



POLK CITY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 6, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Advent Study: Sundays at 10:45 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

CHILDREN (K-5th) ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL – today at 10:35 AM

YOUTH GROUP (6th-12th) on ZOOM, Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 6:45 PM

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
- **Donate \$20 Walmart cards** to Comet Cupboard for kids of families who receive monthly bag of groceries (by Dec. 12)

Administrative Assistant:

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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)

Worship online: [Facebook Live](#), [ZOOM](#) or on our [Website](#)

"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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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. You are encouraged to either speak the words in bold aloud as you worship, and to sing out your praise, or to attend to these words for worship and meditate on their meaning. You are also invited to greet one another and post prayer requests in the [ZOOM](#) chat, the [Facebook](#) comments or to fill out the [website](#) connect card.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Prepare the way! – **Deck the halls and light the candles.**

Prepare the way! – **Open the doors and sing a song of hope.**

Prepare the way! – **Make space in our hearts for a new kind of love.**

Christ is coming. – **Prepare the way!**

CAROL OF PRAISE

“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

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
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

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

Chorus

King of Heaven come down
King of Heaven come now

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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ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Heidi & Mark Anderson; Angela & Carly Cupp; Abigail & Hannah Mangae

UNISON PRAYER

God of hope, Prince of Peace, You speak peace into the world in the way of the Christ child. Breathe your Spirit into us that we may become instruments of Your Peace. Give us your shalom that we may be reconciled to all enemies in the peace that passes all understanding, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

O come, O Key of David, come
 and open wide our heavenly home.
 Make safe for us the heavenward road
 and bar the way to death's abode.
 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**“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” verses 1-3***Verse 1*

It came upon the midnight clear,
 that glorious song of old,
 from angels bending near the earth
 to touch their harps of gold:
 "Peace on the earth, good will to men,
 from heaven's all-gracious King."
 The world in solemn stillness lay,
 to hear the angels sing.

above its sad and lowly plains,
 they bend on hovering wing,
 and ever o'er its Babel sounds
 the blessed angels sing.

Verse 3

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
 whose forms are bending low,
 who toil along the climbing way
 with painful steps and slow,
 look now! for glad and golden hours
 come swiftly on the wing.
 O rest beside the weary road,
 and hear the angels sing!

Verse 2

Still through the cloven skies they come
 with peaceful wings unfurled,
 and still their heavenly music floats
 o'er all the weary world;

SCRIPTURE READINGS**First Reading:****Isaiah 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people,
 says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
 and cry to her
 that she has served her term,
 that her penalty is paid,
 that she has received from the Lord's hand
 double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.
⁶A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;^l
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'
¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Gospel Reading:

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son, ²happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah:

Look, I am sending my messenger before you.

He will prepare your way,

³*a voice shouting in the wilderness:*

*"Prepare the way for the Lord;
make his paths straight."*

⁴John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. ⁵Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. ⁶John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He announced, "One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

SERMON

"Peace 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

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

“What Child Is This” verse 3

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

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We bring these offerings to you today to help us continue on the path you set before us. May our gifts enable others to come together on your path, and for us to walk in a way that brings glory to your name.

WORDS OF BLESSING

CAROL OF SENDING

Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator,
children all are we.
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Let peace begin with me;
let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment
in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me.

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