United Methodist Church of Yucaipa

Worship Service on December 22, 2024 – 9:30 am *Stand as you are able

Hymn Singraise your hand with a favorite hymn numberPreludeColeen DolinskyGreetings and AnnouncementsLaurie Pertile

Advent Candle Lighting

Brian and Jeanine Porter

*Call to Worship

(Each line represents the themes of the four Gospels in order)

L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

- P: On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.
- L: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.
- P: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" # 238 (vs 1-3)

Passing of the Peace Joys and Concerns

Unison Prayer

O Jesus, Immanuel, how good it is that you are in our lives! You are the shining star that casts out darkness from our path. You are the fountain of exceeding joy that keeps us singing praises. You quench our thirst and fill our every longing with life-giving water. Your gentle touch transforms

thorny affairs into a beautiful flower garden. You brought the glory of heaven and everlasting peace unto us on Christmas day. O Jesus, God's begotten Son, may this life of happiness in you last forever. Amen.

Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

Young at Heart Moments Deb Davidson
Hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night" # 239 (vs 1-3)

Scripture Reading Luke 1:46-56

Message Rev. Phillips Whang

"Despite it All"

The Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings Offertory

Offertory Chancel Choir
*Doxology # 94

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Hymn** "Joy to the World" # 246 (vs 1-3)

*Benediction

*Taking the Light of Christ into the World

*Congregational Response "Go Now In Peace" Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen. Amen.

Despite it All

The angel Gabriel came to Mary and announced the great news that the Son of the Most High God was coming into the world. It was unquestionably joyous news, but Mary was deeply troubled. This would mean many drastic changes to her planned wedding and the course of her life. The Gospels do not specify out how old Mary was, but most Christian historians agree that she was probably around sixteen. Even at her young age, Mary was very mature and was a devout believer in God. But the idea of pregnancy outside of wedlock was shocking. It would immediately break her engagement with her fiancé, Joseph. The rule of Moses dictated a death sentence for a betrothed virgin with that was pregnant from someone else. Joseph's proud and old-fashioned family would not have tolerated this, and Mary would have lived in shame for the rest of her life. However, the Gospel of Luke says that her troubled heart soon changed into elation. Mary praised the Lord, saying "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior" (Luke 1:46-47). What happened in Mary's heart still happens to those who receive Jesus. The impregnated peace and joy of Jesus rules in the hearts of believers, irrespective of human understanding and mounting problems. Receive Jesus and experience Immanuel (God with us) with joy and peace this Christmas.

United Methodist Church of Yucaipa "The House of Faith"

35177 Beech Ave., Yucaipa, CA 92399 (909) 797-1143

Rev. Phillips Whang www.yucaipamethodist.org office@yucaipamethodist.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Please pray for:

The Brown Family in the loss of Darlene Brown;
Judy Salveson's brother Matthew Buckley;
Darlene Coleman; Bruce & Linda Crabtree;
Helen Davis; Steve Dyerly; Kenny Lingle
and his brother-in-law Pat Fletcher;
The Family of Nancy Greening;
David Brown's sister Melissa Higginson;
Kenny Lingle's former Pastor Terri Hill

and friends Alice and Dr John Calleja; Alicia Medina: Rachael Moore: Lorene Muñoz: The Barretts in the loss of brother Ruben Penalosa, Jr.; The Popejoy Family in the loss of Lorraine; Jerry Puah in Hospice care: The Family of Nancy Reitzler: Lauren Schafer: Ralph Snook; Allison Spiegel; Larry Stiff; George Weeks; The Ray Wilson family; Arlon Woodlee; Pastor Phillips Whana: District Superintendent Rev. Moonvoung Lee: Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank; the Church; our nation and our world. Please pray for our brothers and sisters at Saint Andrews UMC in Santa Maria. Please pray for growth in our churches and a return to worship. Please pray for all the victims of war and natural disasters.

> If you have additions or corrections to the prayer list, please contact the office.

Pray for peace.

Here's what is happening at Yucaipa UMC!

Our Christmas Eve Candleight Service will be held December 24th at 7:00 pm

Free Saturday Movies!
"Miracles from Heaven"
January 4th at 11 am
Doors open at 10:30 am
Shown in Faith Theater 2

The January Pastor's lunch
will be held on January 8th, 2025
at noon at Legend China 8 in Calimesa.
The cost will be \$15.00. Please sign up for the luncheon at the
Scrip table in Fellowship Hall or call the church office.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Check the website (<u>www.yucaipamethodist.org</u>)
for information and remember to keep in contact
with one another. If you have an email that
the church does not have, please let the office know.