

## PRAYER NEEDS

### —Our Church Family—

Kristy Johns | Jane Mezza | Brian Walker | Kim Keepers | John Jenkins | The family of Dick Galphin  
The family of Don Ames | Teddy Broeker

### —Homebound—

Mae Jones | Helen Rose | Tanya Roche | Fred Boyd | Greta Schreuders

### —Our Pastor—

Rev. Eric Williams

### —Monthly Mission Highlight—

Celebrating all of our Named Missions for 2025

### —Our Community, Nation and World Leaders—

Medical Personnel | Police | Firefighters | First Responders | Military Members

### —Our Family Members Serving our Nation—

Brandon Goodner, son-in-law of the Pauza's—Army  
Jeff Ransom, son of Jim & Anne Ransom—Navy  
Christopher Sherrill, son of Virginia Sherrill—USAR  
Kelly Spencer, niece of Mike and Becky Chambers—Army  
Max & Dani Weaver, grandson of Nancy Russell and his wife —Navy  
C.J. Manley, nephew of Christina Schwartz—Navy  
Austin Canos, grandson of Jim Stutz—Coast Guard  
Kody Priest, grandson of Tom Blair—Space Force  
Olivia Grinstead, granddaughter of Patti Edenfield—National Guard

### PASTOR, Rev. Eric Williams

Appointments with Pastor Eric can be made by calling the church office,  
(904) 249-5370, X-200.

### CHURCH OFFICE MANAGER, Mary Muratore, Florida Notary

email: christumcnb@gmail.com | cumcnbfinance@gmail.com  
The Office Manager is available during office hours, Monday—Thursday, 9am—1:00pm

### MUSIC DIRECTOR, Kim Keepers

COMMUNICATIONS, Alessandra Card email: cumcnb@gmail.com

### CUSTODIAN, Brian Lagitch

# UNLIKELY

December 21, 2025

400 Penman Road, Neptune Beach, FL 32266

904-249-5370 • [www.christumcnb.org](http://www.christumcnb.org)



# Order of Worship

\* Please rise in body or spirit

## CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** "Christmas Angels" played by Rev. Carmen Johns

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** "An Introit For Advent" sung by the Choir

**WELCOME:** Pastor Eric Williams

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Liturgist - Nancy Russell

**ADVENT WREATH:** Love Candle - Anne and Jim Ransom

**\* OPENING HYMNS:** "Love Came Down At Christmas" Hymn #242, and "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Hymn #384 (verses 1 & 3)

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** The Apostle's Creed

**\* GLORIA PATRI**

**\* PASSING THE PEACE**/Adventure Kids are released

**\* HYMNS OF ILLUMINATION:** "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" Hymn #238 (verses 1-3), and "Angels From The Realms of Glory" Hymn #220 (verses 1 & 2)

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Luke 2:8-14 (NRSV)

**SERMON:** "UNLIKELY: Shepherds and Angels" - Rev. Eric Williams

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERING**

**ANTHEM:** "Christmas Hallelujah" sung by Beth Gustafson & Jim Morgan

**\* ADVENT DOXOLOGY**

**\* CLOSING HYMN:** "Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow" #2096 in The Faith We Sing (verses 1 & 2)

**\* BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** "O Come All Ye Faithful" played by Kim Keepers

## Announcements

**Welcome!** We are so glad you're here. If you are looking for a church home, or just looking for a community to walk alongside you on your journey, look no further! Stop by the Information Table in the narthex so we can say hello!

**Children** While children of all ages are always welcome in our worship service, we offer childcare for infants through age 3. (Exit the sanctuary doors, the nursery is the first room on the right.)

**Give Now through Realm** | Your gifts support incredible ministries all over Northeast Florida! Online giving is easy with Realm. Visit [www.onrealm.org/christumc/give/now](http://www.onrealm.org/christumc/give/now) or scan the QR code with your phone's camera and follow the link.



**Live Nativity** | Experience the wonder of Christmas at our Live Drive Through Nativity **TONIGHT**, December 21, from 6 until 7:30 PM. This beautiful tradition brings the story of Jesus' birth to life with scenes recreated by members of our church family. From the shepherds keeping watch to the holy family in the manger, you can journey through the Christmas story from the comfort of your car.

**Blue Christmas** | Join us for our Blue Christmas Service tomorrow, December 22, at 7 PM. This quiet, reflective gathering is created for anyone who finds the Christmas season difficult, whether due to grief, stress, loneliness, uncertainty, or simply feeling overwhelmed. All are welcome to attend and experience God's gentle presence and the hope that light brings, even in the midst of the longest nights.

## This Week at Christ UMC

**Monday, December 22**  
7pm Blue Christmas Service  
7pm AA Meeting

**Wednesday, December 24**  
10:15am Family Christmas Eve Service  
5pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Thursday, December 25**  
Merry Christmas!

**Sunday, December 28**  
8:45am Heavenly Hash  
10:15am Worship Service in person & online  
10:30am Adventure Kids  
11:15am Fellowship in Wilson Hall

**Christmas Eve Services** | You're invited to celebrate the joy of Christmas with two special services this year on December 24.

- Our Family Christmas Service will be held at 10:15 AM. This creative, kid-friendly service is a joyful, interactive way for families of all ages to celebrate Christmas together. Including glow sticks and a festive hot cocoa bar to make the morning even more fun and memorable.
- Then at 5 PM, we invite you to our traditional Candlelight Service. With scripture, carols, and the glow of candlelight, this service offers a beautiful and reverent time to remember the birth of Christ and the light he brings into the world.

**Night To Shine** | We are thrilled to share that our church has once again been selected as a host site for Night to Shine, a prom experience created especially for the special needs community and sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Mark your calendar for Friday, February 13, 2026 (time to be determined). We are looking for volunteers 16 and older; no matter your gifts, there is a place for you to serve. **Join us at the information meeting for Volunteers on January 10, at 10:30 AM. Brunch will be served.** For more information please contact Cathy Klein at (904) 477-9510 or Hanna Thomas at (904) 612-7286.