



POLK CITY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Advent Study: Sundays at 10:30 AM on ZOOM

Texting Small Group: on your own time; sign up to receive texts

Virtual Tea Time: Weekly! Wednesdays, at 3:30 PM on ZOOM

YOUTH GROUP for 6th-12th grade and **FUEL KIDS** for 3rd-6th grade are moving online. Details on website.

Send us a Video Greeting: Record yourself/your family sharing Holiday Greetings and [upload HERE](#)

Sign up to Light the Advent Candles
Find instructions & pick a date [HERE](#)

Mission Opportunities:

- Bring **Christmas decorations** for Polk City Nursing Home
- Bring **food items** or [donate HERE](#) for the Comet Cupboard
- **Donate \$20 Walmart cards** to Comet Cupboard for kids of families who receive monthly bag of groceries (by Dec. 12)

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POLK CITY UMC

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

POLKCITYUMC.ORG

ADVENT 2020: "Waiting on the World to Change"

This Advent comes at the end of a long year of turmoil. Many of us are ready to collapse from fatigue and let Christmas come as it may, while others of us have had our Christmas tree up since 8pm on Halloween, searching for extra cheer at the end of a difficult year. No matter where you may fall, you are likely waiting for the world to change! That's really what Advent is all about - leaning into the longing and yearning we have for Christ to come into our world, and to change it for good. Join us for worship this Advent:
Sundays at 9:30 AM (Nov. 29 - Dec. 20)

Beginning this Sunday, Nov. 29, you can join ZOOM online with a computer, smartphone or tablet - or dial in by phone - for a time of fellowship before worship. Then stay on ZOOM to worship together, or switch to Facebook Live.

"Coffee & Fellowship" begins on ZOOM at 9:15 AM

JOIN ZOOM ONLINE: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86236822821>

CALL BY PHONE: 1-312-626-6799 &

enter **Meeting ID** when prompted: 862 3682 2821

Blue Christmas Service

Sunday, December 20th at
5:00PM

an online service to name the people and things we miss and are grieving this year

Christmas Eve Worship

Thursday, December 24th at
5:00PM

ZOOM worship that includes a live interactive "Silent Night" candle-lighting

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

All words for communal speaking and singing are included below. Attend to these words for worship, and if you are masked, you may speak and sing aloud, but quietly. Say hello and post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hope is gravity for the broken – **pulling us up.**

Hope is manna in the wilderness – **when we want to give up.**

Hope is seeing stars in the city – **when we forget the sky is there.**

Hope is the anthem of faith – **and the reason we're here.**

So come to this place with your hopes and your fears – **for the God of new life is drawing near.**

CAROL OF PRAISE

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UMH 196

Verse 1

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins 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

Verse 2

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

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Scott Mead, Ernie Brees, George Hess, and Dan & Mai Golbuff family

UNISON PRAYER

Loving God, as we enter this Advent season, we open all the dark places of our hearts for your love and light to enter in. Thank you for the words of the Prophet Isaiah that remind us that you are the source of our hope. Help us to live each day, allowing you to form us in a way that brings about your kingdom here on earth. Amen.

CANDLE-LIGHTING CAROL

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” verse 1

UMH 211

Light the first advent candle

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

PASTORAL PRAYER

Post prayer requests in the [ZOOM](#) Chat, the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

LORD'S PRAYER

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

CAROL OF REFLECTION**“O Little Town of Bethlehem” verses 1,3,4**

UMH 230

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem
 How still we see thee lie
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The everlasting Light
 The hopes and fears of all the years
 Are met in thee tonight

Verse 3

How silently how silently
 The wondrous gift is given
 So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of His heaven

No ear may hear His coming
 But in this world of sin
 Where meek souls will receive Him still
 The dear Christ enters in

Verse 4

O holy Child of Bethlehem
 Descend to us we pray
 Cast out our sin and enter in
 Be born in us today
 We hear the Christmas angels
 The great glad tidings tell
 O come to us abide with us
 Our Lord Emmanuel

SCRIPTURE READINGS**First Reading:****Isaiah 64:1-9**

If only you would tear open the heavens and come down!

Mountains would quake before you

² like fire igniting brushwood or making water boil.

If you would make your name known to your enemies,
 the nations would tremble in your presence.

³ When you accomplished wonders beyond all our expectations;
 when you came down, mountains quaked before you.

⁴ From ancient times,
 no one has heard,
 no ear has perceived,
 no eye has seen any god but you
 who acts on behalf of those who wait for him!

⁵ You look after those who gladly do right;
 they will praise you for your ways.

But you were angry when we sinned;
 you hid yourself when we did wrong.

⁶ We have all become like the unclean;
 all our righteous deeds are like a menstrual rag.

All of us wither like a leaf;
 our sins, like the wind, carry us away.

⁷ No one calls on your name;
 no one bothers to hold on to you,
 for you have hidden yourself from us,
 and have handed us over to our sin.

⁸ But now, Lord, you are our father.
 We are the clay, and you are our potter.
 All of us are the work of your hand.

⁹ Don't rage so fiercely, Lord;
 don't hold our sins against us forever,
 but gaze now on your people, all of us.

Gospel Reading:**Mark 13:24-37**

²⁴ “In those days, after the suffering of that time, the sun will become dark, and the moon won’t give its light. ²⁵ The stars will fall from the sky, and the planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Human One coming in the clouds with great power and splendor. ²⁷ Then he will send the angels and gather together his chosen people from the four corners of the earth, from the end of the earth to the end of heaven.

²⁸ “Learn this parable from the fig tree. After its branch becomes tender and it sprouts new leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that he’s near, at the door. ³⁰ I assure you that this generation won’t pass away until all these things happen. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

³² “But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the angels in heaven and not the Son. Only the Father knows. ³³ Watch out! Stay alert! You don’t know when the time is coming. ³⁴ It is as if someone took a trip, left the household behind, and put the servants in charge, giving each one a job to do, and told the doorkeeper to stay alert. ³⁵ Therefore, stay alert! You don’t know when the head of the household will come, whether in the evening or at midnight, or when the rooster crows in the early morning or at daybreak. ³⁶ Don’t let him show up when you weren’t expecting and find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to all: Stay alert!”

SERMON**“Hope Can’t Wait”****Pastor Melody Webb****OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

Make your offering [online](#) or mail checks to 1421 W. Broadway St., Polk City, IA 50226 (Attn: Finance Secretary)

DOXOLOGY CAROL**“What Child Is This” verse 3****UMH 219**

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh
Come, peasant, king, to own him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone him

This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring him laud
The babe, the son of Mary

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Potter and creator of our lives, bless the gifts we bring to you today. Shape them into vessels of your loving grace for those in need of your presence. In your name, we pray. Amen.

CAROL OF SENDING**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/King of Heaven”****CCLI Song #7019799***Verse 1*

Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Chorus

King of Heaven come down
King of Heaven come now
Let Your glory reign shining like the day
King of Heaven come
King of Heaven rise up
Who can stand against us
You are strong to save
In Your mighty name King of Heaven come

Verse 2

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace
Hail the Son of righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings

Verse 3

Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing

Glory to the newborn King

Ending

King of Heaven come King of Heaven come
King of Heaven come King of Heaven come
King of Heaven come down
King of Heaven come now
Let Your glory reign shining like the day
King of Heaven come

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WORDS OF BLESSING

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