

WE GATHER

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTES

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: The world was once in darkness.

ALL: Now we have God's Light, Jesus, to shine on us.

ONE: The words and promises of God are all true!

ALL: God has given us the best gift of all!

ONE: Rejoice! God is with us!

ALL: Praise be to God! Amen!

***OPENING HYMN** *"The First Noel"* #245 UMH
Pink Insert Collected

OPENING PRAYER The celebration of Christmas has just begun. Even though many of us have gone through the gift giving and receiving, have feasted with family and friends, there is yet another gift which has been given. You, O Loving God, have wrapped the gift of your Son, Jesus, around our lives. The light of your love through him is shining brightly. It is not a harsh light, but a multitude of bright colors that remind us of the wondrous ways you love us. Open our hearts and spirits as we hear the words of your holy Scriptures and the beautiful music. Bring us to you with such joy that it will seem as though our feet aren't even touching ground! In Jesus' precious and powerful name, we pray – **Amen!**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

+CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+(Children are dismissed to Sunday School)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 52:7-10 Pg.1108

HYMN *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"* #229 UMH

GOSPEL LESSON John 1:1-14 Pg. 1613
LEADER: The Word of God for the people of God.
ALL: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Adventures in Narnia: Finally Christmas!

WE RESPOND

HYMN *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"* #224 UMH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, concluding with unison Lord's Prayer
(*trespasses*)

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all Blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE GO FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Sing We Now of Christmas"* #237 UMH

***BENEDICTION**

***SONG RESPONSE** *"He Is Born" (refrain only)* #228 UMH

***POSTLUDE**

(*)= Please stand if able | (+)= 10:00 AM Service Only
UMH= United Methodist Hymnal

The pink insert to your bulletin is there for you to share any joys or concerns you may have for our prayer time this morning. Please hand the slip to an usher during the Opening Hymn and they will bring your request to the pastor to be shared and added to our prayer chain. If you are visiting with us and would like to share any information, please use the other side of the insert.

Flowers:

Are presented for the anniversary of Louise Rynd and Tom Maurer.

Greeters:

Kristi Donahue & Bob Rader

++++++ANNOUNCEMENTS++++++

Tuesday	Dec 30 st	Acts Bible Study	10:00 AM Library
Thursday	Jan. 1 st	NO Prayer Zoom	
Sunday	Jan. 4 th	Communion Food Bank	
Sunday	Jan. 11 th	Disciple Class	6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Ebenezer Room

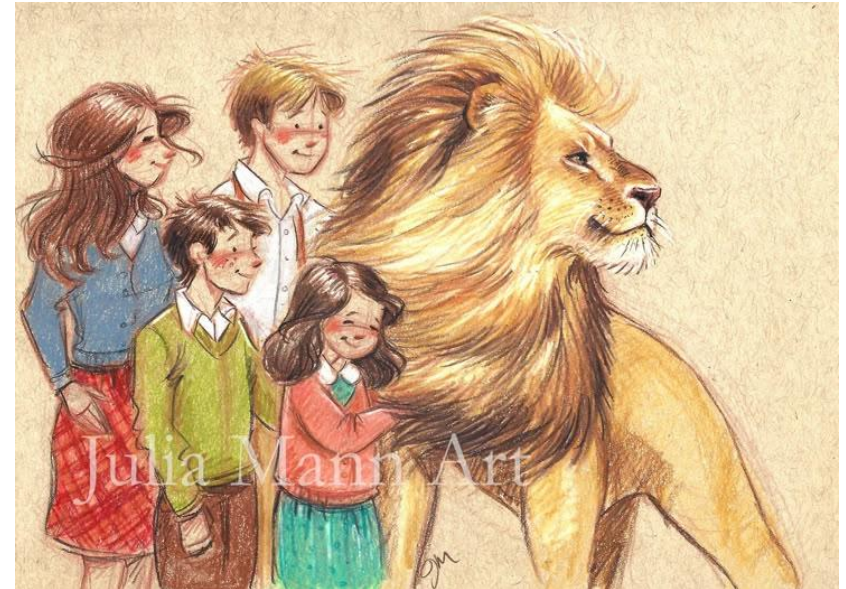
Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Join Pastor Andrea and our newly installed Lay Leader, Dan Deitzel in a 24-week survey of the entire Bible starting in January and based on the well-known Disciple curriculum. The first 12 weeks will focus on the Old Testament; the next 12 weeks cover the New Testament. By study's end, you will have read about 60 percent of the Bible.

Participants will explore the Bible through daily readings, watching commentaries by noted Biblical scholars, and group discussions. Weekly sessions will last about 75 minutes and will be offered in a hybrid format—both in person and on Zoom. You are invited to prayerfully consider taking the next step in your faith journey by joining Disciples Bible Study.

Mount Gretna United Methodist Church

***"A church for all seasons
and ALL people"***



Our Mission is ...

- to know Christ and make him known.
- to help people become—and grow as—followers of Christ.
- to relieve suffering, in our community and beyond, through our members' ministries.

Ministers: All Members

Pastor: Andrea Haldeman

Pastor in Prison Ministry: Marilyn Nolte

mgumc@verizon.net

Lay Leader: Dan Deitzel III

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