

Order of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2019 10:00am
*(***indicates to stand if able)*

PRELUDE: "Christmas Fantasy" (By Dennis Alexander) **Nadine Shank**
WORDS OF WELCOME **Joyce Monska**

******CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: A Peace comes over us as we picture a baby wrapped swaddling clothes. We see a gift of love that God has given us..

People: God's greatest joy, his Son will lie in a manger surrounded with animals and travelers to Bethlehem.

Leader: The story of everyday life unfolds; so that we can see the greatness of God's gift to us.

People: God's presence draws near to us now! God knows us. God is being revealed to us in the joy of the blessed birth.

Leader: God's love comes to us in a way that no one would perceive.

People: For God's peace is with us always; assuring us that we will never be alone. That through his grace all is well.

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

INVOCATION **Joyce Monska**

Leader: O surprising and infinite God you set our minds to wondering.

People: How life is to be, how it will turn out for us and how each day may be where the One who is god will come.

Leader: Like Mary, we are filled with amazement and joy that you, O lord have given us the greatest of gifts.

People: Help us to join Mary, in the giving of birth to hope, to love, to peace and to joy for all creation in all corners of this world.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (Roxie Pin and Lois Bailey)

Reader 1: As we gather around the Advent wreath we rejoice that Christmas is a time to be grateful and realize that the peace of God dwells within us all. We relight the candles of hope, love and joy to remind us of all the gifts that God gives us every day of our lives. *[relight the two purple & 1 pink candle]*

Reader 2: We now light the fourth candle to proclaim the coming of the Light of God into the world. With Christ's coming, the Peace of God can fill our souls and provide us with confidence that God in Christ is a Way to live our lives in Peace. *[light the last purple candle] Let us pray together....*

ALL: O God your love is made real to us in the gift of Jesus, who came to earth that we might know You and love You. Open our hearts that we might receive your Peace. Let your Peace dwell among us and guide throughout our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Rev. David F. Hurst

Leader: O God, creator of laughter and beauty, pleasure and joy, we ask for your insight, and unconditional love.

People: We see longer lists and fewer days, busy schedules and impatient shoppers. We have fewer dollars and greater needs. Restore in us that childlike wonder and a shepherd's sense of excitement. Open our ears to angel choruses and fill our hearts with the joy that must have filled Mary's heart.

Leader: O God, put our lists in order and our days in service to you, joyous creator, Prince of Peace, loving God. Amen

***** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***** TIME FOR ALL AGES**

Joyce Monska

PSALTER READING: Psalm 148 (Red Hymnal pgs. 861-862)

Joyce Monska

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. David F. Hurst

Pastoral Prayers

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

*****Response "Glory Be to the Father"**

SCRIPTURE READING/First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16

Joyce Monska

(Chair Bible Old Testament pg. 636)

*****HYMN OF PREPARATION: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"** **UMH # 211**

SCRIPTURE READING/Second Lesson: John 1:1-13
(Chair Bible New Testament Pgs. 91-92)

Rev. David F. Hurst

SERMON: "New Beginnings"

Rev. David F. Hurst

MINISTRY OF GIVING: "Away in the Manager" (by Douglas Wagner)

*****Doxology**

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia!

Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts

Praise the Spirit! Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Prayer of Dedication

*****PARTING HYMN: "Hark! the Herald Angels"**

UMH # 240

BENEDICTION

Leader: O God, you are the Light of the world.

People: May your Light shine before all people, so that they may see the glory of God that we celebrate this evening. Let us go now in Peace.

POSTLUDE: 'Good Christian Friends, Rejoice' (by Paul Laubengayer) **NadineShank**

Lovely Poinsettias adorn our altar area this morning. If anyone can leave their flower through our Christmas Eve Service, it would be appreciated. You will be able to take your flower following the Christmas Eve Service or Tuesday, December 24th, Pam will be in the office from 9am - Noon (side front door)
Thank You

Attendance for Sunday, December 15th was Adults 32 Children 3

Church Happenings for week of December 22nd

Sunday, December 22nd - Christmas Sunday Service 10:00am
Tuesday, December 24th - Office Hours 9am - Noon
Tuesday, December 24th - Service of Scripture, Candlelight and Song 6pm
Wednesday, December 25th - Christmas Day (office closed)

Church Happenings for week of December 29th

Sunday, December 29th - Morning Worship 10:00am
Tuesday, December 31st - Office Hours 9am - Noon
No meetings scheduled for this week

Church Happenings for week of January 5th

Sunday, January 5th - Morning Worship/Communion 10:00am
Wednesday, January 8th - Office Hours 8:30am-1:30pm
Thursday, January 9th - Local Missions Mtg. 10:00am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Tuesday, December 24th 6:00pm

A family service of Scripture, Candlelight and Carols will be held here at church at 6:00pm. Please plan to attend this beautiful family service.

UPPER ROOM BOOKLETS FOR January / February 2020 are on the 'Table of Opportunity' today, please be sure to take your copy.

ANNUAL GIVING PLEDGE BOXES will be ready for pick up next Sunday, December 29th ('Table of Opportunity').

2019 ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS will be ready for pick up on Sunday, January 19th ('Table of Opportunity').

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