

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS
December 24, 2023~9:30 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

HYMN.....“Like a Child”TFWS #2092

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tell the timid to take heart.

The Lord our God will come!

HYMN....."It Came upon the Midnight Clear".....UMH #218, vs. 1, 2, 3

UNISON PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, whose first coming brought joy to your waiting people, keep us in faith and hope as we eagerly await your coming again. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

RESPONSE.....“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”UMH #211 (Refrain Only)

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SPECIAL MUSIC.....“On a Snowy Christmas Night”Bob Stephan

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

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

OFFERTORY HYMN OF PRAISE.....“O Come, All Ye Faithful”UMH #234, vs. 1, 2, 3

SCRIPTURE READING.....Mark LaMont

Gospel of Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has

made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

THANKS BE TO GOD!

SPECIAL MUSIC..... “The Gift Goes On”Barb Klampe, Melody Kluntz,
Alison Prange, Paige Prange

MESSAGE....."The Happening"Pastor Jon Schultz

SPECIAL MUSIC.....“New Kid in Town”Bob Stephan

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....."O Little Town of Bethlehem"UMH #230

HYMN.....“Silent Night, Holy Night”UMH #239, Led by Barb Klampe
& Bob Stephan

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: Shirley Burdick, Gloria Rollag

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Margaret Hasslen

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Prayer Requests for Sunday: Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Gail Sauer, Beverly Pippenger, Deene Pippenger, Bob Stephan, Gloria Rollag, Margaret Hasslen, family and friends of Edy Barber, the Middle East, government officials, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Offering Envelopes will be available beginning next week. We will have them on a table in the narthex. If you do not have offering envelopes and would like some, please let Stacy know. We do have extra boxes available.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

12/24/2023 (Sun.) Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:30 am – Christmas Eve Worship Service

12/25/2023 (Mon.) *Merry Christmas!*

12/31/2023 (Sun.) 9:30 am – Worship Service
10:30 am- Fellowship

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

Wednesday & Thursday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Pastor's Office Hours this Week:

Thursday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Rev. Jon Schultz Contact Info.:

Cell #: (507) 215-5860

E-mail: schultznicki@yahoo.com