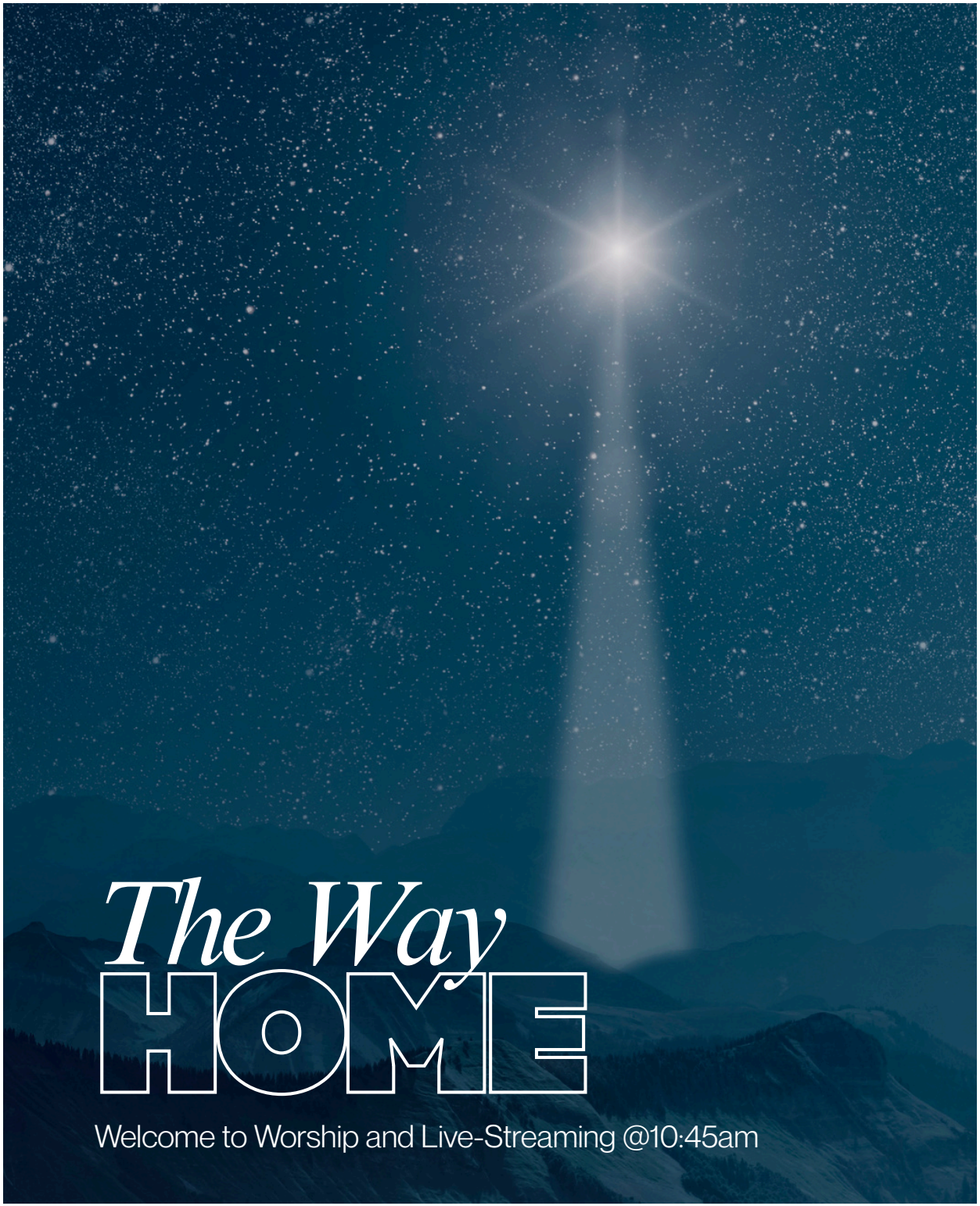
The Way
HOME
Welcome to Worship and Live-Streaming @10:45am

Welcome to Worship

The First Sunday of Advent **November 29, 2026, 10:45am**

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name.

Welcome

Prelude--Prelude, from *Advent Partita on "Hyfrydol"*-- James Conely

Introit--*His Name Is Wonderful* Combined Choirs

Call to Worship--

As we begin our Advent journey, we come with expectant hearts.

We come waiting, watching, and hoping.

Even when the road ahead is uncertain, God is with us.

We place our hope in the One who leads us home. Let us worship the God of hope!

Opening Hymn**202--*People Look East*

Invocation *(please be seated)***--**

Gracious God, in this Advent season, quiet our hearts and help us slow down. In the midst of our waiting, remind us of your promises and open our eyes to your presence. Fill us with hope as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.

Scripture Reading--Psalm 80:1-7

Gloria Patri (Hymn #70)--

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.

Candle Lighting Hymn 204--*Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel--

God with us, revealed in us! His name is called Emmanuel.

Advent Candle Lighting– **The Skinner Family**

Advent begins with waiting. We wait for promises to be fulfilled, for hope to be renewed, and for the light of Christ to shine in our world. Even in our waiting, God is with us.

Jesus reminds us to stay awake and watchful, trusting that God is at work even when the way ahead is uncertain. We wait with hope, knowing that God's love will lead us home.

Today, we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope. May its light remind us that no matter how long the journey, God's promises remain faithful.

The first purple candle is lit. The congregations sings Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

God's Word for Young Disciples--(congregation sings "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward)

Anthem--*Every Valley*--Joseph M. Martin Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading--Mark 13:24-37

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon--*"The Way Home: Waiting"* Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The People respond to the Word

Baptisms--

Elias Hunter Tausch, son of Hunter Earl & Melody Rayeanne (Schultz) Tausch

Violet Marie Mackey, daughter of Brandon Richard & Sabrina Christine (Tausch) Mackey.

Hymn of Response **196*--Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory--*Who Will Welcome Him?*--Sally K. Albrecht Epworth Choir

Lucy Benson, Haidyn Bonds-Percussion

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.

Prayers of the People/The 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.

SENDING FORTH

The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith.

***Closing Hymn **214**--Savior of the Nations, Come*

***Benediction**671**--Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

***Postlude**--Veni Emmanuel*--Pietro A. Yon

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God.

Music--One License A-731491

***indicates please stand as you are able*

Clergy & Staff

Jon Priebe, Lead Minister, fallsfirstjon@gmail.com
Howard Pippin, Associate Minister, fallsfirstpippin@gmail.com
Marvin Brown, Senior Minister Emeritus
Marie Willis-Guarneri, Director of Music & Worship
Eric Charnofsky, Organist & Accompanist
Donna Curfman, Director of Children's Ministries
Jennifer Brooks, Director of Weekday Christian Preschool
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Prayer Requests/Pastoral Care

The fastest way to contact us is to call the church office. After hours voicemails come through to the church staff.

OPENING HYMN
#202 People Look East

1. People look east the time is near
Of the crowning of the year
Make your house fair as you are able
Trim the hearth and set the table
People look east and sing today
Love
The guest
Is on the way

2. Furrows be glad
Though earth is bare
One more seed is planted there
Give up your strength
The seed to nourish
That in course the flower may flourish
People look east and sing today
Love
The rose
Is on the way

3. Stars Keep the watch when night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim
Shining beyond the frosty weather
Bright as the sun and moon together
People look east and sing today
Love
The star
Is on the way

4.Angels announce with shouts of mirth
Him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley
Humming with the word
The Lord is coming
People look east and sing today
Love
The Lord
Is on the way

HYMN OF RESPONSE
#196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

CLOSING HYMN
#214 Savior of the Nations, Come

1. Savior of the nations, come;
Virgin's son, here make thy home!
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,
that the Lord chose such a birth.

2. Not by human flesh and blood;
by the Spirit of our God
was the Word of God made flesh,
woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

3.Wondrous birth! O wondrous child
Of the virgin undefiled!
Though by all the world disowned,
Still to be in Heav’n enthroned.

4.God the father is his source, back to God he rund his course; down to dather and hell descends, God’s high throune he reascends.

5.Now thy manger’s halo bright hallows night with newborn light; let no night this light subdue, let our faith shine ever new.

CHURCH NOTES

NOVEMBER 29 2026

COMING UP THIS WEEK!

Singer's Companye Concert 12/2 @7p in the Sanctuary. Join us for a Pre-concert lecture with Dr. Gordon in the Parlor @6:30pm.

NEWS

Birthday Party for Jesus: Formerly the "Santa Brunch," featuring the omlet station, birthday cake, and nativity displays. 12/13 from 9:30a-12:30p in Wesley Hall. Cost: $7/adult, $5/child, $0/under 3. Bring a birthday present for Jesus in the form of canned goods, hats, mittens, gloves, etc.

Altar Flowers: We're starting to take orders for altar flowers for 2027. The cost is $40. If you'd like to reserve a date, please contact Christy in the church office. 330-923-5241 x 210, cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com

Advent Study: 7pm, Mondays 11/29-12/21. St. Luke's Lutheran is hosting this year. "*The Heart That Grew Three Sizes*," by Matt Rawle, based on Dr. Seuss's beloved book, "*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*" is sure to make your heart swell with the spirit of Christmas. We've already ordered books, but there will be a few copies available at the first meeting on Monday. All are welcome!

Epworth Choir Fundraiser

GARDNER PIES

$15 each

Orders due 12/3, ready 12/20

Find paper forms @Welcome Center

ARTS SERIES CONCERTS & EVENTS

Declutter & Organize: 12/3 @11am/Wesley Hall. Thoughtfully working through memories and helping people part with sentimental belongings. Register with Parks & Rec. 330-971-8225

Local artist **David Shankland** will speak about his sculptures in the Parlor. 12/8, 11-Noon.

A SEASON OF GIVING

12/1-12/13 **Acts of Grace Circle** will be collecting gift cards for Refuge Host Homes. They are requesting: Uber, Gas Cards, Target and Giant Eagle. If you are interested in participating, there is an envelope in the church office. Refuge Host Homes is a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing safe, supportive housing for vulnerable pregnant women in the Greater Akron area.

Open M is collecting $20 donations toward the purchase of turkeys. Place your donations in the offering plate, drop box, or mail to the church by December 7 (please write "turkey" in the memo line). Our goal is 200 turkeys!

NEXT Steps with Pastor Pippin

The Way Home: Waiting - Mark 13:24–37

- **Waiting Doesn't Mean God Is Doing Nothing**
  - The disciples are being reminded to look for signs of what God is doing, even when they cannot see the whole picture.
- **Hope Means Staying Awake to God's Presence**
  - There is a difference between simply waiting for something to happen and living expectantly because we believe something is happening.
- **The Way Home Is Found in Hope**
  - Advent reminds us that God is always making a way home.

God is with us. God is leading us. And God is making a way home.

Reflection Questions: What are you waiting for in your life right now? How might God be present with you in that waiting? Where have you seen small signs of hope or God's presence recently? What is one way you can help someone else find hope during this Advent season?

Memory verse: Mark 13:35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come,

Next week: The Way Home: Preparations - Isaiah 40:1-11



2026 Advent Study

RSVP Digitally

Mondays beginning November 30 @7pm
St. Luke's Lutheran is hosting this year.
The study runs for 4 weeks.
Books are $10. Please RSVP by 11/25

The study by Matt Rawle is based on
"How the Grinch Stole Christmas."



Annual

HOLIDAY NUT SALE

The 2026 Nut Sale will be every Sunday between and after services beginning November 22, or during office hours M-F, 9-3pm.



All proceeds benefit *Work Camp 2027*.

ART SERIES

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

