

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2024~9:30 A.M.**

*Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. It is our heart and desire to **engage** the community of Waseca with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equip** those who respond to be the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ and **empower** them to go into the world as partners with God for the healing of the world.*

PRELUDE

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Something stirs deep within us – a longing, a hope,

A thirst for joy, a hunger for peace, a yearning for blessing.

We know deep within that our hopes and fears

Will be met by angel songs and baby sighs.

It is Advent –

Season of waiting, hoping, yearning.

Advent –

Time to go home. Amen.

HYMN.....“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”UMH #211

UNISON PRAYER

Righteous God, to you alone we lift our souls; in you alone, we place our trust; for you alone we wait all day long. For you are the God of our salvation, abounding in mercy and steadfast love. Help us remain alert and watchful for the coming of your promised one—the one who comes with power and glory, the one drawing near to bring our salvation. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Lay Reader: From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

Congregation: **While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God’s grace already at work in our midst.**

Lay Reader: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God’s kingdom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM.....“Come to Set Us Free”Faith Choir

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER.....Unison

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Unison

Gracious God, we offer our gifts with hopeful hearts. Use them to bring justice, righteousness, and joy to our world. Surprise us with your presence and help us to look up, to pay attention, and to embrace the hope you bring. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Jeremiah 33:14-16

“The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

“In those days and at that time
I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line;
he will do what is just and right in the land.
In those days Judah will be saved
and Jerusalem will live in safety.
This is the name by which it will be called:
The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’

Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

**THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD!
THANKS BE TO GOD!**

HYMN.....“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”UMH#216

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:25-36

“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they

will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

MESSAGE.....“The Days Are Coming”Rev. Dong Hun Shin

HOLY COMMUNION.....UMH #9-11

A PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

**Come Holy Spirit, fill our voices with praise, so that all we speak will glorify you.
Come Holy Spirit, give us such faith that we will go wherever you ask us to go.
Come Holy Spirit, help us to be a friend like Jesus.
Come Holy Spirit, warm our hearts, so that as we love our community, they see you.
In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.**

HYMN.....“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”UMH #213

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

Colony Court: Margaret Dahnert

Foxdale Memory Care: Shirley Burdick

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson, Wally Ruedy

Prayer Requests for Sunday: Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Gail Sauer, family and friends of Gloria Rollag, Kathy Dahnert Johnson, Margaret Dahnert, Les Wells, April Lupas, Dennis Dahnert, Tom Kuyper, Doug Smith, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Blayke Klassen, the Ukraine, the Middle East, government officials, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be sure to sign the red attendance pads at the ends of the pews.

Faith's Blessing Box – Just a reminder that we are continuously collecting donations of non-perishable food items and cash donations for Faith's Blessing Box (**please no glass jars, no expired items and, during winter months, no canned goods**).

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next newsletter will be mailed out the first week of December. Newsletter folding will be on Tuesday, December 3 at 1:00 in the Hansel & Gretel room. If you are able to help, the folding group would welcome some extra hands.

The Leadership Team needs some new members to join beginning in January. We are looking for a Lay Leader and three members at large. One person could serve as both Lay Leader and a member at large. In addition to serving on the Leadership Team, the Lay Leader attends the Annual Conference each year, usually in late May or early June. Please consider joining. It is a great way to share your voice and ideas for the church as well as help oversee church business. The Leadership Team meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. If you are interested in serving on the team, please contact the church office or let a current Leadership Team member know.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

12/01/2024 (Sun.)	First Sunday of Advent 9:30am – Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30am – Fellowship
12/02/2024 (Mon.)	3:00-4:30pm – Conversation, Bible & Friends (Gathering Room)
12/03/2024 (Tues.)	1:00pm – Newsletter Folding (Hansel & Gretel Room)
12/4/2024 (Wed.)	7:00pm – Choir Practice (*LV Room)
12/08/2024 (Sun.)	Second Sunday of Advent 9:30am – Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30am - Fellowship

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:30am to 1:00pm

Rev. Dong Hun Shin Office Hours this Week:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00am to 12:30pm

Rev. Dong Hun Shin Contact Info.:

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