Bringing Forward God’s Tithes and Our Gifts

\*Doxology **# 95 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all Creatures here below;** **praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

\*Singing Our Faith # **224** *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*

\*Blessing and Dismissal

\*Postlude

**Scatter to Serve God & Neighbor**

*Welcome to all! We gather to praise God for the innumerable blessings given to us and to grow deeper in the Spirit. Joyfully, let us lift our hearts to God.*





*C* *hestnut Hill*

 ***United Methodist Church***



*Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

*You are welcome at Chestnut Hill UMC.*

4660 Fort Avenue ~ Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

Church: 434-239-8423

Minister’s Cell: 434-944-7723, Minister’s Email: awhite@ves.org

Associate Minister’s Cell: 1-502-489-0200

Associate Minister’s Email: healingsolutions12@gmail.com

Email: chestnuthillumc@comcast.net

On the Web at chestnuthillumc.net

Find us on Facebook: Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church

 *Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church*

 10:30 a.m. ~ December 31, 2023 ~ First Sunday after Christmas

Our ministry vision for the Virginia Annual Conference is ***“to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners, who influence others to serve.”***

***Welcome! Join us in worshiping God!***

Prelude

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

*Welcome in the name of Christ our Lord. Please register your attendance, printing your name, address, phone, and email, on the attendance pad provided on your pew. Thank you for silencing cell phones as we gather to worship God.*

Invocation

\*Greeting

(based on Psalm 147:1, 3-5, 7)

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

**He heals the brokenhearted,**

**binding up their wounds.**

He counts the stars,

and calls them each by name.

**How great is our God!**

**His power is absolute,**

**and his understanding, beyond comprehension.**

So come, sing out your thanksgiving to God.

Offer to God that worship that belongs to Him alone!

\*Singing Our Faith **# 246** *“Joy to the World”*

\*Opening Prayer

**Holy God, thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you that you are able to bring hope through even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purposes. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your mercy and grace. Thank you that you are always with us and will never leave us. Thank you for your incredible sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy! In Jesus' Name, Amen.** ([Debbie McDaniel](https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/debbie-mcdaniel/the-power-of-a-grateful-heart-21-verses-of-thanksgiving.html))

Special Music

Greeting Friends and Neighbors

Prayer for Illumination Heather Wilson

**Calm us now, O God, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. Amen.**

Scripture Lessons: Psalm 147:13-20; John 1:1-18 Heather Wilson

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Singing Our Faith **# 249** *“There’s a Song in the Air”*

The Good News ***“Back in the Box”***

***\*\*Calendar \*\****

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Monday, 1/1 |  | **Happy New Year**Church Office Closed |
|  |  |  |
| Saturday, 1/6 | 9:30 a.m. | *Un-decorating Church*Let Judy Robertson know if you can help. |

***\*\*Looking Ahead on the Calendar \*\****

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday, 1/7 | 10:00 a.m. | *Choir* |

**Congratulations…**

Congratulations to our pastor, *Rev. Adam White* on his marriage to *Jeanmarie Martinko* on Sunday, December 24th. Best wishes from Chestnut Hill UMC.

**For the Grocery Cart:**

**December ~** Canned vegetables, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, rice, cranberry sauce, and any other side dish to make a great holiday meal.

**January ~** Pop-top cans of meats, soups, pasta dishes, vegetables, and body wash.

Place donations in the grocery cart, located in the Commons.

**Christmas Offering**

We have set a goal of $7,500.00 for our Christmas offering. 45% will go toward congregational fellowship fund; 45% will go toward padded chairs for fellowship hall; and 10% will go toward Park View Missions. Envelopes are provided in the pew racks.

**Mitten Tree Trunk**

We are collecting mittens, gloves, scarfs, caps, and socks. These can be brought to church any time in December.

**Cards for Homebound Members**

Please take a moment to sign the cards for our homebound members/friends that Erin has placed in the Commons.

**Estimate of Giving for 2024**

Please remember to fill out the **“tear off”** pledge, that has been provided in the December newsletter or use a card that has been placed in the Commons, and send to CHUMC or put it in the weekly offering plate during December so that we have your pledge by the end of December. We plan to have a luncheon after church in February to celebrate our statement of faith to support the ministries of CHUMC.





***DIRECTORY OF CHESTNUT HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sue Haupert-Johnson |  Richmond Area Resident Bishop |
| Denise Bates | Mountain View District Superintendent |
| Adam White | Minister |
| Erin Long | Associate Minister |
| Monica Campbell | Administrative Assistant |
| Heather Wilson | Director of Music Ministry |
| Judy Martin |  Bookkeeper |
| Judy RobertsonElizabeth Nichols | Lay Leader Missionary in Henry County |

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