

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 23, 2012 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent

Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church.  
Where Jesus is lifted up for all people and God's word is honored.  
"Faith by the lake – and beyond!"

(Please, take the time to fill out the red registration pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor.)

## GATHERING MUSIC

**VISION STATEMENT .... We are a Christ-Centered Church committed to reaching all people with the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ; encouraging all who respond to become disciples of Jesus Christ.**

**RALLY CRY ..... "Faith by the Lake - and Beyond!"**

## WELCOME & BRIEF NEWS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

### LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE: Fulfillment or Peace

LEADER: "In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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" (*Luke 2:1,3-4*). Today we remember Joseph, worn-out traveler and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.

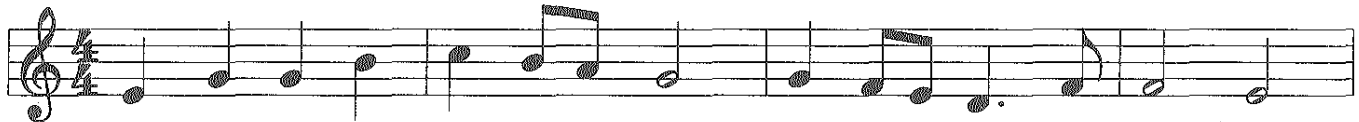
**ALL:** Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the kingdom of God.

**LEADER:** On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, ready to take his place among royalty. (Light two purple candles, the rose candle, and the last purple candle.)

**HYMN OF RESPONSE ..... "There's A Song" ... TFWS No. 2141**

**Sing Stanza 4 - "Hope"**

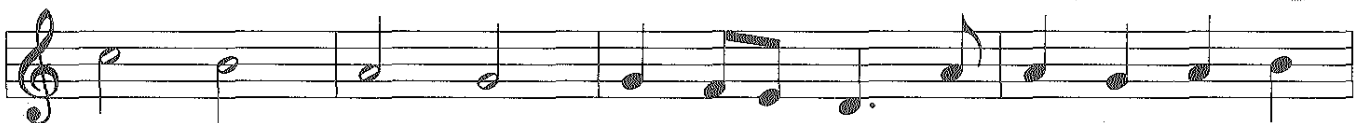
**There's a Song 2141**



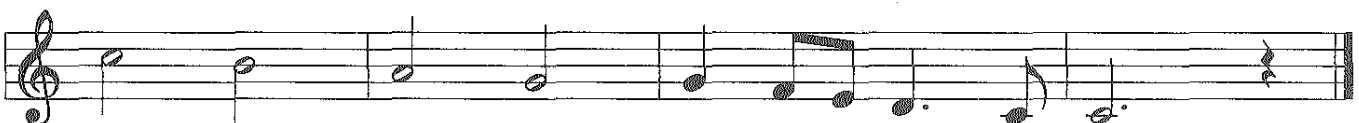
1. There's a song of hope in my heart; hope is a gift from Je - sus.



There's a song of hope in my heart; hope is a gift from God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Hope in my heart is sing-ing prais-es.



Al - le - lu - ia! Hope is a gift from God.

\*2. Peace 3. Faith 4. Hope 5. Joy

WORDS: Handt Hanson

MUSIC: Handt Hanson

HANSON

87.86.49.46

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**OPENING PRAYER** (in unison)

**ALL: O Key of David, O Royal Power of Israel Controlling at your will the gate of heaven: Come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom.**

**RESPONSIVE READING** ..... Micah 5:2-5a (ESV)

LEADER: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

**ALL: Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.**

LEADER: And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

**ALL: And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.**

LEADER: And he shall be their peace.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** ..... “ Jesus Creed” ... *By: Brian McLaren*

LEADER: We have confidence in Jesus

**ALL: Who healed the sick, the blind, and the paralyzed. and even raised the dead.**

LEADER: He cast out evil powers and Confronted corrupt leaders. He cleansed the temple. He favored the poor.

**ALL: He turned water into wine, Walked on water, calmed storms.**

LEADER: He died for the sins of the world, Rose from the dead, and ascended to the Father, Sent the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: We have confidence in Jesus**

LEADER: Who taught in word and example, Sign and wonder. He preached parables of the kingdom of God On hillsides, from boats, in the temple, in homes,

**ALL: At banquets and parties, along the road, on beaches, in towns,  
By day and by night.**

LEADER: He taught the way of love for God and neighbor, For stranger and enemy, for outcast and alien.

**ALL: We have confidence in Jesus.**

LEADER: Who called disciples, led them, gave them new names and new purpose And sent them out to preach good news.

**ALL: He washed their feet as a servant. He walked with them, ate with them, called them friends, rebuked them, encouraged them.**

LEADER: Promised to leave and then return, and promised to be with them always.

**ALL: He taught them to pray. He rose early to pray, stole away to desolate places.**

LEADER: Fasted and faced agonizing temptations, wept in a garden, and prayed, "Not my will but your will be done."

**ALL: He rejoiced, He sang, He feasted, He wept.**

LEADER: We have confidence in Jesus,

**ALL: So we follow him, learn his ways, Seek to obey his teaching and live by his example.**

LEADER: We walk with him, walk in him, abide in him, As a branch in a vine. We have not seen him, but we love him.

**ALL: His words are to us words of life eternal, and to know him is to know the true and living God.**

LEADER: We do not see him now, but we have confidence in Jesus. Amen.

**ANTHEM** ..... “Where’s the Line to See Jesus?” ... Faith Choir

**KIDS TIME** ..... “The Legend of the Candy Cane” ... Pastor Victor

- CHILDREN’S CHURCH ... Children 4 through 9 years of age are invited to the Classroom for Children’s Church during the rest of our Service.
- SUNDAY SCHOOL ... Youth in Grades 3 through 6 are invited to the Youth Room (downstairs) during the rest of our Service.

**\*SCRIPTURE READING** ..... **Matthew 1: 18-25; Luke 2:1-7 (ESV)**

LEADER: Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way.

**ALL: When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.**

LEADER: And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

**ALL: But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**

LEADER: She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

**ALL: All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).**

LEADER: When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,

**ALL: but knew her not until she had given birth to a son.**

LEADER: And he called his name Jesus.

**ALL: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.**

LEADER: This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

**ALL: 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.**

LEADER: 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.

LEADER: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC ..... “Breath of Heaven” ... Melody Kluntz**

**PASTORAL PRAYER ..... for our Church, Our Community and Our World**

**THE LORDS PRAYER (In Unison) ..... UMH No. 895**

**MESSAGE ..... “Joseph”... Rev. Victor Waters**

**WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING**

**OFFERTORY**

**DOXOLOGY ..... UMH No. 95**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE ..... “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”**

**God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen God rest ye merry, gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay Remember, Christ, our Savior  
Was born on Christmas day, To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy**

**In Bethlehem, in Israel, This blessed Babe was born  
And laid within a manger Upon this blessed morn  
The which His Mother Mary Did nothing take in scorn  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy**

**From God our Heavenly Father A blessed Angel came;  
And unto certain Shepherds Brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by Name.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy**

**"Fear not then," said the Angel, "Let nothing you affright,  
This day is born a Savior Of a pure Virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in Him From Satan's power and might."  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy**

The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding In tempest, storm and wind:  
And went to Bethlehem straightway, The Son of God to find.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

And when they came to Bethlehem, Where our dear Savior lay,  
They found Him in a manger, Where oxen feed on hay; His Mother  
Mary kneeling down, Unto the Lord did pray.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

Now to the Lord sing praises; All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas; All other doth deface.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

## **SENDING FORTH**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR PASTOR** – If you would like to contribute to a special gift offering for Pastor Waters and his family, please see Paul Lohse or Dave Baldini.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP** – **Tues., Dec. 24, @ 4:30 p.m.**

\*\* No Christmas Day worship service at Faith UMC.



**RUTH & MARY CIRCLES**– Ruth & Mary Circles are not meeting in December.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY** –

- The Faith UM Church Office will be closed Monday, Dec. 24 through Wednesday, Dec. 26 and again on Friday, Dec. 28. Tina will be in the Office on Thursday, Dec. 27.
- The Office will also be closed on Monday, Dec. 31 and Tuesday, Jan. 1.

**OFFICE POSITION** – **Please help spread the word!** Part-time Administrative Position, see ad posted outside the office, in the Waseca County News or at the Conference “Classifieds” online.

**REMEMBER OUR CHURCH & MILITARY FAMILY IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

**Remember our Church Members & Friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they have, or would like, including:**

**Cedarview Care Center, Owatonna:** Elaine Flathers

**Colony Court:** Rosalind Peterson

**Colony Court Memory & Care Suites:** Ann Swenson

**Lakeshore Inn:** Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken,  
Don Lohse & Mable Long

**Lakeview Ranch:** Raymond Pommerenke

**Morrow Home, Sparta, WI:** Marlene Rietfort

**Oak Lawn Care Center, Mankato:** Gerri Peterson

**Shorewood Senior Campus, Rochester:** Darlene Lynch

**Those who are ill, injured or homebound:** Jim & Marian Keller, Willie Mahler, Chuck Youngberg and Nina Youngberg.

**Please Remember:** The family and friends of Don Frank during their time of loss.



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE ...

12/23/2012 (Sun.)	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> PANCAKE COLLECTION SUNDAY (for Food Shelf) 9:30 a.m. – Contemporary Worship *Children’s Church & Sunday School 10:30 a.m. – Fellowship NO Youth Group today.
12/24/2012 (Mon.)	CHRISTMAS EVE Church Office & Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today. <b>4:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service</b>
12/25/2012 (Tues.)	<b>** No Christmas Day worship Service**</b> Church Office & Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today. <b>No Conversation, Bible &amp; Friends today.</b>
12/26/2012 (Wed.)	Church Office & Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today. (Tina vacation) No Lake Shore Video today.
12/27/2012 (Thurs.)	10 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Office Hours (Tina) Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today.
12/28/2012 (Fri.)	Church Office and Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today.
12/30/2012 (Sun.)	9:30 a.m. – Worship *Children’s Church & Sunday School 10:30 a.m. – Fellowship
12/31/2012 (Mon.)	NEW YEARS EVE Church Office & Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today. (Tina vacation)
1/1/2013 (Tues.)	NEW YEAR’S DAY Church Office & Hansel & Gretel CLOSED today.
1/2/2013 (Wed.)	10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Church Office Open 3:15 p.m. – Lake Shore Inn Video 7 p.m. – Choir Practice