



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Announcements and Greeting

#### Prelude

#### Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader 1: Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. During this season called Advent we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ. The candle of hope reminds us that our only hope is in God, who promises to redeem and bless all people. The candle of peace reminds us of God's desire for a peaceful world. The candle of joy reminds us of the joy of God's salvation and presence.

**Reader 2: The love and faithfulness of God was proclaimed by the prophets. God will send a Savior. Prepare the way. The angel delivered God's message of love to Mary. "You will bear a Son who will rule over the throne of David and His kingdom will have no end."**

Reader 1: God's love will bring blessings to all people. The desert will burst into bloom, and the wilderness will gush with water. The blind will see, the deaf will hear, and the lame will walk. Where there was despair, God's great love will bring rejoicing.

**Reader 2: On this last Sunday of Advent, we can rejoice with Mary. Mercy will abound for those who are faithful. The mighty will fall and the humble will be exalted. Those who hunger will be filled. God's kingdom love will be revealed. Today we light the candle of Love.**

#### Invocation

### Hymn of Praise

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
From our sins and fears release us, let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

### Advent Drama

"Mary's Song"

### Morning Prayer

Rev. Gary Ihfe

### Hymn of Reflection

"Now My Spirit Sings"

A message so astonishing, with awe and joy we take it in.  
This day and ever, earth shall ring to hear the news the angel brings.

Now my spirit sings, worshipping my Lord and King,  
Who has done great things for me now and evermore.  
I will bear a Son, who will be the Chosen One.  
Magnify the Lord with me. Worship and adore.

Glory, glory, glory be to God on high! Let the earth rejoice in our Savior!  
Glory, glory; for the Lord has done great things. Blessed be His holy name.

Unto us a Child is born. Unto us a Son is given,  
And upon His shoulders rest all things in earth and heaven.  
God has heard His people's plea and has answered faithfully.  
Soon His glory all the world will see.

Glory, glory, glory be to God on high! Let the earth rejoice in our Savior!  
Glory, glory; for the Lord has done great things. Blessed be His holy name.

Now my spirit sings. Blessed be His holy name.

### Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:39-56

### Sermon

"Magnify the Lord"

Rev. Jodie Ihfe

### Hymn of Commitment

"Canticle of the Turning"

### Benediction