

*Thank you for worshipping with us.
You are welcome to visit with one another briefly in the sanctuary
before departing for the evening.*

Join Us for Worship In-Person and Online

Sunday, December 19, 10:30 am
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Theme: Love

Friday, December 24, 7 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Theme: Light

Sunday, December 26, 10:30 am
Christmas Lessons & Carols

Join us as we celebrate the gift of God's presence with us in Jesus Christ.



North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Feeding the Community – Body, Mind, and Spirit
4600 Dover Center Road, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070
440-779-6634 + www.noumc.org
Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm, Pastor
Rev. Alice Walsh & Stephen Ministers

Blue Christmas Worship Service
Monday, December 13, 2021 + 7 pm

Gathering Music

Welcome and History of Blue Christmas

Call to Worship

Leader: Our Savior, Jesus, once said, “Come unto me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.” And so, we invite each other to this time of peaceful worship. Tonight, we come looking for the Christ Child.

People: We come, bringing our hurts, our worries, and our fears.

Leader: We come seeking relief from pain, anxiety, loneliness, and despair. With the psalmist of Scriptures we say,

People: “O Lord, you are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living. Give heed to my cry for I am brought very low.”

ALL: We come tonight to rest with God.

Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

Opening Prayer

God of mercy, hear our prayer in this Advent season for ourselves, and for our families and friends who live with the struggles of illness and the pain of loss. Comfort, Comfort, Lord, Your Holy People. We ask for strength for today, courage for tomorrow, and peace for the past. We ask these things in the name of Christ, who shares our life in joy and sorrow, death and new birth, despair and promise. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 11:28-29

Special Music

Welcome to Our World

Andrew & Josh Walsh

Introduction to Breath Prayers

Candle Lighting

Candle One (Prayer for Hope)

Response: Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with hope anew...

Musical Pause

Candle Two (Prayer for Peace)

Serenity Prayer

Response: Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with Peace anew...

Musical Pause

Candle Three (Prayer for Joy)

Response: Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with Joy anew...

Musical Pause

Candle Four (Prayer for Love)

Response: Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with Love anew...

Musical Pause

Candle Five (Light of Christ)

Response: Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with Light anew...

Musical Pause

Special Music

Silent Night

Andrew Walsh

Closing Prayer

The Blessing

Leader: The God of strength moves within us;

People: The God of courage hears our distress.

Leader: The God of hope reveals wholeness to us;

People: The God of healing touches us when we are broken.

Leader: When our pain overwhelms us, when our burden is too heavy,

People: we turn to our God, who sustains us and redeems us.

Leader: When there is loneliness, when there is isolation,

People: we turn to our God, who is loving and present.

Leader: Beloved Children of God, as we go from this place, may the God who created us, redeemed us, and sustains us, be present with us and remind us always that we are not alone.

People: O come, O come, Emmanuel. God is truly with us. Amen.