

Epiphany Sunday - January 4, 2026

Liturgical Color - White

Traditional Service - 10:30 am

The flowers gracing the sanctuary
are given to the Glory of God
by the Elder Care Ministry.

Light-Dark
Matthew 2:1-12

**Please stand as you are able*

Prelude

Noël for a Sunday After Christmas

Alexis Chauvet (1837-1871)

Welcome and Announcements

***Greeting Our Neighbor**

Call to Worship

The Lord has declared victory,
and has shown vindication in the sight of the nations.
Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

***Opening Hymn UMH 245**

The First Noel

***Affirmation of Faith UMH 881**

Apostles' Creed

***Gloria in Excelsis Deo UMH 238 (refrain)**

Scripture

Isaiah 60:1-6

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Offertory

Three Kings from Persian Lands

Gustav Holst

In Bethlehem, that noble place, of Virgin Mary, full of grace, within a stable all forlorn, the Saviour of the World is born. Refrain: Be we merry in this feast, In quo Salvator natus est [in which the Savior Christ is born]. Three Kings from Persian lands afar following the distant star: And this the quest of travellers three, Where the new-born king may be. Refrain: The star shines out with steadfast ray, The kings to Bethlehem make their way; And there in worship they bend the knee, Unto the child they'd come to see. Refrain: The star of mercy, the star of grace, Shall lead thy heart to its resting-place: Gold, incense, myrrh thou cannot bring So give thy heart unto the King. Refrain.

***Doxology**

See Insert, tune of O Come Emmanuel

***Scripture**

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

Light-Dark

***Hymn of Preparation UMH 254**

We Three Kings (st.1)

Sacrament of Holy Communion UMH 12

***Hymn of Dedication W&S 3051**

A Star Shone Bright

***Mission Statement**

"We are a welcoming community of faith, committed to loving God and loving others, serving Christ and sharing Him, transforming lives and making disciples."

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response UMH 671**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;

Let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.

O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Postlude

The First Noel

arr. John Carter

(Persons are invited to be seated for the postlude.)

L e a d i n g i n W o r s h i p T o d a y

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Scott Alford, Executive Minister

Liturgist: Rev. Tim Carpenter, Senior Pastor

Music Director: Rev. Todd Wilson, Minister of Music

Organist/Pianist: Dr. André Duvall, Associate Director of Music

Lay Reader: Call to Worship: Harrison Coverdale | Scripture: Debbie Wiles

Acolyte: Adele Dempsey

Chancel Choir

Welcome to Germantown United Methodist Church!

If you are visiting us today, we hope you find a meaningful time of worship and a welcoming community of faith. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know more about membership, we would be happy to talk with you. For more information, contact Mary Groh at 754-7216 or mgroh@germantownumc.org.

Please fill out the registration of attendance found in the pew and leave it attached to the pad or scan the QR code below.



A n n o u n c e m e n t s

We would like to express a heartfelt thank you to Edith Taylor and her family for loaning us her hand-carved Nativity made in Romania, that we use yearly in the sanctuary. *Glory be to God!*

2026 Sanctuary Flowers Requests: Don't forget to request your dates for Sunday sanctuary flowers for 2026. Following Sunday worship, flowers are rearranged into smaller florals and then delivered to our homebound members. Flowers for the sanctuary remain a treasured way to enhance worship, while honoring or remembering a loved one, celebrating a birthday or anniversary, or honoring a friend. For more information or to select a date, please visit our website www.germantownumc.org, click on the "Sign Up & Events" menu to the far right and choose "Communication Hub" in the drop-down list, scroll down to "Forms" near the bottom, then choose "Sanctuary Flowers Form" or call Lisa Bell at OLEC 753-3100.

M i n i s t r y , N e w s a n d E v e n t s

For more information about events listed below, visit our website: germantownumc.org

Interested in an event that requires registration? Click "Sign Up & Events" at the top of the page.

Owings Life Enrichment Center (OLEC), 901-753-3100

*Gordon Kelly, Director of Health & Recreation,
gkelly@germantownumc.org*

*Kim Marsh, Assistant Director of Health & Recreation,
kmarsh@germantownumc.org*

Pickleball this week:

Daytime: Mon. 12 pm-3 pm, Tues.-Fri. 9 am-12 pm,
Nighttime: No nighttime pickleball until after the first
of the year due to basketball practices.

Try one of our group exercise classes:

Gentle Yoga: Mon., Wed. 3:30-4:30 pm

Vinyasa Yoga: Mon., Wed. 2-3 pm

Senior Fitness Walk Fit: Tues. 10-11 am

Senior Fitness Chair Class: Thurs. 10-11 am

Fit 4 Mom Stroller Strides: Mon. Wed., Fri.,
9:30-10:45 am.

Stroller Barre: Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:30-10:45 am

Body Boost: Mon. night, 6:15-7:15 pm.

Strides 360/Body Ignite: Wed. night, 6:15-7:15 pm

Hatha Yoga: Mon. 6:30 -7:30 pm.

Open Gym times: Please call the OLEC office to
check for available times. *Open Gym times are for
church members only. * Guests must purchase a
\$10.00 pass.

United Methodist Men

Men's Breakfast Saturday, January 10, at 8 am in
the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. The speaker for this
month is Rev. Tina Morrison, Director of Hannah's
Hope. Breakfast is \$7.50 per person. Reservations
required. Reservations should be made before
Wednesday, January 7, by calling the church at
901-754-7216, or stop by the Welcome Center. We
will be receiving annual membership fees of \$100,
due at the breakfast.

Germantown United Women in Faith (GUWF)

Stephanie Adams, President, women@germantownumc.org

Christmas Items Needed: Methodist Healthcare
Auxiliary is in need of gently used Christmas items to
be sold at MHA's annual sale next November. These
items may be Christmas linens, figurines, serving
pieces, ornaments, gift bags, tins, and craft items.
Collection bins will be set up in the hallway, behind
Fellowship hall, in front of the kitchen, through
January 31. Contact Elaine Fetzer at
elaine.fetzer@gmail.com with questions.

Youth

*Chloe Granberry, Director of Youth Ministries;
cgranberry@germantownumc.org*

Sunday Morning Trek: Students in grades 6-12 are
invited to join us in the Oasis at the OLEC at 9 am for
snacks, games, and discussion!

Element: Element is over for the semester!

High School Prayer Breakfast: Prayer breakfast is over
for the semester! Have a wonderful Christmas break!

Synergy and Synago: Synergy/Synago is over for the
semester!

Stay Informed: Check us out on Instagram
(@gumcyouthmin) or like us on Facebook (GUMC Youth
Ministry) to keep up with our activities and
announcements. Please visit our GUMC webpage and
sign up for youth emails for more details.

Older Adult Ministry

Luci Cromer, 901-755-0803, luci2@comcast.net.

Our activities are open to all adults age 55 and older.

Full event descriptions may be found in The Tidings.

January Brown Bag Lunch Series! Daniel Irwin,
Director of Public Relations and Outreach for the
Better Business Bureau of the Mid-South, will discuss
"AI-related Scams and Local Deep Fakes." This
presentation will be on **Friday, Jan. 9, 2026** in the
Fellowship Hall. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A
CHANGE IN DATE.** The program starts at 11 am, with
lunch at noon. Bring your own sack lunch; the church will
supply the beverages. Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, for
more information. No reservations are needed. **There will
be a crossing guard on West Street to help with
overflow parking.**

February Brown Bag Lunch Series! Johnny Pardue,
Retired Air Traffic Controller will tell us about "My Life as
an Air Traffic Controller." This presentation will be on
Friday, Feb. 6, 2026 in the Fellowship Hall. The program
starts at 11 am, with lunch at Noon. Bring your own sack
lunch; the church will supply the beverages. Call Luci
Cromer, 755-0803, for more information. No reservations
are needed. **There will be a crossing guard on West
Street to help with overflow parking.**

XYZ's February Event! Join us for a unique experience
when we take a class at the Memphis Zoo and eat
lunch at Bosco's Squared on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026.
We depart at 9 am from the OLEC parking lot, and the
cost is \$10 per person plus lunch on your own. Call Luci
Cromer, 755-0803, Gretchen Blair, 755-0797, or Garnet
Brenneman, 754-3711, to make reservations and pay
before Monday, Jan. 26.

Care Ministries

Yolanda Toney, Director of Care Ministries,
ytoney@germantownumc.org

Alzheimer's Seminar: Over 7 million loved ones are living with Alzheimer's. Join us as we hear about Alzheimer's warning signs, navigating the diagnosis, understanding the stages, how to help caregivers, and more. **Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, 10:30 am, Room 339.** The Alzheimer's Association, Tennessee Chapter, will facilitate this seminar. There is no cost; just register online. Questions, contact Yolanda Toney, ytoney@germantownumc.org.

Adult Education

Mary Groh, Director of Adult Education,
mgroh@germantownumc.org

The Gospel of Mark, The Jesus We're Aching For starts Wed., Jan. 14, 9:45-11:45 am, via Zoom. In this 7-week study, we will follow Jesus through his days of early ministry to the cross and discover what it means to be the recipients of his overflowing compassion. Facilitator: Chesley Porteous. Cost: \$24.

The Heart of the Psalms - Understanding God's Word to the World starts Tues. Jan. 20, 9:30-11 am. We will focus on six Psalms and examine why these Psalms connect so deeply with us, the church, and beyond. This study will help us understand how and why these Psalms matter and how they can be transformative for us today. Facilitator: Mary Groh. Cost: \$19.

Fourteen Adult Sunday School Classes meet from 9-10 on Sunday mornings. Please check out the list of classes, locations, teachers, and topics at the Welcome Center or online and join us. Visitors are always welcome!

Children's Ministry

Becca Keel, Director: bkeel@germantownumc.org
Janelle Crist, Assoc. Dir. Nursery: jcrist@germantownumc.org
Hayley Heard, Assoc. Dir. Elem.: hheard@germantownumc.org

Preschool Stepping Stones (Newborn-Prekindergarten): The Hamilton Nursery is open from 8:45-11:30 am on Sundays. Preschool Sunday school meets from 9-10 am.
Elementary Sunday School (Kindergarten-5th grade): We meet from 9-10 am, each week. Child drop off is in individual classrooms, in the children's education wing. Please pick up your child at 10 am, in the Huddle (room 240).
WOW (Worship on Wednesday): (Kindergarten-5th grade). WOW will return on Jan. 14, so mark your calendars! Join us from 6-7:30 pm. Dinner is served at 6 pm, in the Fellowship hall, then kids will enjoy engaging activities and mission opportunities. Pick up for elementary children in the education wing at 7:30 pm. Preschoolers meet in the nursery for dinner, Bible stories, crafts, and fun. Nursery available for children under 2. Register online by each Tuesday at noon. (\$5/child).

Acolytes Needed: Scan QR code to sign up to acolyte! Must be in the second grade or older. There is no age limit! If your child is interested in acolyting and has not been trained, contact Becca Keel to schedule a training session.



Ignite Retreat: Jan. 24-25, at St. Columba Retreat Center. This overnight retreat is for students in grades 4-5 and is a wonderful opportunity for team building and diving into God's word together. Registration is required.

Recurring Weekly at GUMC

Sunday, Jan. 4:

9:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Fellowship
10:30 am Worship

Tuesday, Jan. 6:

6:30 am Men's Sunrise Bible Study

Wednesday, Jan. 7:

6:30 am Rutherford Prayer Group

Congregational Prayer List



Digital Giving Options

Online



Venmo



Doxology

For Advent

Em G C D⁷ G D G C G

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm⁷ Em Am Em B⁷ Em A⁷ D Em

here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D⁷ G D Em Bm G

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D⁷ Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em

man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: 15th Century French

VENI EMMANUEL

LM with Refrain

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: music@gbod.org. Text and tune are public domain.