

12/18/2016  
**Connection Card**

Please place completed form  
in offering plate.

Welcome! Whether you are a guest or a member,  
we'd love to connect with you! Let us know how we  
can help you.

- I need to update my contact information.
- I'd like to begin receiving the Gobin Weekly via email.
- I'd like to begin receiving the Gobin Monthly Newsletter via email.
- I'd like to begin receiving weekly emails for the Digital Prayer Chain.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**I AM A:**

- Guest
- 1st time    2nd time    3+ times
- Out-of-town guest
- Regular attender
- Member

**Prayer Requests or Prayer Needs**

*How can we pray for you?*

Please feel free to send prayer requests to  
[prayers@gobinumc.org](mailto:prayers@gobinumc.org)  
throughout the week!

- For Prayer Team
- For Digital Prayer Chain
- Confidential

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**This Week**

Please consider using the following resources  
throughout the week ahead.

**Questions for Reflection**

Is Christmas a difficult time for you? If so, how does it make you feel when others around you are celebrating? If you have somehow found healing, how can you help others find healing?

**Morning Prayer**

Giver of light, in the light of your Christ I see myself clearly as your child. I rise in thankfulness for you are present when I sleep and when I am awake. I rise to come to you in the hours of joy and in sorrow. I rise to live this day in your wisdom, without fear, without acrimony, but with charity toward those I meet and toward myself when I find I am wanting. Lead me into your desire for me this day, O Lord. Let me know your love is deep and abiding; in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Evening Prayer**

Giver of rest and silence, in you I take refuge when the shadows deepen and the time of sleep has come. I thank you for the ventures of this day, for friends who helped me and for those who sought my help, for the skills you planted in me to hone and use, for the strangers whose lives enlarged mine today and whose insights enrich my life. Keep me safe from harm as I sleep and bring me to a new dawn with strength to work and rejoice; in Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

**Scriptures for Sunday, December 25**

- Isaiah 52:7-10
- Psalm 98
- Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)
- John 1:1-14

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: DECEMBER 21 @ 7PM**

Christmas can be a painful time for some. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern; we need to know that we are not alone. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us. For these reasons, Gobin Church offers a special "Blue Christmas" service on December 21, the longest night of the year. The service will begin at 7pm.

Come out and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle - and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness. Everyone, regardless of church background (or lack of it), is welcome. The short service will be followed by a brief time for light refreshments and fellowship.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: DECEMBER 24 @ 7PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE: DECEMBER 25 @ 10:30AM**

*No Sunday School on Christmas Day*

**MORNING PRAYER: WEDNESDAYS AT 8:30AM**

Everyone is invited to morning prayer in Peace Chapel as we pray over Sunday morning worship connection cards and prayer requests for the week.

**DON'T FORGET**— this is just a glimpse of what goes on at Gobin! All are welcome to join in fellowship. To stay up-to-date and find out more, please visit our Events page at [gobinumc.org/news-events/events](http://gobinumc.org/news-events/events) or call the church office at 765-658-6010 for more info!

**HAVE AN EVENT YOU'D LIKE TO SCHEDULE AT GOBIN?**

Gobin Church is committed to Radical Hospitality. We have a number of meeting rooms to accommodate your gathering. Feel free to call the church office to reserve it on the Gobin schedule! You can also put in a reservation request online at: [gobinumc.org/reserve-a-room/](http://gobinumc.org/reserve-a-room/).

Scriptures for each Sunday can be found at: [lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu](http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu)

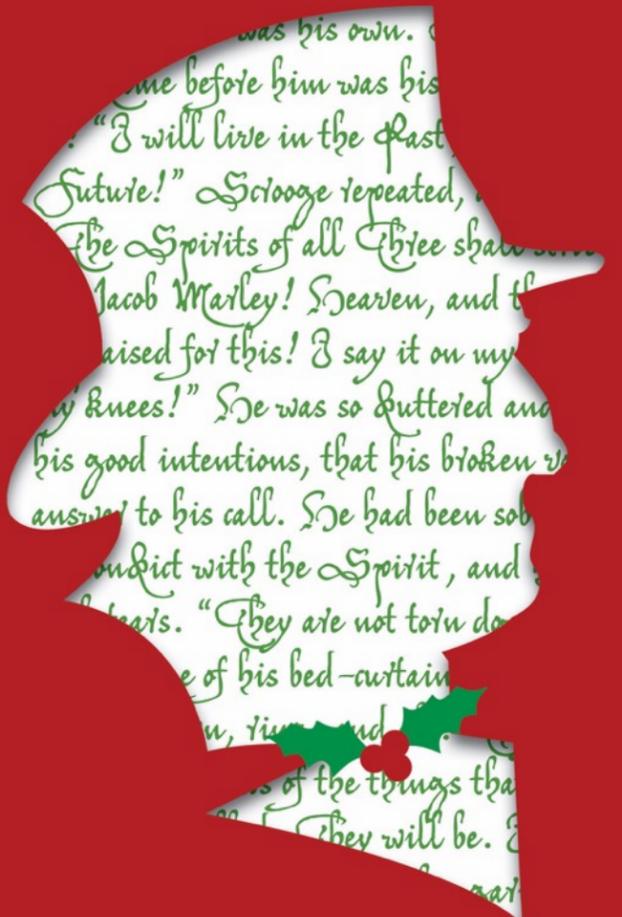
Question for Reflection & Prayer Question and Prayers of the Day Resources: Kimberly Bracken Long (2013-09-16). *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost* (p. 18). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.



**Gobin Memorial**  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

connect. grow. serve.

**Sunday, December 18, 2016**



The Redemption of  
**Scrooge**

**Our Mission**

The mission of Gobin Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Our Vision**

To create a spiritual community that is full of life by honestly sharing our whole selves with one another in relationship.

—Rev. Bryan Langdoc, Pastor of Gobin  
[pastor@gobinumc.org](mailto:pastor@gobinumc.org)

## The Hope of Christmas Future: Death-Defying Acts

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2016

*"God has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. God has filled the hungry with good things..."*

*Luke 1*

*This Advent/Christmas series will take a look at how living in God's economy of grace and justice is the antithesis of the life-threatening addiction to money, success, exclusion and looking out for ourselves. The chimes of the clock-tower bells in Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" provide a wake-up call for Ebenezer Scrooge and turn him from his resentment, fear and isolation. Just as God's presence was born anew into this world, we too can be born anew, woken up and redeemed into renewed life, joy, passion, generosity, humility and love.*

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### WE GATHER

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Gathering Music	Steven Snyder
Welcome	Rev. Bryan Langdoc
Threshold Moment	Barbara Paré and Gobin Choir
Opening Prayer	
Opening Hymn	"Hail to the Lord's Anointed" UMH #203
Passing the Peace	

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### WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

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A Blessing of the Children	Alisa Isaacs-Bailey
	<i>[children are invited to children's church]</i>
Scripture Reading	Lisa Trigg
	<b>Revelation 1:4</b> (Pew Bible Page #1215) <b>Luke 4:18-19</b> (Pew Bible Page #1018) <b>Romans 8: 12-17</b> (Pew Bible Page #1118)
Caroling	"Joy to the World" UMH #246 Verse 1
Dramatic Reading	
Caroling Reprise	
The Word in Music	"The Child of the Ages" Gobin Choir <i>by Richard Wm. Donohue</i>
Sermon	The Hope of Christmas Future Rev. Bryan Langdoc

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### WE RESPOND

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Prayers of the People "Ring Out Your Truth" Marilyn Culler  
Ring out your truth  
Ring out your love  
Reverberate in our lives  
Come, Lord, come!

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.

Ring out your truth  
Ring out your love  
Reverberate in our lives  
Come, Lord, come!

Offertory Solo Steven Snyder

Doxology  
Praise God who blesses everyone!  
Praise Jesus Christ, who is to come!  
Praise Spirit, making Three-in-One!  
All praise the miracle begun!

Prayer of Dedication  
Generous God,  
we give you thanks for all you have given us  
and we offer our gifts  
for the sake of being your hands and feet as the Body of Christ.  
Open us to even more ways to give  
so that we might offer death-defying love to all. Amen.

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### WE GO FORTH

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Closing Hymn "Blessed Be the God of Israel" UMH #209

Benediction  
There's a little Scrooge in each of us  
afraid of the future and even more afraid that we won't be able to change.  
This week may you be visited by a surprising joy  
that assures you that you DO have a choice in the matter.  
And when you feel it, even if for just a fleeting moment,  
know the miracle has just begun in you, for the sake of the whole world.

May you be blessed by our God who loves you deeply;  
by Jesus, the true gift of God to each of us—this season and in all our days;  
and the Spirit who shows up just in time!

Benediction Song "God Bless Us Everyone"  
Come together, one and all, in the giving spirit.  
Gifts abound here, great and small, joyously we feel it.  
Blessings sent us from above guide us on our way.  
We raise our voice as we rejoice, bow our head and pray.  
A miracle has just begun. God bless us everyone!

Postlude Steven Snyder, piano

### Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church

PO Box 66, 307 Simpson St.  
Greencastle, IN 46135  
(765) 658-6010  
[www.gobinumc.org](http://www.gobinumc.org)

### Children & Nursery

We love it when children stay to join us in worship. Liturgy boxes are located near the South entrance and are available for children to use and participate in the worship service. Children are invited to go to Children's Church immediately after A Time for the Child. In addition, a nursery is available for children ages 4 and under in Wesley Hall.

### This Week's Scripture Reading

Scan this QR code to instantly pull up the Scripture Readings on your smart phone!



### Online Giving

You can make donations to Gobin online at [www.gobinumc.org](http://www.gobinumc.org) or via text message from your smart phone or electronic device. If texting, please text your amount to: 765-253-4477.



Available in the Narthex.

