

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021~9:30 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

OPENING HYMN....."Angels We Have Heard on High".....UMH #238

OPENING 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.**

CAROL....."Hark! the Herald Angels Sing".....UMH #240, vs. 1 & 3

1ST LESSON..... Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19.....Pastor Carolyn

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

CAROL....."Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus".....UMH #196, vs. 1

2ND LESSON.....Genesis 22:15-18.....Bob Hunter

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

CAROL....."O Come, O Come, Emmanuel".....UMH #211, vs. 1 & 7

3RD LESSON.....Isaiah 9:2, 6-7.....Pastor Carolyn

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

CAROL....."Angels from the Realms of Glory".....UMH #220, vs. 1 & 4

4TH LESSON.....Micah 5:2-5.....Bob Hunter

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.  
Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return

to the people of Israel.  
 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.  
 And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
 to the ends of the earth;  
 and he shall be the one of peace.  
 If the Assyrians come into our land  
 and tread upon our soil,  
 we will raise against them seven shepherds  
 and eight installed as rulers.

CAROL....."O Little Town of Bethlehem".....UMH #230, vs. 1 & 4

5TH LESSON.....Luke 1:26-35, 38.....Pastor Carolyn

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

CAROL....."Joy to the World".....UMH #246, vs. 3 & 4

6TH LESSON.....Luke 2:1-7.....Bob Hunter

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL....."The First Noel".....UMH #245, vs. 1

7TH LESSON.....Luke 2:8-16.....Pastor Carolyn

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

CAROL....."Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" .....UMH #229, All Verses

8TH LESSON.....Matthew 2:1-11.....Bob Hunter

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

CAROL....."What Child Is This" .....UMH #219, vs. 1 & 3

9TH LESSON.....John 1:1-14.....Pastor Carolyn

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CAROL....."O Come, All Ye Faithful".....UMH #234, vs. 1 & 6

CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God,  
by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world.  
Grant that, being born in our hearts,  
he may save us from all our sins,  
and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator,  
to whom be everlasting praise and glory,  
world without end. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

CLOSING HYMN....."Go, Tell It on the Mountain".....UMH #251, All Verses

BENEDICTION

May the Christ who by his birth gathered us all into divine fellowship, fill you with the sweetness of peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, remain with you always. Amen.

Go forth in peace and joy!

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, Janice Kaupa

**Janesville Nursing Home:** Nina Youngberg

**Foxdale Memory Care:** Elaine Westrum

**Lakeshore Inn:** Leona Quast

**Latham Place:** Lucille Kubista

**Koda Living Community:** Chuck Youngberg

**Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna:** Ardella Draheim

**Prayer Requests for Sunday:** John Slattery, 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

If you have an announcement or prayer request you would like to have shared at Sunday service, please email the church office at [faithwaseca@gmail.com](mailto:faithwaseca@gmail.com) by Thursday. If you would like your announcement printed in the bulletin, please e-mail the announcement by Wednesday. If you do not have access to email, you may call the church office at 835-3167. **We also want to hear any joys you have so please email or call the church with any that you would like to share!**

Please note that Stacy True, Administrative Assistant, will be out of the office Decemer 29.

**\*\* Please stay home if you are sick. God will forgive you!**

Also, please stay home if you do not have symptoms but have tested positive for Covid in the last 14 days or are waiting for test results or someone in your household has tested positive.

When you do come to church or visit the church building, please remember to wear a mask at all times.

If you are unable to attend worship, you may view the service online via a link on our Facebook page, Faith United Methodist Church, or our website, [wasecafaithumc.com](http://wasecafaithumc.com). The service is also aired on the local PEG television channel at the following times:

Sunday 12:30 PM  
Thursday 4:30 PM

Tuesday 8:30 AM  
Saturday 6:00 PM

Lucille Kubista will be celebrating her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on December 30<sup>th</sup>! She would enjoy receiving cards. Cards can be mailed to:

Lucille Kubista  
Latham Place  
105 8th St. NW, Rm. # 205  
Waseca, MN 56093