Art by Sue Carroll

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Culmore United Methodist Church

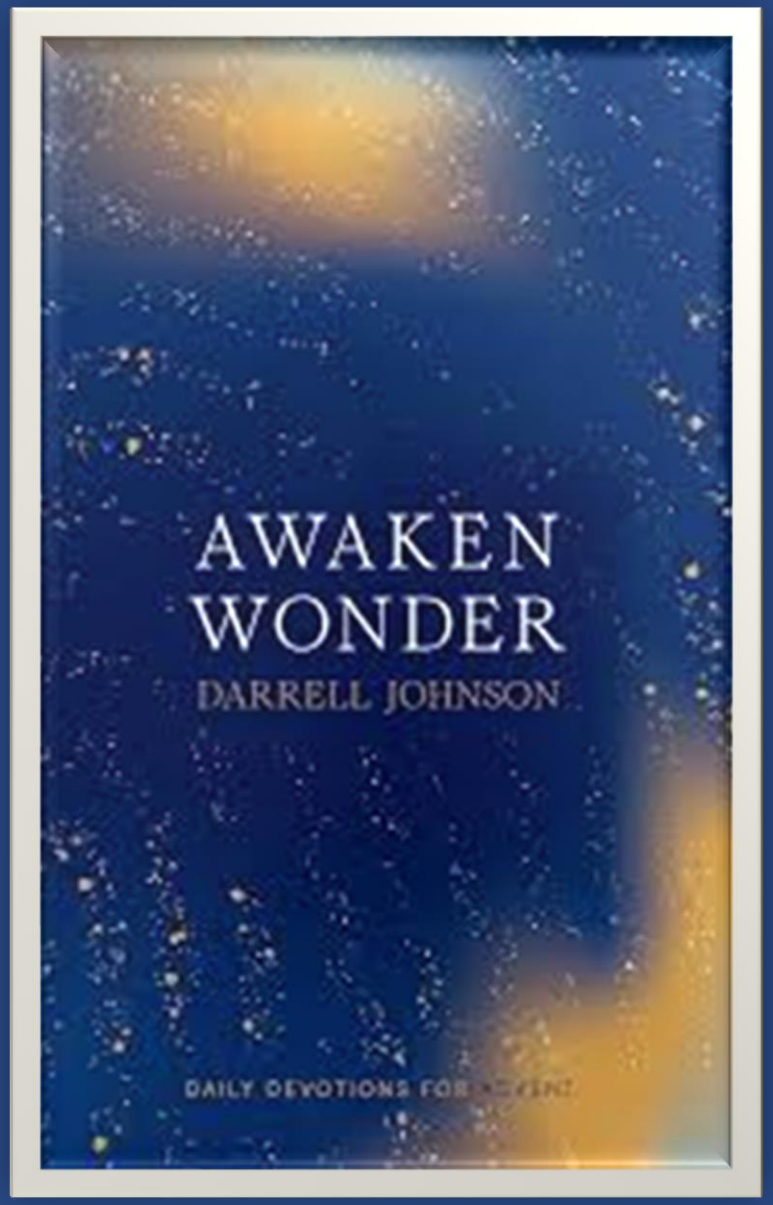
Welcome and Good Morning!

Welcome and Announcements

Communion
Art by Sue Carroll

Happy Birthday

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.



Dr. Darrell Johnson

Wholeness
Oneness
PEACE
Completeness
Wellness

We Light the Candle of Peace

Advent calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, the Prince of Peace. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace, the candle of *shalom*.

May this candle shine forth in brightness, lighting up what truly matters. May we let the distractions go.

We choose to be a peaceful presence in the midst of frantic times. We choose to pursue peace within ourselves and with one another.

We choose the Peace of Christ to be the guiding light in our lives.

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Hope Peace Joy Love

All Earth is Waiting – UMH 210

All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
And the open furrows, the sowing of the Lord.
All the world bound and struggling, seeks true liberty
It cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,"
For his name is "God with us," our brother shall be,
With him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

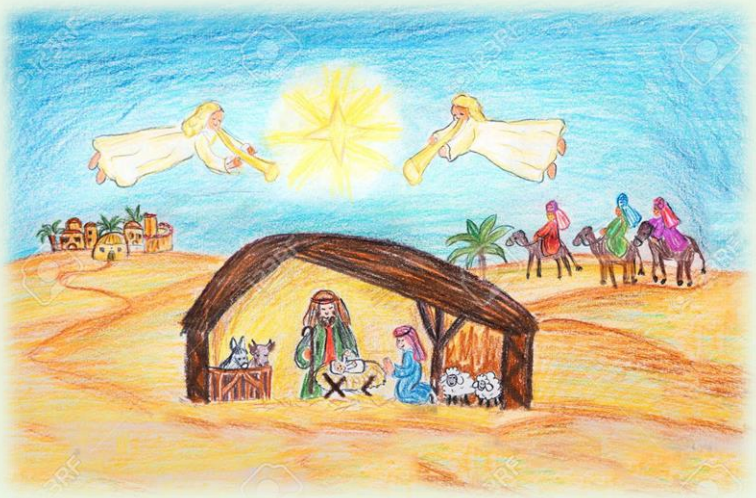
Opening Prayer

Loving God,

You know how fractured the world is. At this season of advent, help us all embrace the peace that can only be found in You.

At this season of advent, help us find peace within ourselves, as well. You know how often we get stuck in worry and anxiety. How we need your peace that passes all understanding.

May we then carry this peace, this hope, this light that Christ has brought throughout the year and not just at advent. May these gifts of love abide in our hearts forever. ***Amen***



Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

The angel said to her, "**Do not be afraid**, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God…”

"… Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month…

For nothing is impossible with God."

“Here am I the Lord's servant,” Mary answered. “Let it be with me according to your word.”

Walang imposible sa diyos.

Nada es imposible con dios.

신에게는 불가능이 없다

神に不可能はない

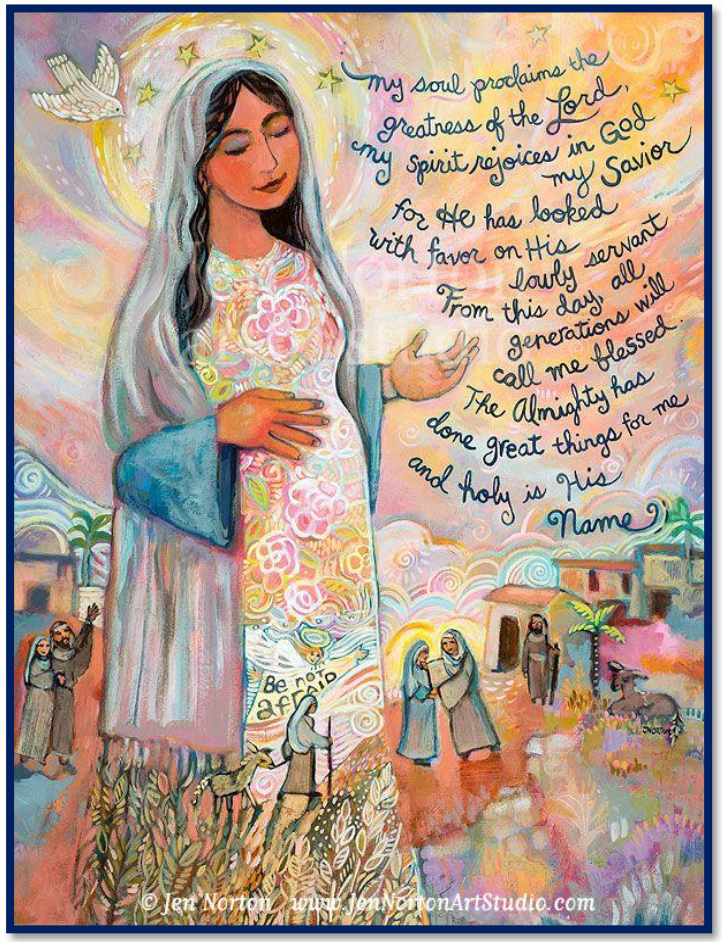
Nothing is impossible with God.

Avec dieu rien n’est impossible.

在神没有难成的事。

Mary Did You Know?

Mary's Magnificat- Luke 1:46-49



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant.

From this day, all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.

Community Prayer

Lord Jesus, we would like to be as faithful and trusting as Your mother Mary. She was able to put aside all of her fears about what might have happened to her when she was called to such a glorious, but anxiety-producing task as giving birth to You. It took a lot of strength for such a young person to take this on, even though it was also a great honor.

When we are given opportunities to serve You, we are not always able to respond as quickly and fully as the teenager Mary did. Service to You is both an honor and a privilege, and we want to have those chances! We need Your help to do what we are called to do.

AMEN

Offering and Doxology

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 can I give Him — Give my heart.

Communion

Art by Sue Carroll

Holy Communion

All are welcome to this, Christ's table, as we come together as one holy family. In this sacred space, let us put aside other thoughts and concerns as we open our hearts and minds to Him.

Prayer of Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Our heavenly Father, You know how often we stumble.

We don't come to this table trusting in ourselves;

but instead, trusting in You and Your unfailing mercy.

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, which proves

His love and grace. We are a forgiven people. ***Amen***

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you;

People: ***and also with you.***

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Pastor: It is a good and joyful thing to always give thanks to you. Even when we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. And so we praise Your Holy name.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,
God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who
Blessed is he who

Comes in the name of the Lord.
Comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took the bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, he gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said, "*Drink from this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as your drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

… And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Photo by James Gardner

All honor and glory is yours,

almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

Blessing of the Elements

Loving and eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the entire world, until Christ comes in final victory. ***Amen***

Breaking of the Bread

Lifting of the Cup

Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.

Just as we all partake of one loaf, the bread which we share

is also a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing of the Blood of Christ.

Partaking of the Elements

Benediction