

# *Christmas at the Four Gospel Homes*

Welcome to Matthew's Home



**December 17, 2023**

**8:00 AM**

 **MISSOURI**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We exist to connect all people with Jesus Christ.

We do this by welcoming enthusiastically, growing deeply and serving courageously.

## 🌀 Welcome 🌀

*Children of all ages and their rustling are welcome in our worship services.*

*Worship activity packets are available at the Chapel door.*

*Nursery care is available in Whittler Treehouse during this service.*

### **PRELUDE**

Ann Merrifield

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastors Daniel & Jewell

### **+MATTHEW'S INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

We knock on the door of our cousin Matthew, the historian. His house, perfectly silhouetted in lights, with angels and a shining star on the roof. A beautiful antique Christmas wreath on his front door, a precious family heirloom.

Matthew, his parents, his kids and their dogs gather at the door to greets us:

**“Get in here! You’re family!”**

The coat pile makes a mound on the chair by the door.

**“Did you find your way alright? How are the roads?”**

We step into a beauty of Christmas past and present, with trees covered in homemade kindergarten ornaments, some as old as you and others brand new this year.

And Matthew says,

**“Come sit down, dinner is ready!**

**I’m gonna tell you about where you come from:  
ancestors and angels, stars and kings!**

**This is how the birth of Jesus came about...”**

### **+OPENING HYMN UMH 220 “Angels from the Realms of Glory”**

### **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Arendts & The Babels

### **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN SELECTIONS**

Ryan Hampton

### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

### **DISCOVERY DAYS KIDS VIDEO**

### **TIME OF PRAYER**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 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, forever. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "At This Table" (Jonas Myrin and Idina Menzel)  
Pastor Jewell, Voice; Ryan Hampton, Piano

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSVUE)

Holy Spirit, as we have read this Scripture in our community,  
humbly interpreting through Reason, varied Experience and Tradition,  
bless our hearing and understanding.  
**May our listening be done with love.**

**MESSAGE** "Christmas in Matthew's home"

Pastor Daniel

**CONGREGATION HYMN SING**

**TIME OF OFFERING**

*To e-give, text "MOUMC" to 73256 or give online using the QR code below.*

**+DOXOLOGY UMH 94**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

**+PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**+CLOSING HYMN UMH 245** "The First Noel"

**+BENEDICTION**

David Lile

**+POSTLUDE**

Acknowledgements:

Invitation to Worship: Rev. S. Jewell S. McGhee

Advent Wreath Lighting Liturgy: Barb Stanford and Rev. S. Jewell S. McGhee

[moumc.org/give](https://moumc.org/give)





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Christmas Eve Morning & New Year's Eve Services | December 24 & December 31

MUMC will host a combined worship service at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary on both Christmas Eve morning and New Year's Eve.

### Serve on Christmas Eve | December 24

We still need volunteers for three of our five Christmas Eve services: 5 PM, 9PM, & 11 PM. As we open our doors to the broader Columbia community for this holy day, please consider if you can offer to help.

**Hospitality Meal:** Be part of the MUMC tradition of feeding those who are here serving on Christmas Eve. Sign up to bring a dish or assist with cleanup. Link to sign up in the Messenger.

**Nursery:** Serve on Christmas Eve by volunteering with the nursery during our 5 Christmas Eve services. Email Christina Fletcher at [christina@moumc.org](mailto:christina@moumc.org) if interested.

**Hospitality:** Our 7 PM service team is full (Thank you!) Contact the office (443-3111) or hospitality team ([betsy@earthlink.net](mailto:betsy@earthlink.net)) if you are interested in helping with greeting.

### Can Religions Bring Us Together? Sermon Series | January 2024

Join us for worship in January for our new sermon series "Can Religions bring us together? We would love to see you in the new year.

For this week's event calendar, visit [moumc.org/calendar](http://moumc.org/calendar). Submit your connect card and share prayer concerns at [moumc.org/comm-card](http://moumc.org/comm-card).

## CONNECT WITH US!

204 S. Ninth St., Columbia, MO 65201

(573) 443-3111 | [moumc.org](http://moumc.org)

WIFI: MUMCGuest | Password: Welcome100%

 /MissouriUMC  Missouri\_UMC