

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 18th, 2022~9:30 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/WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, hear our call.

Stir up your strength and come to save us!

Restore us, O God

Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

For we know that new life is coming.

A child will change us all.

Let your hand be upon him in blessings.

For he will bring you near.

He will be God-with-us.

Give us life, O God, and we will forever call on your name.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING.....Bob Hunter

Today we light the Love Candle. Candle "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

ADVENT SONG....."Light the Advent Candle (Advent Song)".....TFWS #2090, vs. 4

UNISON PRAYER

Holy One, you send us new life in so many forms. Open our minds, that we may recognize it. Open our hearts, that we may receive it. Open our bodies, that we may embrace it. Open our souls, that we may live it. Open us this day and all days. Amen.

HYMN....."It Came upon the Midnight Clear".....UMH #218

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR YOUNG METHODISTS AND FRIENDS

SUNDAY SCHOOL All children are invited to attend Sunday School at this time. Please go to the back of the sanctuary to meet your teacher.

ANTHEM....."Where's the Line to See Jesus?".....Faith Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

Oh God, who is with us,
hear our prayer

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

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, you bless us with many gifts, you retrieve us from despair and fear, you visit us with surprising proclamations, and you intend for us good things. We thank you for your steadfast love, for sending signs of assurance and for the gift of faith. Use our gifts to bring comfort and justice to those in need, reforming the ways of our world for the sake of new life. Amen.

HYMN....."Away in a Manger".....UMH #217

SCRIPTURE READING.....Bob Hunter

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Psalms 80:1-7

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might,
and come to save us!

Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
You have fed them with the bread of tears
and given them tears to drink in full measure.
You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the

gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Pastor Carolyn

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC....."Hallelujah Chorus"Faith Choir

BENEDICTION

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: Joe Tollefson, Shirley Burdick

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Leona Quast

Foxdale: Lucille Kubista

Benedictine Living Community: Chuck Youngberg

New Richland Care Center: Norma Buland

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Prayer Requests for Sunday: Sue Baldini, Tom Kuyper, Roger Groskreutz and family, Gloria Rollag, Kara Ecoff, Norma Buland, Tim Dahnert, Suzanne Saucier, government officials, health care workers, first responders, and those who are at risk and most vulnerable to Covid-19, those who battle chronic illness and pain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Current UMCOR response numbers

Help for Ukraine #982450

US Hurricane response #901670

Latest US disaster response and recovery #901670

Just a reminder: We are still collecting items for the "Soap Closet" for Minnesota Valley Action Council to provide hygiene products to those in need in our county. This is an ongoing project. Please consider donating hygiene items. The collection box and list of needed items is located in the narthex.

Upcoming December Services:

On Wednesday, December 21 at 4:30 pm we will be having a Blue Christmas service. This service gives us all space to name the people or things we are missing this Christmas. Please join us and bring a friend.

On Saturday, December 24 at 4:30 pm we will have our Christmas Eve service.

On Sunday, December 25 at 9:30 am we will have a short Christmas service.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

12/18/2022 (Sun.)	Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:30 am - Worship Service 10:00 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Fellowship
12/19/2022 (Mon.)	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 3:00-4:30 pm-Conversation, Bible & Friends (*LV Room)
12/21/2022 (Wed.)	2:30 pm - Elizabeth Circle (*LV Room) 4:30 pm - Blue Christmas Service 7:00 pm - Choir Practice
12/22/2022 (Thur.)	10:30 am - Bible Study
12/24/2022 (Sat.)	4:30 pm - Christmas Eve Worship Service
12/25/2022 (Sun.)	Christmas Day - Merry Christmas! 9:30 am - Worship Service

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Pastor Carolyn's Contact Info.:

Parsonage Phone #: (507) 835-2535

Cell #: (870) 830-2180

E-mail: carolyn.doering7@gmail.com