



POLK CITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 20, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Find [adult small groups & devotions](#)

See what's happening in [Youth](#) and [Children's](#) Ministries

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

**Christmas Mission Offering:**

- **Ministering to the poor, the homeless & the incarcerated.**  
100% of offerings designated for Christmas Missions will be given to Bidwell-Riverside, Joppa & Women at the Well.
- Designate your gift as "Christmas Mission"

**Hang a "Memory Tag" on the Outdoor [Blue Christmas](#) Trees**

- Name the persons, places or things you are missing or grieving this year
- Tags are located next to the two trees nearest the Comet Cupboard

**Administrative Assistant:**

Christine Perry  
[office@polkcityumc.org](mailto:office@polkcityumc.org)

**Children/Youth Ministry:**

Lauren Wilken  
[lauren.wilken@polkcityumc.org](mailto:lauren.wilken@polkcityumc.org)

**Pastor:**

Melody Webb  
[melody.webb@polkcityumc.org](mailto:melody.webb@polkcityumc.org)  
314-630-0768



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**

Find online worship links at [www.polkcityumc.org/worship](http://www.polkcityumc.org/worship)

**Blue Christmas Service**

Sunday, December 20th

5:00PM | Facebook Live

*an online service to*

*name the people and things we miss and are grieving this year*

**Christmas Eve Worship**

Thursday, December 24th

5:00PM | ZOOM

*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

We are courageous – **When we are vulnerable.**

We are courageous – **When we are honest with ourselves.**

We are courageous – **When we extend words of welcome.**

We are courageous – **When we proclaim the love of God to a broken world.**

We are courageous – **When we say that love cannot wait.**

So let us be courageous—**Let us worship Holy God.**

## CAROL OF PRAISE

### “What a Beautiful Name”

CCLI Song # 7068424

#### Verse 1

You were the Word at the beginning  
One with God the Lord Most High  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ

#### Chorus 1

What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a beautiful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

#### Verse 2

You didn't want heaven without us  
So Jesus You brought heaven down  
My sin was great Your love was greater  
What could separate us now

#### Chorus 2

What a wonderful Name it is  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a wonderful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

#### Bridge

Death could not hold You  
The veil tore before You  
You silence the boast of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring  
The praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival  
You have no equal  
Now and forever God You reign  
Yours is the kingdom  
Yours is the glory  
Yours is the Name above all names

#### Chorus 3

What a powerful Name it is  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a powerful Name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Jason Abbas & Angela Hansen-Abbas

### UNISON PRAYER

God, you enter our lives and call to us to be open to hearing the cries of people who feel lost and alienated, who feel that no one cares or ever will care about them. Help us practice love in action with family, friends and strangers, as we seek to learn how to love unconditionally and share your love with others. In the name of Jesus we pray – Amen.

### CANDLE-LIGHTING CAROL

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” verse 6

UMH 211

*Light four advent candles for “Hope,” “Peace,” “Joy” & “Love”*

O come, Desire of nations bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind.  
From dust thou brought  
Us forth to life;  
deliver us from earthly strife.  
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

“In the Bleak Midwinter” verses 1, 3

UMH 221

*Verse 1*

In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

*Verse 3*

Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air;  
but his mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup> When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David’s house. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> When the angel came to her, he said, “Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup> She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. <sup>31</sup> Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. <sup>33</sup> He will rule over Jacob’s house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom.”

<sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel, “How will this happen since I haven’t had sexual relations with a man?”

<sup>35</sup> The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God’s Son. <sup>36</sup> Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth

has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. <sup>37</sup> Nothing is impossible for God."

<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." Then the angel left her.

**SERMON**

**"Love 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**

**This day, we bring to you what we can. May these gifts be the good news of the gospel for those who need it during this Advent season. And may they be instruments of your grace for those who need to know your goodness. Amen.**

**WORDS OF BLESSING**

**CAROL OF SENDING**

**"Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)"**

**CCLI Song # 5607039**

*Verse 1*

Joy to the world the Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

*Chorus*

Joy unspeakable joy  
An overflowing well  
No tongue can tell  
Joy unspeakable joy  
It rises in my soul  
Never lets me go

*Verse 2*

Joy to the world the Savior reigns  
Let all their songs employ  
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

*Verse 3*

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders wonders of His love

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Matt Gilder | © sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | CCLI License # 2419923