

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 14, 2025~9:30 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, we gather to rejoice in God who does wondrous things, who promises that someday all manner of things shall be well.

We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

We worship with joy now, confident that God will not stop until all creation is at peace.

We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

We lift up our voices in song and story, in prayer and praise, as we remember and rejoice in all that God has done and will do among us.

We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

Come! Let us worship God with joy as we work with God toward the day when all creation lives in everlasting joy.

Come! Let us rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

HYMN....."Prepare the Way of the Lord".....UMH #207, 2x

UNISON PRAYER

We gather together in this season of Advent anticipating hope, praying for peace, attempting to cultivate joy and share love. God, we confess that we have often placed our hope in people and things that can't fulfill our every need. God, when we have lost our way, show us yours. Guide us to the hope in you that will renew our strength. Lead us to your peace that transcends all understanding. Fill us with a joy we can only experience in your presence. Remind us that you have always loved us, so that we may share that love with others. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Lay Reader: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

All: We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:10).

Lay Reader: We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

(Light the third candle (pink) of the Advent wreath)

PASSING THE PEACE

Let us pass the peace of Christ to one another.

ANTHEM....."A Star That Shines For Us All"Faith Choir

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

DOXOLOGY....."Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Unison

Gracious God of deep joy, you call us to see with kingdom eyes—to look for healing, hope, and signs of your grace breaking in. In this Advent season of expectation, we bring these gifts as expressions of joy, rooted not in ease but in trust. May our giving bear witness to your good news. Use these offerings and us as signs of your coming reign, lights in the storm, and carriers of joy. In the name of Jesus, our hope and our Redeemer. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Janet Welch

Isaiah 35:5-10

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool,
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay,
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there;
it will be called the Way of Holiness;
it will be for those who walk on that Way.

The unclean will not journey on it;
wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there,
nor any ravenous beast;
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there,
and those the LORD has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.

Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Matthew 11:2-11

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written:

“‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD!
THANKS BE TO GOD!**

HYMN.....“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”UMH #218

MESSAGE.....“Build a Solid Foundation of Faith”Rev. Dong Hun Shin

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..... “The Snow Lay on the Ground”TFWS #2093

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:

Benedictine Owatonna: Les Wells

Colony Court: Margaret Dahnert

Foxdale: Sherry Scholljegerdes

Lakeshore Inn: Peggy Deno

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson, Wally Ruedy

Prayer Requests for Sunday: The Baldini Family, Gail Sauer, Kathy Dahnert Johnson, Margaret Dahnert, Les Wells, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Anna Born, Lori Schneidewind, Darla Dahnert, Nancy Tollefson, DJ Choi, Karen Ferch, Lona Willaimson, Jon Schultz, Jill Ledbetter, Ed Herbig, Bud Deno, Neil Fruechte, the Ukraine, the Middle East, government officials, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be sure to sign the red attendance pads at the ends of the pews. To assist the ushers, please tear off the page after signing and leave it on top of the attendance pad.

We invite you to join us this advent season as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus. On Sunday, December 21 Faith Choir will present the cantata, “Sing Christmas”, during worship service. On Wednesday, December 24, we will have a Christmas Eve worship service at 4:00pm.

I want to extend my sincere thanks for the generous gift basket. Your thoughtful gesture is truly appreciated, and I am looking forward to the strength it will give me for my college exams. It means so much to have a supporting church family. Thanks again.

Aiden Groskreutz

Please note changes to Stacy’s schedule with the upcoming holidays. Next week, the week of December 15, Stacy will be **in** the office on Monday and Wednesday. The week of December 22, she will be **in** the office on Monday, December 22. The week of December 29, she will be **in** the office on Monday, December 29 and Wednesday, December 31.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

12/14/2025 (Sun.)	Third Sunday of Advent 9:30am – Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30am – Fellowship
12/15/2025 (Mon.)	Newsletter Deadline
12/17/2025 (Wed.)	12:00pm – Elizabeth Circle (Mary Stauffer's Home) 7:00pm – Choir Practice (*LV Room) 7:00pm – Confirmation Class (Church Office)
12/21/2025 (Sun.)	Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:30am – Worship Service (Choir Cantata) 10:30am – Fellowship 2:00pm – Barb Klampe Piano Recital (**FH)

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

Monday & Wednesday 9:30am to 1:00pm

Rev. Dong Hun Shin Office Hours this Week:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00am to 12:30pm

Rev. Dong Hun Shin Contact Info.:

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