



Sunday, December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Please be aware that our services are livestreamed, and any adults and/or children participating in musical groups, children's messages and liturgist roles will appear on camera.

Prelude *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* Johann Pachelbel
 French Noël on When the Savior Jesus Christ was Born Jean-François Dandrieu
 Velda Graham Bell, organ

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love Tina and Steve Farrell
One: We are in the season of Advent. A time of waiting and preparing for the coming Christ. Each Sunday we light a candle to guide us in our journey. We relight the candles of HOPE, PEACE, and JOY. Today we light the candle of LOVE as we sing together:

All: **Light a candle bright and tall for a Love which knows no end.** *(sung to the tune of "Dix")*
 Love that comes to one and all. Fear and hatred to upend.
 Shine within our hearts today. Come, O Love, to us, we pray.

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Thank you to Bishop David Bard

Call to Worship Pastor Jeanine Alexander
One: We gather in preparation
All: For good news is about to be proclaimed.
One: We gather in expectation
All: For joy is about to break forth in our midst.
One: We gather in celebration
All: For we are those people who have said "yes" to the manger, "yes" to the one incarnate for others, "yes" to the wholeness of God.

***Hymn** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* UM Hymnal #220

The Sacrament of Baptism Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Adelynn Larson, Brooke Larson, Aiden Davis, Owen Larson

Congregational Response: **With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Adelynn, Brooke, Aiden, and Owen, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

Children may leave for Sunday School following the baptisms.

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Unison Prayer: **Lord, a candle burns, the sign of love that comes from heaven. God of love, come to us again this Advent. May your love live within us, burning as a light in our lives.**

Prayer of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer

Loving God, Sacred One, Blessed be your name. May your kingdom come, your dream arrive, your purpose prevail, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive those who have wronged us. Help us steer clear of temptation and protect us from evil. We trust you in this, for the kingdom, its power and its beauty, are yours forever. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Offering Music *Ukrainian Bell Carol*

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

Class Ring; Bill Alexander, director

Offering Prayer

The Nine Lessons and Carols

Thank you for holding your applause until the end of the service.

Carol

Of the Father's Love Begotten

12th century plainsong

Riley Hinnenkamp, bass

First Lesson

Reader: Geoff Bell

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head. (Genesis 3:8-15)

Carol

The Truth from Above

Traditional English carol, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Second Lesson

Reader: Barb Kim

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed. (Genesis 22:15-18)

Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

15th cent. French melody, arr. McDonald and Nelson

Derek Bromme, trombone

Third Lesson

Reader: Sarah Maddy

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah. (Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7)

*** Congregational Carol**

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

UM Hymnal #223

Fourth Lesson

Reader: Ben Hintzman

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. (Isaiah 11:1, 2, 3a, 4a, 6-9)

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

16th cent. German carol, harmonized by Michael Praetorius

Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Fifth Lesson

Reader: Mark Harvey

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Luke 1:26-35, 38)

Carol

The Seven Rejoices of Mary

Traditional English carol

Elise Hintzman, alto; Ben Hintzman, piano

Sixth Lesson

Reader: Kyle Harriss

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. (Luke 2:1, 3-7)

Carol

See Amid the Winter's Snow

arr. Daniel Forrest

Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Jenna Mattson, violin; Kevin Peterson, viola; Rebecca Peterson, cello

Seventh Lesson

Reader: Ellen Hill

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah. (Luke 2:8-16)

Carol

Night of Silence

Daniel Kantor, arr. Robert Ward

Strikepoint and Sanctuary Choir; Bill Alexander and Derek Bromme, directors

Please join the choir in singing "Silent Night" on the third verse:

*Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

Eighth Lesson

Reader: Leah Hulst

Scholars from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus. (Matthew 2:1-11)

Carol

Coventry Carol

Traditional English carol, arr. Sandra Eithun

Strikepoint; Bill Alexander, director

Ninth Lesson

Reader: Shane LeClaire

The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-14)

*** Congregational Carol** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

UM Hymnal #234, v. 1-3

Prayer

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

arr. Alfred Fedak

Velda Graham Bell, organ

** please stand as you are comfortable*



Sanctuary Choir Director:

Derek Bromme

Strikepoint and Class Ring Director:

Bill Alexander

Music Director and Organist:

Velda Graham Bell, organ

Today's service is based on the well-known Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols that has been presented by the Choir of King's College in Cambridge, England, annually since 1918.

Announcements



*to fill out the **Connect Cards** each week. They are replacing the attendance pads formerly found in the pews. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. **On the back of the card**, is a list of ministry opportunities, where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up*

*where you can. **Guests:** Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.*

Please join us for coffee and doughnuts in Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

Thank you to everyone who has turned in their estimates of giving for 2023 and their participation surveys. If you haven't yet, please mail them to the church (230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811) or bring them to the church office. Extra copies are available in envelopes on the ushers' tables in the Narthex. Please help us by returning your forms to the church.

A gift to light the church for the week of December 18 was given by the 2x2s in memory of Al Merry, whose birthday would have been December 17. The gift will also support the Sanctuary Choir.

Ruby's Pantry food distribution for December has been moved to this Thursday, December 22, due to the snowstorm.

Upcoming Worship Services:

***Saturday, December 24** – Christmas Eve services at 4:00 (in person and livestreamed) and 10:00pm (in person only). Music will be led by Tapestry and Velda Graham Bell at 4pm and by the Sanctuary Choir, Extollers (our reunion bell choir) and Velda Graham Bell at 10pm.*

***Sunday, December 25** – Christmas Day at 10:00am (in person only). Music will be led Velda Graham Bell.*

***Sunday, January 1** – 10am in person for an interactive Wesleyan Covenant Service to begin a new year, or watch a brief pre-recorded worship service on YouTube.*

***January 8 – February 5** – “Being Created Anew” sermon series, calling us to fully and completely accept and love ourselves and others.*

There will be no Sunday School on December 25 or January 1. Sunday School will resume January 8.

Baptized this morning are Adelynn, Brooke, and Owen Larson, and Aiden Davis. Adelynn was born May 6, 2011, Brooke was born August 28, 2012, and Owen was born February 13, 2022. Their parents are Brian and Jolene Larson, and grandparents are Mark and Linda Larson, Amy Bray, and Ray Moore.

Aiden Jimmy Davis was born February 11, 2016. His parents are Sarah Walker-Davis and William Davis and his siblings are Kiah Walker, Ava Davis and Ella Davis. His godparents are April and Hecto Jacinto.

Thank you to everyone who participated in last week's Christmas Pageant, especially to our adult stars: Chuck Campbell, Kate Campbell, Anne Collins, Mike Donahue, Bailey Fazzio, Mary Giese, Cindy Giuliani, Kyle Harriss, Ellen Hill, Dustin Nielsen, Leslie Nielsen, Jana Picotte.

***Guest WIFI Network:** FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.*

Thank you to Alex Flinner, Tommy Kishida and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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