

**3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
January 22, 2023**

PRELUDE/GATHERING Jerrie Sue Massengale
ANNOUNCEMENTS Buddy Butler
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST

A TIME OF CENTERING *In the Presence of Jehovah/Like a River Glorious* Jerrie Sue Massengale

CALL TO WORSHIP Buddy Butler

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 892

Our heavenly Father, who by thy love hast made us, and through thy love hast kept us, and in thy love wouldst make us perfect: We humbly confess that we have not loved thee with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ hath loved us. Thy life is within our souls, but our selfishness hath hindered thee. We have not lived by faith. We have resisted thy Spirit. We have neglected thine inspirations. Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that thou mayest come into the full glory of thy creation, in us and in all the people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen *All pray in silence.* The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. If any one sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 110 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 887 Affirmation from Romans

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER, 895

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, for ever. Amen

HYMN, 514, v. 1-2 *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross; lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss. From victory unto victory his army shall he lead, till every foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey; forth to the mighty conflict, in this his glorious day. Ye that are brave now serve him against unnumbered foes; let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.

HYMN, 154, v. 1-2 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall, bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

*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 ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALTER, 758

Isaiah 9: 1-4

Psalms 27

Adam Turner

Ben Sexton

SECOND READING

I Corinthians 1: 8-31

Lynn Turner

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4: 12-23

*GLORIA PATRI, 70 **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

ANTHEM

He Grew the Tree

Choir

SERMON

"Our Focus"

Buddy Butler

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Charles Ferguson, Tom Canady

*HYMN OF INVITATION MEDLEY *Blest Be the Tie That Binds/Trust and Obey*
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word, what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will, he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey. Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

*SENDING FORTH

*FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD, TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO OUR COMMUNITY

*POSTLUDE *May the Road Rise to Meet You* Jerrie Sue Massengale

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind blow at your back, may the sun shine warmly on your face, may the rain fall softly on your field. And until we meet again, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen

*Congregation standing, as able

The **SPR Committee** will meet on Monday, January 23, at 6 p.m.

A **Church Council** meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24, at 6:30 p.m. in Legacy Hall.

The **Worship Committee** will meet on Wednesday, February 1, at 5 p.m.



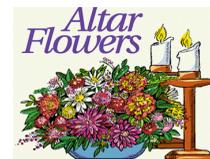
United
Women
in Faith

The February Meeting of United Women in Faith will be a Potluck Valentine's Lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 14. Please bring your spouse, significant other, or invite a friend! This will also be our Pledge Service.

Remaining pecan pieces, glazed and cinnamon glazed pecans have been reduced to \$10 per bag.

Thanks for supporting our charitable projects with your pecan purchases.

Contribution Statements for 2022 are available in the Narthex. Please pick yours up and save the church postage expense. Statements will be mailed after January 29.



The beautiful flowers on the Altar today are given by the Choir in honor of Jerrie Sue Massengale with much love and gratitude for her years of service providing us with beautiful music with which to worship our Lord and Savior. The Choir will also be making a donation to the Holston Home for Children in honor of Ben Sexton with thanks for his leadership.

Church Leadership
Pastor Gilbert "Buddy" Butler
Choir Director Ben Sexton
Accompanist Jerrie Sue Massengale
Secretary Heidi Rule
Custodian Christine Dowlin

Sunday Servants
Ushers Elaine Morgan, Ron Singleton
 Bill Simonds
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane

Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *Cathryn McCarter, *+Sheppie Dunn, Jeanne Kalchik, Hannah Geren, Bill Simonds, Glenda Simonds, Elaine Crowe, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

Homebound/Assisted Living: Emily Yaxley, ^Warrene Alexander

Others in our prayers: *the family of Garry Collis (late brother of Larry Collis), Bee Hicks (home from hospital), Byron Sexton (brother of Ben), Junior Gwynn (home from hospital after long stay—friend of the Massengales), ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine
 *new to concerns +Hospital or Rehab ^Assisted Living/Nursing Home ~ Hospice

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Concerns, please call the church office.

Cards for Elaine Crowe may be mailed to her home address:
 440 Hamby Road, Murphy, NC 28906. Elaine is now at home after rehab.

Birthdays
 24 Charles Stemmann

If your birthday or anniversary has not appeared in our listings please call the church office.

Upper Rooms for January – February are available in the Narthex today.

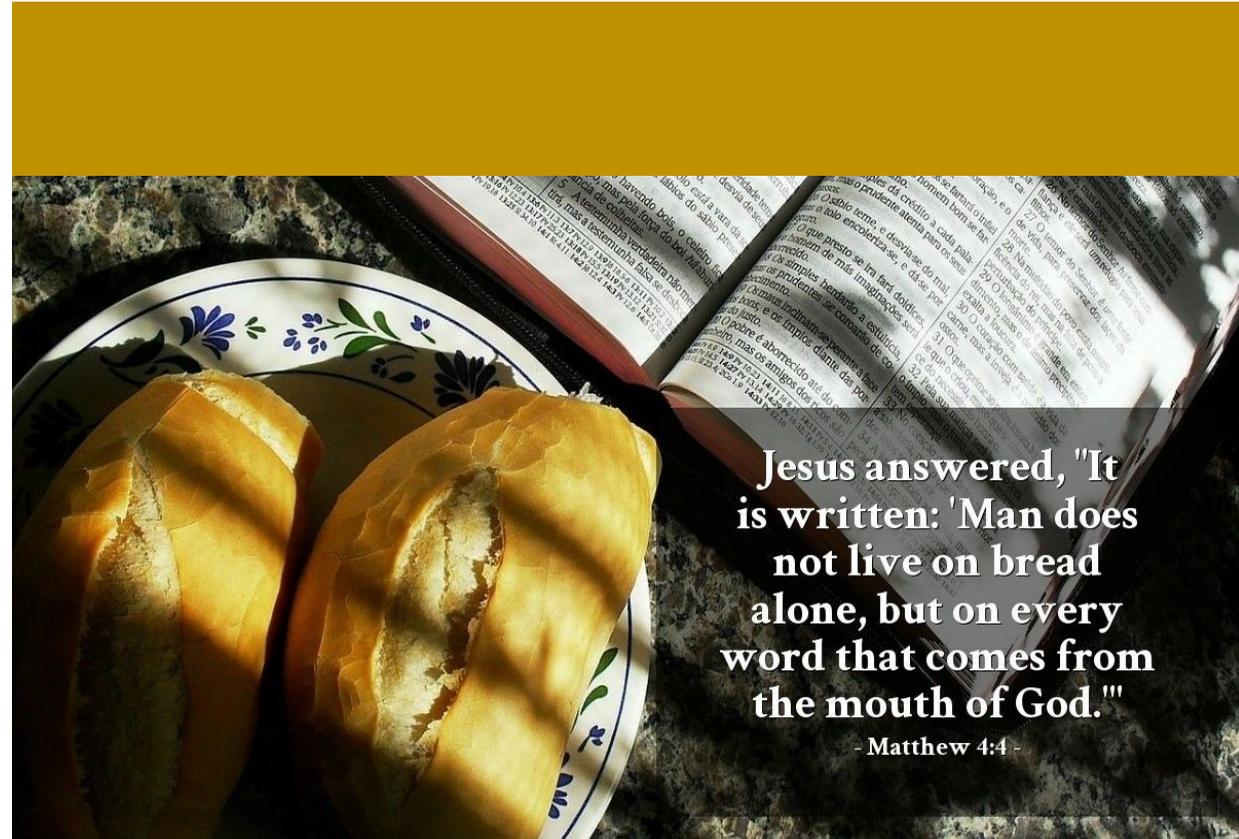
It's time for our **Annual Financial Audit**. All groups having checking accounts are asked to provide their 2022 bank statements and checkbooks to Sheppie Dunn by Sunday, January 29.

The Community Meal is held on Mondays, 4 to 6 p.m. 186 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact Community meal volunteers at 423-241-2282.

Calendar

Today	Monday	Wednesday
10:00 am Sunday School	4-6 pm Community Meal "To Go"	6:00 pm Choir Practice
11:00 am Worship	6:30 pm SPR Committee Meeting	Thursday
6:00 pm Life Group Meeting	Tuesday	6:00 pm AA Meeting
	6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	

Church: 423-496-4931 ♦ Parsonage: 423-548-6348 ♦ Pastor's Cell: 423-429-3820
 Email: firstumc@etcmail.com ♦ Website: fumc-copperhill.org
 Facebook: First United Methodist Church-Copperhill
 Secretary's Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Everyone Welcome!