

We hope that you have felt God's love in a new, refreshing way. You're so welcomed in this place and we hope you'll come again to join with us in fellowship and to make some special friends!

Join us for Coffee and a Treat each week at 9:30 AM downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

**Community News & Notes.....**

Weight Watchers	Thursdays	6:30 PM
AA Meeting	Fridays	8:30 PM
Food Addicts Meeting	Sundays	7:00 PM

**Church News & Notes...** Bible Study, Thursdays 11:00AM

Welcome to the Avon United Methodist Church. Our congregation includes people of all backgrounds and perspectives. We gather together with a common love for God and all of God's people, and we are glad you are with us.  
-Pastor Kim Ferrel

Please call 585-226-8600 at any time with questions or concerns

For upcoming events check out our Website at [avonnyumc.org](http://avonnyumc.org) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/AvonnyUMC](https://www.facebook.com/AvonnyUMC).

Hearing Assistance is available for our services. Just let an usher know for assistance.

For handicap accessibility to the second floor please let the greeter at the door know of this need.

Children are always welcome in worship. Coloring books, crayons, and activity bags are available from the usher.

During our 10:30 Service, our Nursery is available with paid, trained, background-checked staff.

Sunday School is held for all children N-6<sup>th</sup> grade from 9:30am-10:30am.

**This Week's Church Activities**

**Today**  
7:30 Radio Ministry WYSL 1040  
9:30 Coffee Hour  
Prayer Team  
Sunday School  
10:30 Worship Service

**Monday**  
6:00 Partnership Dinner

**Tuesday**  
11:00 Bulletin Deadline  
6:30 Ad Team

**Wednesday**  
7:00 Chancel Choir  
8:00 Bell Choir

**Thursday**  
9:00 Giggle Time  
11:00 Bible Study

**Saturday**  
7:30 Christmas Eve Service  
11:00 Christmas Eve Service

**Sunday, December 25, 2016**  
7:30 Radio Ministry WYSL 1040  
10:30 Christmas Day Service

\*\*\*There will ONLY be 10:30AM services on December 25, and 1/1/17.\*\*\*

**Our Church Staff**

Pastor:	Kimberly Ferrel
Lay Leader:	Paul Brown
Instrumentalist:	Mark Brennan
Administrative Assistant:	Mark Brennan
Music Director:	Linda Rosebrough
Custodian:	Bob Wright
Sound Engineer:	Mark Blakely
Child Care Providers:	Brenda Munzinger Madeline Wolfer

**"Music and Inspiration"**



Avon United Methodist Church  
130 Genesee St, Avon, NY 14414  
585-226-8600  
[www.avonnyumc.org](http://www.avonnyumc.org)  
Radio Ministry Sundays 7:30am, WYSL1040

**December 18, 2016  
10:30 AM**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

\*Please stand in body or spirit  
Songs number 2000 or higher  
may be found in the small songbook.

### WE GATHER

Prelude "Hebridean Carol"

Welcome *Please fill out Fellowship Folder*

A Time of Centering "Silent Night"

Silent night, sacred night, tears of joy, a tiny boy  
Prince of peace in a world of war,  
teach us to love like never before.  
Once again this Christmas morn, Christ the Savior is born.

\*Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful," #234, v. 1,3,6

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

\*Hymn "Christ Be Our Light," insert

### WE LISTEN AND PRAY

Scripture Reading Psalm 150

Sharing our Prayers, Lord's Prayer #895

Special Music "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," by J.S. Bach

Conversations with the Children

### MUSIC AND INSPIRATION

Reader 1: Advent is a time to wait, listen and ponder the awesome wonder of God, who sent his only son as a baby to save us. Pause and spend some time this season reflecting on God's gift of love.

Trio- "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Reader 2: The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before... What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you. And you begin to grasp what it was you missed, like Moses in the cleft of the rock, watching God's "back" fade in the distance. So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder. There will be time enough for running. For rushing. For worrying. For pushing. For now, stay. Wait. Something is on the horizon.

-Jan Richardson, "Night Visions: Searching the Shadows of Advent and Christmas"

Trio- "Estrella De Luz,"

Reader 1: Take time to be aware that in the very midst of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the Bethlehems of our homes and daily lives. Take time, slow down, be still, be awake to the Divine Mystery that looks so common and so ordinary yet is wondrously present.

"An old abbot was fond of saying, 'The devil is always the most active on the highest feast days.' The supreme trick of Old Scratch is to have us so busy decorating, preparing food, practicing music and cleaning in preparation for the feast of Christmas that we actually miss the coming of Christ. Hurt feelings, anger, impatience, injured egos – the list of clouds that busyness creates to blind us to the birth can be long, but it is familiar to us all." – Edward Hays, "A Pilgrim's Almanac"

Flute & Harp – "Away in a Manger (Flow Gently Sweet Afton)"

Reader 2: "Sometimes it seems as though we spend our lives waiting. Daydreaming about an upcoming vacation, worrying over a medical test, preparing for the birth of a grandchild-our days are filled with anticipation and anxiety over what the future holds. As Christians, we too spend our lives waiting. But we are waiting for something much bigger than a trip, bigger even than a retirement or a wedding: We are waiting for the return of Jesus in glory. Advent heightens this sense of waiting, because it marks not only our anticipation of Jesus' final coming, but also our remembrance of his arrival into our world more than 2,000 years ago." –Anonymous

Trio- "What Child Is This?"

Reader 1: "One of the essential paradoxes of Advent: that while we wait for God, we are with God all along, that while we need to be reassured of God's arrival, or the arrival of our homecoming, we are already at home. While we wait, we have to trust, to have faith, but it is God's grace that gives us that faith. As with all spiritual knowledge, two things are true, and equally true, at once." –Michael Blake, "The Tentmaker"

Trio- "Lulaje"

Reader 2: "This Advent, we look to the Wise Men to teach us where to focus our attention. We set our sights on things above, where God is. We draw closer to Jesus... When our Advent journey ends, and we reach the place where Jesus resides in Bethlehem, may we, like the Wise Men, fall on our knees and adore him as our true and only King."

-Mark Zimmerman, "Our Advent Journey"

Trio- "Angels We Have Heard On High"

A Time of Offering "Watchman Medley," – Dulcimer & Harp

Hymn "Joy to the World," #246, v. 1,2,4

Postlude "Dancing Carols," – Trio

#### Assisting in Worship Today

Lay Leader: Paul Brown  
Ushers: Marcia Cameron, June Despard  
Mavis Preston, Melinda Wilson  
Reader: Rachel Rethman  
Guest Musicians: Mitzie Collins, Glennnda Dove,  
Roxanne Ziegler  
Music Director: Linda Rosebrough  
Sound Engineer: Mark Blakely

**Many thanks to our guest musicians for providing the beautiful and festive music for our service this morning**

All hymns or lyrics are used by permission: CCLI # 923595, Printed Scriptures are from Contemporary English Version unless otherwise noted.