

Announcements



Welcome to All who have found their way through our doors this morning! With open hearts, open minds, and open doors, Gretna UMC welcomes you!

Please Sign In by scanning this QR Code, completing and submitting the form.

Advent Bible Study It is not too late to join us for a 4-week study based on Amy-Jill Levine's *Light of the World* on **Mondays at 6 pm in E-1, December 9-23.**

To participate, call **504-366-6685** or email **umcgretna@gmail.com**

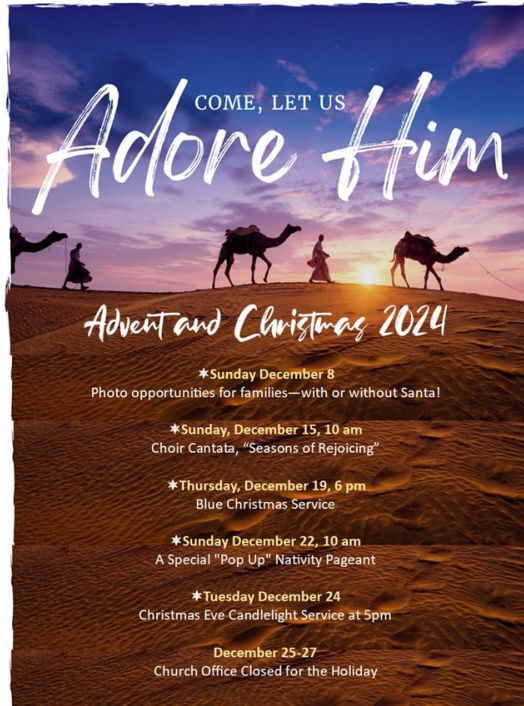
Christmas Photos! Plan to stay after worship today for a special free Christmas photo session!

The Choir Cantata, "Seasons of Rejoicing," is next Sunday. Don't miss it!



Prayer Group

Sundays at 9 am | Church Office
Open to All | Come As You Are



COME, LET US Adore Him

Advent and Christmas 2024

- *Sunday December 8
Photo opportunities for families—with or without Santa!
- *Sunday, December 15, 10 am
Choir Cantata, "Seasons of Rejoicing"
- *Thursday, December 19, 6 pm
Blue Christmas Service
- *Sunday December 22, 10 am
A Special "Pop Up" Nativity Pageant
- *Tuesday December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5pm
- December 25-27
Church Office Closed for the Holiday

Gretna

United Methodist
Church



COME, LET US Adore Him

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9-9:45 am

► Kids' Connection
(Pre K-Grade 5) E-2

► Youth and Young Adults
Youth Room

ADULTS

► Digging Deeper
E-1

► Prayer Group
Church Office Prayer Room

► COFFEE and CONVERSATION
Tuesdays, 10 am
E-1

1309 Whitney Avenue
Gretna, Louisiana 70056
(504) 366-6685
gretnaumc.org

Marissa Horvath, Pastor
Melanie Skidmore, Worship Leader



Welcome to Worship

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT
December 8, 2024

WELCOME

Pastor Marissa Horvath

*SONG of PRAISE

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Praise Team

*CALL to WORSHIP

John Winfield

Children of God, prepare the way! The Word of God is coming!

We come to listen and receive God's Word among us.

Children of God, the prophets call to us now and from generations past, urging us to prepare and refine our hearts for the coming of the Word of God. Are you listening?

We come to listen and prepare to receive God's Word among us.

Children of God, this is the mark of our preparation: that passion for God's Word would burn within us, cleansing us and renewing us to reflect God's love throughout the world.

May God ignite our passion for God's Word that has come among us as we listen, prepare, and receive all that God has for us today. Amen.

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH #131

THE ADVENT WREATH

Annie, Ada, Margaret, and Betty

The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation.

*"For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness,"***

In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kin-dom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

The Lighting of the Candle of **PEACE**

THE ADVENT CANDLE SONG

*Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace.
He brings peace to everyone, he comes, he comes!*

THE CHILDREN'S TIME with NANN

PREPARING the MANGER

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH #895

THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES and OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

UMH #211

*DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:1-6 NRSV

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Passion"

ANTHEM

Ave Maria

J.S. Bach

Christopher Robinson, Piano

*BENEDICTION

*DEPART with JOY

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH #234, verse 2

**Please stand, if you are comfortable doing so.*

***Malachi 3:2b-3*

UMH (United Methodist Hymnal)

NRSV (New Revised Standard Version)



**Next Sunday: THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT
The Choir Cantata, "Seasons of Rejoicing"**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Billy Adams and Family, the Anderson brothers, Rodney Bailey, Gene Beerbohm, Dianne Bennett, Carrie Brown, William Burke, Clyde Butler, Dave and Kathie Callahan, the Chapman Family, Michelle Coker, Sam Cosby, Sharon Denenea, Denise Dewitt, Sophie de Reyna, Linda Eddy, the French Family, David Gaddis, Janet Germany, Brandon Gillette, Arthur Gotjen, Thelma Hebert, Deborah Harold, Lydia Hinyub, Margaret Howard, Laci Jones, John and Ella Katicich, Erol Linden, Rita Linden, Debra Louis, Kelly McGee, Claudia Melancon, Christine Martin, Beth Palmisano, Chris Rabig, Johnny Ramos, Virginia Regan, Beth Richardson, Jessica Scott, Twila Stevenson, Betty Territo, Peter Territo, Luisa Toro, Elmer Wall, Sydnie and Joyce Zuniga.