

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
FAITH CHOIR CANTATA
DECEMBER 22, 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

All through this season of Advent, we have encountered Hope, Peace and Joy.

Today Belief and Love are the theme.

Today we will hear the story of surprising commitment.

We will learn of Mary and God's wonderful love.

Today we will be challenged to believe in all that God can do.

Open our hearts, Lord, that we may be ready for your love. AMEN.

HYMN.....“O Little Town of Bethlehem”UMH #230

UNISON PRAYER

Lord, be with us this morning as we encounter Mary and hear of the wondrous news that she received. Remind us that, like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News. We are called to proclaim hope, peace, joy, and love in your name. Open our hearts and our spirits today to receive with great joy the love that you have for us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Lay Reader: Today we light four candles-the first candle is called HOPE, and it is a reminder that God's promises are true. The second Candle is called PEACE, God's gentle loving peace for our lives. The third Candle is called JOY, because of God's absolute presence in our lives. The fourth Candle is called LOVE, because of God's great love for us. Come, all is ready. Let the light of this these candles, called HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE, bring brightness to your spirits.

PASSING THE PEACE *Let us pass the peace of Christ to one another.*

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.....Special Music by Alison Prange

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Unison

Dear God, you blessed Mary by making her the mother of your only Son, Jesus Christ. You have blessed us, as well, with the gift of your Son, and indeed, with the gift of life itself. Out of all these blessings, we give you back these offerings this day. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Luke 1:39-45

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD!

THANKS BE TO GOD!

FAITH CHOIR PRESENTS A CHRISTMAS CANTATA

“THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS”

Narrator.....Mark Lamont

1. O Come, O Come Emmanuel
2. How Great Our Joy
3. The Lord is Come
(Joy to the World)
(Away in a Manger)
(It Came Upon a Midnight Clear)
4. The Glory of Christmas
(Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light)
(Good Christians, Come Rejoice)
(O Come All Ye Faithful)

MESSAGE.....“Joy, Peace, and Love in Christmas”Rev. Dong Hun Shin

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.....“Like a Child”TFWS #2092

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

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, Lucille Youngberg, Anna Born, family and friends of Shirley Burdick, 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**).

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.

Please note that Stacy True, Administrative Assistant, will be out of the office December 23 through December 27.

On Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00pm we will have our Christmas Eve worship service.

2025 Offering Envelopes are available to pick up in the narthex. If you do not have offering envelopes but would like some, please let Stacy know.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

12/22/2024 (Sun.)	Fourth Sunday of Advent Pancake Sunday 9:30am – Worship Service with Choir Cantata 10:30am – Fellowship
12/24/2024 (Tues.)	4:00pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
12/25/2024 (Wed.)	<i>Merry Christmas!</i>
12/29/2024 (Sun.)	9:30am – Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

**** Out of office this week**

Rev. Dong Hun Shin Office Hours this Week:

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

Rev. Dong Hun Shin Contact Info.:

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