



# Welcome to Worship at Edgewood United Church, UCC

## If you are a visitor, welcome!

Here is some information to help you fully participate in worship:

- ♦ \* indicates that those who are willing and able are invited to stand.
- ♦ Hymns are sung from the hymnals located under the seats in the pews.
- ♦ We strive to make worship accessible to all people. There is a Braille hymnal and large print bulletins available from the ushers. There are listening devices for those who have hearing loss, and if you have a T-coil hearing aid, you can connect directly to our sound system through the hearing loop system.
- ♦ If you would like to learn more about Edgewood, fill out the yellow card in your pew and turn it in during the “Gathering of Gifts and Tithes.”
- ♦ You are invited to wear a nametag, and probably received one already! To get a permanent nametag, take your sticky tag and put it on the red banner on the nametag table. Your new nametag will be waiting there for you next Sunday.

## If you have children (or are a child), welcome!

Edgewood is a vibrant, safe community for all ages. Children and youth are welcome to remain in worship with their family or attend church school. There are activity bags available as you enter the sanctuary.

### Church School and Child Care Schedule:

- ♦ Childcare for infants through preschool is provided for the whole service, also in the East Wing. There is a paging system for parents to stay connected.
- ♦ “After Care” for young children is available every Sunday after worship until noon in the Elementary Room in the East Wing. Parents need to sign their children in and out.
- ♦ Church School for grades K-5 each Sunday after “Children’s Worship.” Classrooms are in the East Wing. You can accompany your child to class, if you like, and then return to worship.
- ♦ Edgewood’s youth program gathers regularly Sunday mornings in the youth room (down the East Wing Hallway).

**No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here.**

## Edgewood United Church

469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing, MI 48823

*A Just Peace ~ Open & Affirming ~ Environmental Justice Church*  
(517) 332-8693 ~ FAX (517) 332-7154 ~ Web Site: [www.edgewooducc.org](http://www.edgewooducc.org)



Please remember these members of our church family with cards this week.

**Margaret Brattin**  
1427 Culebra Avenue  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

**Bob Cook**  
Friendship Manor, Apt. 317  
200 Friendship Ct., Lansing. 48912

**Bob Gibbs**  
2090 Gibbs Rd.  
Traverse City 49696

**Michael Jost**  
Burcham Hills, Room 100  
E. Lansing 48823

**Randy Liliemark**  
200 Westbrook Ct, Maplewood of Marshall  
Marshall, MI 49068

**Louise Sternberg**  
Brookdale Pinecrest, Apt. 2311  
1150 8th AV SW  
Largo, FL 33770

**Carolyn Thomas**  
C/O 7131 Willow Woods Circle  
Lansing, MI 48917



**Edgewood United Church Mission Covenant**  
Edgewood United Church, United Church of Christ, affirms that a loving and sustaining God is still speaking and creating. Following the life, spirit and teaching of Jesus, we welcome all as we commit to do justice and love kindness and walk humbly with God.

**Ministers:** Every Member

**Pastor:** Liz Miller, ext. 205  
[pastorliz@edgewooducc.org](mailto:pastorliz@edgewooducc.org)

**Christian Education Coordinator:**  
**Web Communication Assistant:** Emily Barr, ext. 208  
[emily@edgewooducc.org](mailto:emily@edgewooducc.org)

**Youth Ministry Coordinator:** Marcia Beer, 517-375-2977  
[marcia@edgewooducc.org](mailto:marcia@edgewooducc.org)

**Office Administrator:** Cindy Winter, ext. 201  
[cindy@edgewooducc.org](mailto:cindy@edgewooducc.org)

**Faith Community Nurse:** Leah Cohen, ext. 206  
[faithnurse@edgewooducc.org](mailto:faithnurse@edgewooducc.org)

**Digital Communications Intern:** LeeAnna White  
[intern@edgewooducc.org](mailto:intern@edgewooducc.org)

**Bookkeeper:** Nancy Lynn, ext. 203  
[accountant@edgewooducc.org](mailto:accountant@edgewooducc.org)

**Facilities Manager:** Farid Rafizadeh  
[facilitiesmanager@edgewooducc.org](mailto:facilitiesmanager@edgewooducc.org)

**Adult Choir Director:** Monty Bieber

**Ringing, Singing & Jammin’ Directors:**  
Marcia Beer and JoAnn Hubbard

**Youth Music Director:** Marcia Beer

**Bell Choir Directors:** JoAnn Hubbard & Kayla Cicola

**Organists:** Mary Ann Baumgartner & Elizabeth Clarke

**Child Care Coordinator:** Amanda Kennedy  
517-803-7237 or [amandakennedy826@gmail.com](mailto:amandakennedy826@gmail.com)

MISSION MOMENT

OFFERING INVITATION

GATHERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

\*PRESENTING OUR GIFTS *My Soul Gives Glory to My God*  
**My God has done great things for me:**  
    Yes, holy is God's name.  
**All people will declare me blessed,**  
    and blessings they shall claim.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of justice and joy, we make this offering knowing that it is acceptable not only because there are those who need our gifts, but also because You have called us to be givers. Bless these donations and multiply them by your Holy Spirit so that they may be a gift of joy to those who receive them. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*Now Bless The God of Israel*

#110

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Still, Still, Still*

Arr. Sherry B. Bingham

Ada Kidd

L. Couperin

#119, vs. 2

MEDITATION

*"And that is the wonder of all wonders, that God loves the lowly.... God is not ashamed of the lowliness of human beings. God marches right in. He chooses people as his instruments and performs his wonders where one would least expect them. God is near to lowliness; he loves the lost, the neglected, the unseemly, the excluded, the weak and broken."*

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *God is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas*

PRELUDE

*Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

Elizabeth Clarke

Arr. Sally DeFord

WORDS OF WELCOME

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Leader: "In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people'" (Luke 2:8-10).

Patti Spinner, Joya and Sam

People: **Today we remember the shepherds, workers for the common good, steadfast watchmen isolated and alone, far from the warmth of home, doing the job no one wants. And yet God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them alone.**

Leader: Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, back-breaking laborers on whom our economy stands, those we overlook or rarely see, yet rely on for our very survival, the ones who have much to teach us about watching for God through the dark night.

People: **On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the third candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and redeemers of the world.**

*The candle of JOY is lit.*

\*PASSING THE PEACE

Ben Pineda

Leader: May our weary souls find rest as we say to one another, "Peace be with you."  
People: **"And also with you."**

*You are invited to share words of welcome and peace with those around you.*

\*HYMN

*With Joy Draw Water*

#109

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**We gather, O God, in this worship space mindful of your presence. We are here to rejoice as we wait to see your glory. Help us proclaim the joy you promise. In this hour of worship we ask that you bless us through the inspiration of your Holy Spirit and through the stories of Christ's ministry among us. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

*Following Children's Time, children are invited to attend Church School. If they would like to remain in worship, children are always welcome to stay throughout the whole service.*

### PROPHETCY

#### SCRIPTURE

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

#### CHOIR

*There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob*  
Edgewood Adult Choir

Mendelssohn

### BIRTH

#### POEM

*When the world was Dark*

Iona Community

#### CHOIR

*In Silent Night*

M. Southall

### STAR

#### SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-15

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'

#### CHOIR

*Out of the Orient Crystal Skies*

R. Zgodava

#### SHARED PRAYERS

#### PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYER

#### DISCIPLES' PRAYER

*Please feel free to pray this, or any other, version which is familiar to you:*

**Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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 yours is the dominion and the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

#### \*HYMN

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

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### MYSTERY

#### SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for God is my strength and my might; God has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day: Give thanks, call on God's name; make known God's deeds among the nations; proclaim that God's name is exalted. Sing praises, for God has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

#### CHOIR

*O Magnum Mysterium*

M. Lauridsen

#### POEM

WELCOME  
*Star-Giving*

Ann Weems

#### CHOIR

*Where Shepherds Lately Knelt*  
Gaile Griffore, flute

C. Courtney