

This place was made for YOU!

9:00am Adult Sunday School

10:15am Sunday Worship

6:00pm Thursday Prayer Time

Our Staff:

Bishop Al Gwinn, Senior Pastor

Anne Willis, Director of Music

Susan Riggs, Choir Accompanist

Tracy Gillespie, Director of Little Learners

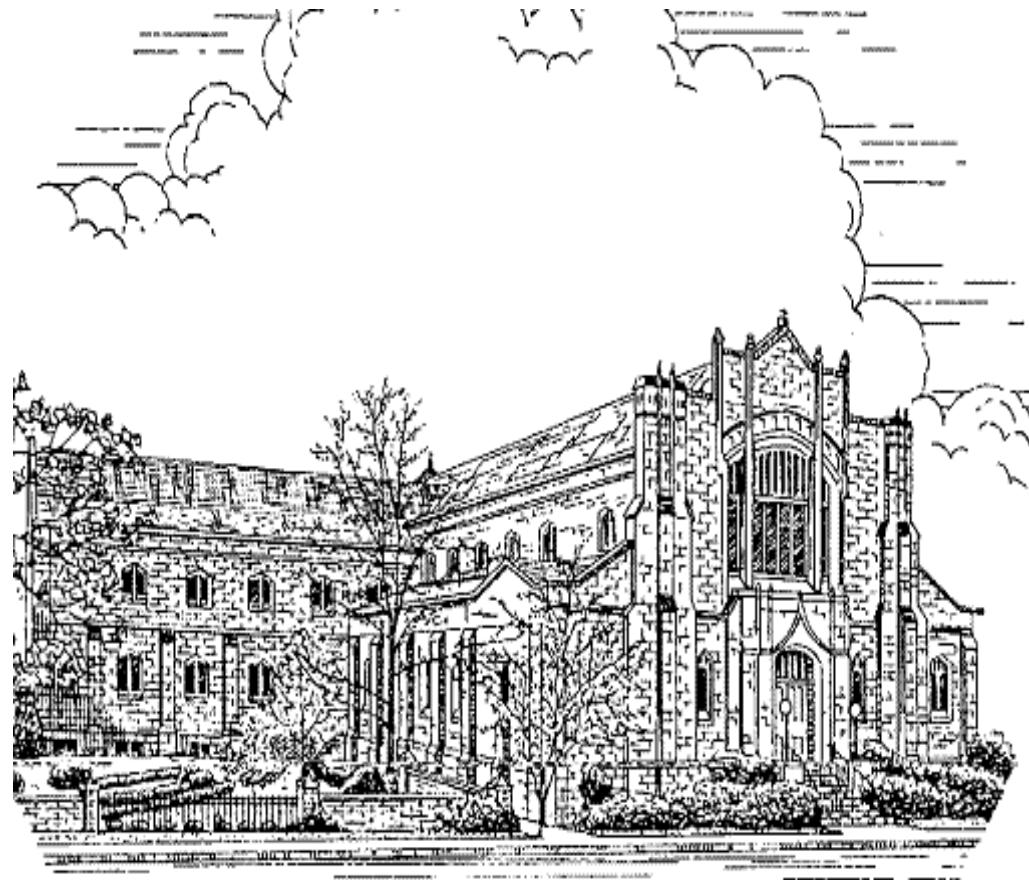
Sarah Beth McClure, Administrative Assistant

Eric Caudill, Custodian

Do you want to participate in the offering today but don't have a check or cash with you? You can give directly from your mobile device at [winfumc.org/give](http://winfumc.org/give).



You can also now give via text message using our unique number, 859-965-9698. Just text the amount you want to give; for example: "\$50 general fund". The first time only you will be asked to register your information.



*Winchester First*  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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[www.winfumc.org](http://www.winfumc.org)

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**Order of Worship  
December 18, 2022**

**Prelude** *In Quiet Joy* **Dr. Larry Sharp**  
*arr. Marcel Dupré*

**Greeting & Welcome** **Bishop Gwinn**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** **Lindsey & Rex Catron**

**Bringing Forth of the Crèche**

**\*Hymn** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* **UMH 234**  
verses 1, 2 & 4

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed* **UMH 881**

**Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer** **UMH 895**

**Anthem** *Bell Carol* **Chancel Choir**  
*arr. Heather Sorenson* **& Ensemble**

This anthem was dedicated in December 2017 by Susan and Stephen Riggs in memory of her parents, Mary Redwine Sphar and Marcus C. Redwine.

**Offertory** *As Lately We Watched* **Celebration Ringers**  
*arr. Sondra K. Tucker*

**Offertory Response** **UMH 221**  
*What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

**Offertory Prayer**

**Anthem** *Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* **Chancel Choir**  
*arr. Keith Christopher* **& Ensemble**

**Scripture** **Matthew 24: 37-44**  
**Revelation 21: 1-5**

**Sermon** *Are You Ready?* **Bishop Gwinn**

**\*Closing Hymn** *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand* **UMH 724**

**Benediction**

**Postlude** *Bell Carol* **Dr. Larry Sharp**  
*arr. Gerald Near*

**\*Stand as you are able.**

*There are candles at the altar. If you have prayer requests, please light one (or several) to lift those prayers to God.*

**We want to welcome both guest musicians today:** Aaliyah Dye, a student at GRC is our percussionist, and Dr. Larry Sharp will serve as organist and pianist. Thank you for being with us today!

**Welcome to our visitors!** We feel very honored to have you with us this morning! We hope you have felt warmly received and you will leave knowing that God has been in this place! Your willingness to complete the Connection Card found in the pew rack will give us an opportunity to share more of our appreciation for your presence.

Please remember to use the blue **Connection Card** in the pew racks for any prayer requests or thoughts you may have. Be assured that your requests are prayed over every Thursday evening in our Prayer Gathering! We begin at 6:00pm and pray until 7:00 and every week sense the Lord's presence in a special way. Come and experience this mid-week blessing!

**Will you share the good news?** Our worship service is now streamed online each Sunday! So, please share this word with your family and friends. The web address is [www.winfumc.org/video-stream/](http://www.winfumc.org/video-stream/). You may see a recording of the service by using the same address. Thank you to Elizabeth Morton for operating our streaming equipment today!