

Epiphany Communion Liturgy

Leader: In that first moment, you spoke, Radiant God...Therefore, we will join our voices with the wise ones, as well as the foolish, of every time and place who forever sing of your grace:

People: Holy, holy, holy, God of bright dawns! All creation renders tributes of praise to you. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who saves the lives of the needy. Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Holy are you, God of redemption...

...So, as we remember his birth, as we prepare to journey with him this year, we speak of that mystery called faith, which is revealed to us through Christ:

People: Christ came, the morning star of love;

Christ died, the night star of salvation;

Christ arose, the radiant star of resurrection;

Christ will come again, the constellation of hope.

Prayer Over the Elements and the People

Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sending

Leader: Now, God sends us out by a different road.

People: So we may find those who have been left by the side of the world.

Leader: Now, Jesus walks with us down a different road.

People: So we may serve those who are lonely and frightened.

Leader: Now, the Spirit illumines a different road.

People: So we may take our sisters and brothers by the hand to walk in wonder and grace.

(adapted from a service by © Thom M. Shuman)

Gathering

Leader: We gather wondering, 'Where will we find the Babe born in Bethlehem?'

People: We will find the Babe in the laughter of children, in the wisdom of grandparents.

Leader: We gather asking, 'where will we find the Child of Christmas?'

People: We will find the Child where the needy are gifted with hope, where the oppressed are set free.

Leader: We gather wanting to know, 'where will we find the Christ who has come for us?'

People: We will find our Hope where fear is overwhelmed by grace, where hatred is overwhelmed by love, where all people are overwhelmed by joy.

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer for Forgiveness

Leader: We search for your light, Star Caster, ...We want the gifts of wealth, health, success, fulfillment, rather than those of servanthood, of compassion, of peace.

People: Forgive us, Shaper of our lives, that we are so foolish to put our needs ahead of your grace. Help us to be like those wise people of so long ago, who found hope, instead of a destination; who found grace, instead of gratitude; who found salvation, instead of a sign. As we journey with your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, fill us with the light of your joy and love.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Rejoice! Grace has been poured into our hearts, love has flooded our souls, the light of hope shines in us. This is the light which has come to all, the light we will carry and give to everyone we meet.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: People of Advent: the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: People of Christmas, lift up your hearts.

People: We lift our hearts overwhelmed with grace to the One who was born for us.

Leader: People of the Star, offer your songs of joy and thanksgiving to God.

People: We will sing our praises to the One who has revealed glory and hope in the Babe of Bethlehem.

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PRELUDE ✦ WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE

CALL TO WORSHIP :

Call: The light of God has come into the world, revealing Jesus in ways we did not expect.

Response: Jesus says, Come and see.

Call: Familiar paths look different when Christ walks ahead of us.

Response: Our eyes are opened in new ways, and we are forever changed.

Call: This is the season of Epiphany, when Christ is made known.

Response: We follow Christ and begin a new life shaped by his call.

OPENING PRAYER : God of light and life, in this season of Epiphany you meet us where we are and invite us to see more clearly who Jesus is. Open our eyes to your presence, our ears to your call, and our hearts to the ways you are already at work among us. As we worship today, give us the courage to follow the light you place before us, not knowing all that lies ahead, but trusting the One who calls us by name. Amen.

OPENING HYMN : Hymnal 246 *Joy to the World*

PASSING THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC : *Christmas Carol* Hymn Sing

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE : John 1: 35-51 (NLT)

SERMON : Lamb of God with Pastor Eva Marie Wolfe

OFFERING ✦ DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: God of light and truth, you call us to follow Christ and to see the world more clearly. As we offer our gifts today, we also offer our trust and our willingness to live differently because of what we have seen. Take these gifts and use them to shape lives and serve neighbors. Make your purposes visible to others through what we give, as signs of your grace and instruments of your renewal. Amen.

PRAYER HYMN : Hymnal 256 Vs. 1, 2, 5 *The First Noel*

PRAYERS AND PRAISES

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN : Hymnal 206 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

BENEDICTION ✦ POSTLUDE

Announcements

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2026 are available at the Welcome Desk if you would like one!

NEW STUDY All are invited to join for a new study beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 7th at 9am in the Solid Rock Cafe. We will follow the book "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis which can be purchased on Amazon or discount book websites such as ThriftBooks or AbeBooks. You can join this study anytime, even if you have to miss some weeks! Please have letters 1-3 read for the first meeting on Jan. 7th

CHILDREN IN HAITI Want to help the kids at the Borde school? For \$144 per year or \$12 per month, you can make sure a child in Haiti gets both an education and nutritious meals during the school year. Please see the booth outside the Centrum to help!

OUR DAILY BREAD We will be singing on Jan. 8th at 11am.

The next get-together for our *new* **CARD PLAYING GROUP** will be Thursday, Jan. 8th at 1pm in the Solid Rock Cafe at Shawnee UMC. Invite your friends, bring your favorite card or board games, and a snack to share if you'd like! All are welcome!

OUR SAMARITAN HOUSE goCO will meet twice during the month of January. On Tuesday, Jan. 13th, we'll have a time of planning and fellowship at Freda's Family Diner (320 S Cable Rd) at 11:30am. Our serving event will be Tuesday, January 27 at 5:30pm where we will serve dinner to the ladies and children at The Samaritan House. All women are welcome to join at either event!

Shawnee and Trinity UMCs will be holding a joint **CONFIRMATION CLASS** in 2026. All youth 7th grade and up are welcome to participate. We plan to have four class sessions along with visits to other places of worship. The first session will be held on January 17. Please let Lisa or Kyle know if you would like to participate as a confirmand or an adult mentor.



Healing Strings every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Centrum.
Connections every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM in the Solid Rock Cafe.
Sing-a-Longs every 1st Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM at Our Daily Bread.

Don't forget to check in on Church Center!

Upcoming Dates

01.07 - "The Screwtape Letters" book study 9am
01.07 - Connections 6:00pm
01.08 - Singing at Our Daily Bread 11am
01.08 - Card Playing Group 1pm
01.13 - Samaritan House goCo planning and fellowship at Freda's Family Diner (320 S Cable Rd) 11:30am.
01.14 - Healing Strings 6:30pm
01.17 - 1st Confirmation Class

Giving

VANCO give through our website
www.shawneeumchurch/giving

GIVELIFY download the app and locate Shawnee UMC



VENMO



STRIPE



shawnee

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 4, 2026 ✦ 9:30am Worship

✦ Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

✦ Our Vision

Shawnee UMC is on a spiritual journey to connect people with God and one another, equip disciples to do the Lord's work in this world, and restore our community, one heart, one home, and one neighborhood at a time, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

✦ Our Values

Community, Inclusion, Respect, Compassion, Service

Youth Ministries

The Nursery Infants - 3 yrs. Old 9:30am and 11:00am

Roots Kids Ministry Preschool - 4th grade meet in Centrum at 11:00am

Quest Sunday School 5th grade and above meet in Centrum at 11:00am

For More Information:

Lisa Wackler Director of Family Ministry 614-746-9465 kidsminlisa@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: Shawnee & Trinity UMC Youth Group

Sign up for Remind: text @ygsumctumc to 81010

Meet Our Pastors

Rev. Dr. Eva Marie Wolfe Lead Pastor

Call : 740-400-0772

PastorEm@ShawneeUM.church

In the office : Tues., Wed., & Thurs.

Pastor Lori Wright Associate Pastor

Call : 419-991-4806 Ext. 109

Lori@ShawneeUM.church

In the office : Tues., & Wed.

BEHOLD

The Disruptive Nature of Jesus

☎ 419-991-4806



www.ShawneeUM.church



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