

Our Shepherd's Love is extended to Don Redarowicz at the news of the death of his wife, Sharon on December 1, 2019. Arrangements are pending at this time.

Our Shepherd's Love is extended to the family and friends of Virginia Mont, who passed away December 3, 2019. Arrangements are pending at this time.

Scripture and Prayer for The Week

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." Matthew 1:23.

God of presence and love, remind us that you are as near as the next breath, here and now, everywhere and always. We need not be afraid. We pray in the name of the one called Emmanuel, and for his sake. Amen.

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Pastor on Call for Emergencies: 623.584.7642 / Prayer Line: 623.584.2922

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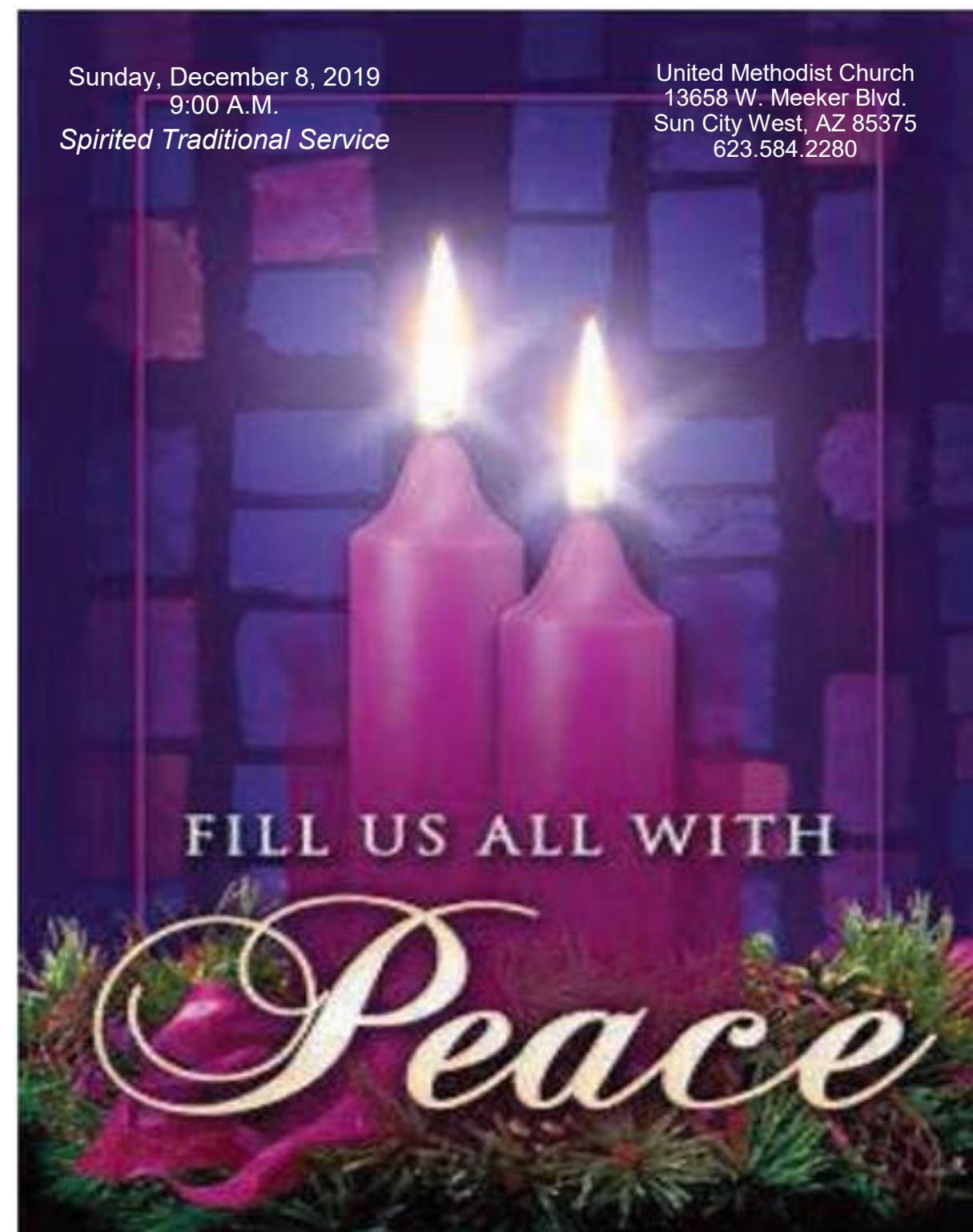
Church Office

church@shepherdofthehills.org

Sunday, December 8, 2019
9:00 A.M.

Spirited Traditional Service

United Methodist Church
13658 W. Meeker Blvd.
Sun City West, AZ 85375
623.584.2280



As we worship . . . Please silence your cell phone.

We Are Chosen

We Are Blessed

We Are Loved

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* *Indicates stand as you are comfortable*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lee Hirt

PRELUDE *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

arr. Joel Raney

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist: Lift up your heads, O Gates!

People: and be lifted up, O Ancient Doors!

All: That the King of glory may come in.

***OPENING HYMN** *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*

UMH #213

***OPENING PRAYER**—In Unison

Liturgist

God of all seasons, in this Advent Season we gather with expectant hearts to worship You. We are eager to hear, once more, how you sent your son to live among us. He came as one of us, to redeem us and save us from ourselves. Help us to hear this story of your extravagant love in new, life changing ways. Enable us to worship you in Spirit and in Truth, for we pray in the name of the One who IS Truth, Jesus our Christ. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Steve & Deb Phillips

Today we light two candles. The first candle reminds us of the hope found in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. As we light the second candle we celebrate the fact that God loves us in spite of our flaws, just as a parent loves a child. In an unsettled world, surrounded by confusion, we affirm that our Everlasting Father is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

SONG OF RESPONSE *"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"*

UMH #204

BLESSING OF FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS BAGS

SPECIAL MUSIC *"An Appalachian Christmas"*
Shepherd's Bell Choir

arr. Tammy Waldrop

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 1:18-25

Liturgist

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS TO THE WORD

Pastor: Now let the words of my mouth
People: And the meditations of our hearts
All: Be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord,
my rock and my redeemer. Amen.

MESSAGE *"The Journey: Joseph of Bethlehem"*

Rev. Deborah Lerner

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *"Love Came Down at Christmas"*

UMH #242

PRAYERS

PRAYER RESPONSE *"Away In a Manger"*

UMH #217 v. 3

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *"Gospel Magnificat"*

arr. Patti Drennan

Sanctuary Choir; Shirley Fiske, Alto Solo

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *"Angels We Have Heard on High" (refrain only)* UMH #238

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Liturgist

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** - In Unison

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.

***CLOSING HYMN** *"While Shepherds Watched their Flocks"*

UMH #236 vs. 1, 3, 4, 6

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE *"Angels from the Realms of Glory"*

arr. Rick Parks

If you would like personal prayer after the service, you are welcome to come to the Prayer Room. Our prayer ministers will meet you there. You can either tell them specifically what you would like prayer for, or simply give them your name, and they will pray for you.

Liturgist

Gail Colclough

The yellow rosebud today is in memory of Ruth Williams' birthday. Love, Jim and Mary Williams.

The red rosebud today is in memory of Oscar Walth's birthday. Love, Jim and Mary Williams.

(Continued on next page)