



## Advent 2016

On November 27, a new Christian year begins with the season of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for the gift of God's unconditional love celebrated at Christmas. We invite you to our regular services of worship each Sunday as well as the special events of the season listed below.

### Sunday Worship Services

#### Lighting of the Candles on the Advent Wreath

In the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season it's sometimes hard to find the time to focus on this precious time of year, when we most want to slow time down ... to enjoy our time with family and friends ... time to reflect on the Christ in Christmas.

This Advent Season we invite you to join us each Sunday and make worship a priority as we explore the Christmas story in each of the Gospels.

We'll share familiar music and rituals, scriptures and messages that offer encouragement and hope as we truly seek to worship Christ.

#### Our Advent Sermon Series & Christmas Eve Christmas according to the Gospels

##### First Sunday in Advent, November 27

###### Christmas according to Mark

8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary - Rev. Andy Smith Preaching  
11 a.m. in the FLC - Rev. Tracey Beadle Preaching

##### Second Sunday in Advent, December 4

###### Christmas according to Matthew

8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary - Rev. Andy Smith Preaching  
11 a.m. in the FLC - Rev. Tracey Beadle Preaching

##### Third Sunday in Advent, December 11

###### Christmas according to Luke - Pastor Tracey ~ according to John - Pastor Andy

8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary - Rev. Andy Smith Preaching  
11 a.m. in the FLC - Rev. Tracey Beadle Preaching

##### Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 18

###### Christmas according to John

8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary - Adult Choir Cantata  
11 a.m. in the FLC - Rev. Tracey Beadle Preaching



### Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, 2016 ~ 10 a.m.

#### One Service Only ~ Sanctuary

Rev. Andy Smith Preaching

Come as you are (Pajamas are welcome)

Cup Cakes provided in celebration of Jesus Birthday

### Sunday, December 11 - 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary

#### Children's Choir Musical "An Unplugged Christmas" by Susie Williams

Lyndsey, Nathan and their friends are excited because the local TV station is having a contest for the biggest, brightest Christmas show ever! They have planned a great show to impress the secret judge with lots of lights and a rockin' carol medley. All goes well, until - BAM! - the lights go out and the quiet of one small shining star reminds them that Jesus is the true light of Christmas. Join the members of the children's choir as they share this special presentation.



### Sunday, December 18 - 8:30/11 a.m., Sanctuary

#### Choir Christmas Cantata "What Sweeter Music" by John Leavitt



What Sweeter Music

"What Sweeter Music" is a colorful tapestry of sound incorporating carols that are unique and intriguing. Members and friends of the Sanctuary Choir along with soloists and instrumentalists will help prepare the congregation for Christmas with this cantata which includes "Veni, Veni, Emmanuel," "People, Look East," "The Angel Gabriel," and many other joyous carols.



## Christmas Eve Worship

### Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m. ☆ Christmas Eve Service ☆ in the Sanctuary  
Kim Carroll preaching

Celebration for Families ~ Children's Nativity Pageant, Family Favorite Carols, Youth-led Music and Liturgy, and Silent Night with Glow Sticks..

7:00 p.m. ☆ Christmas Eve Service ☆ in the Sanctuary  
Carols, Communion and Candlelight

Rev. Andy Smith preaching ~ Christmas according to Luke

A celebration of the birth of our Messiah with scripture, carols and special music. Holy Communion will be served and the service will end with candlelight.

9:00 p.m. ☆ Christmas Eve Service ☆ in Family Life Center  
Rev. Tracey Beadle preaching ~ Life on the Road  
A service of Communion & Candlelight

11:30 p.m. ☆ Christmas Eve Service ☆ in the Sanctuary  
Rev. Andy Smith preaching  
Condensed Communion & Candlelight

## Special Events

### Youth Tree Lot Opens November 25

Buy your tree at Manchaca UMC and support our youth! Proceeds benefit our Youth Ministries including mission trips and spiritual retreats. Take pictures with our photo props, drink hot chocolate, and add your prayer or Christmas wish to the Tree of Hope.

### Reverse Advent Calendar

Join in a church-wide effort to focus on the needs of others during this holiday season! Grab an empty box and count down the days to Christmas by filling the box with donations to various mission projects.

### Sunday, November 27 ☆ 6:00 & 6:30 p.m. ☆ Live Nativity

Kick off the Advent season by celebrating the coming of Jesus with a Live Nativity presented by our children and youth. Enjoy hot chocolate, live animals and petting zoo, Christmas carols, and the story of Jesus' birth!

### Sundays, November 27 - December 18 (4 – 5:30 p.m.) or

### Wednesdays, November 30 - December 21 (10 –11:30 p.m.)

**Awaiting the Already: An Advent Journey Through the Gospels** In this Advent study, Pastor Andy will take us on a tour through the Gospel narratives to encounter a fresh experience of the birth of Christ! Cost: \$10 for the book.

### Mondays, November 28 – December 19 ☆ 7:00-8:30 p.m. ☆ Mary Had a Baby:

#### An Advent Study based on African American Spirituals

You'll listen to the music of four spirituals, examine related Scripture, and discuss biblical, historical, and contextual themes in a fun and interactive setting! Cost: \$10, Led by Mark Hixon.

### Saturday, December 3 ☆ 8:00–10:00 a.m. ☆ CDC Breakfast with Santa ☆ Family

**Life Center** ~ This event is an "all you can eat" breakfast fundraiser. Pancakes, sausage, milk, juice and coffee will be served, Santa will be available for pictures and the Children's Ministry Team will provide Christmas crafts for the children to make. Tickets may be purchased in advance through the CDC office: \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Tickets purchased at the door: \$11.00 adults and \$6.00 for children.

### Sunday, December 4 ☆ 6:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. ☆ Movies in the Tree Lot

MUMC Youth are hosting a free outdoor movie night. Join us for the pre-show at 6 p.m. with the classic, "A Charlie Brown Christmas." The feature film, "Elf" will begin around 6:30 p.m. Popcorn will be provided!

### Thursday, December 8 ☆ 11:30 a.m. ☆ Sunshine Cafe with Sing-Along

Seniors and other adults are invited to attend a fun lunch and Christmas Carol Sing-Along. We'll gather to eat at 11:30, followed by singing, games and other activities.

RSVP to [estedl-waterm@mhm.org](mailto:estedl-waterm@mhm.org) or to the message recorder at 512-666-5785.

### Saturday, December 10 ☆ 10:00 a.m. ☆ Caring Kids Go Caroling

Families with children of all ages are invited to sing and make crafts with the residents at Marbridge.

### Sunday, December 11 ☆ 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. ☆ Youth Trip to Main Street Bethlehem in Burnet, TX

~ The youth will travel to Burnet to visit their Main Street Bethlehem. This event, put on by the town's people of Burnet, is like time traveling back to that night when Jesus was born. Please let Claire know if you would like to go with the youth.

### Sunday, December 18 ☆ 3:00 p.m. ☆ All-Church Caroling

Everyone is invited to share the warmth of Christmas by caroling to some of our friends and neighbors in the area. We'll gather in the hospitality area at 2:45 p.m. to divide into groups and begin our trek about 3 p.m. There will be several caroling stops then we'll return to the church between 4:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. When we return to church, we'll share stories of our adventures while enjoying some snacks.



2016

## Advent Schedule of Events

MANCHACA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Check out our website at [www.ManchacaUMC.org](http://www.ManchacaUMC.org) for further details.

Childcare is available for **all worship services**  
and by reservation for other events.

Please call: (512)282-7274 x330 or email: [childcare@ManchacaUMC.org](mailto:childcare@ManchacaUMC.org)