



POLK CITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 3, 2021

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## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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

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## 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

L: O Come, Let us Adore Him, Christ the Lord!

P: **The Star in the dark sky heralded His Coming.**

L: Led by the light of the Star, the Wise Ones came to pay homage.

P: **We, too, come to the stable, seeking the infant King.**

L: Come, Arise! Shine! The Light has come.

P: **God's Light of love is shining upon us. AMEN.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

### "O Rejoice"

CCLI Song # 4489708

Come come and behold the Son

Come come and behold the babe

Come see what the Lord has done

Come heaven has made a way

See see in the east a star

Come now as the angels sing

All glory be unto God

Born born is the saving King

O rejoice rejoice

Heaven sings tonight

Rejoice the Lord is come

Still still is the weary world

Still but for the humble praise

Hear hear as the shepherds sing

Join join as the drummer plays

O rejoice rejoice

Heaven sings tonight

Rejoice the Lord is come

O rejoice rejoice

Heaven sings tonight

Rejoice the Lord is come

Fall fall on your knees fall down

Joy joy to the world this day

Here find ye the word as flesh

Here here on a bed of hay

O rejoice rejoice

Heaven sings tonight

Rejoice the Lord is come

O rejoice rejoice

Heaven sings tonight

Rejoice the Lord is come

## OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God, who breaks through the darkness of doubt and despair, be with us this day as we hear of the visit of the Wise Ones, who risked everything to follow a Star. Let us open our hearts and be willing to risk receiving the gift of gracious Love that you have to offer us in the form of our Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Matthew 2:1-12**

1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**SONG OF PREPARATION**

**"Mary Did You Know"**

**CCLI Song # 839225**

Mary did you know  
That your baby boy  
Would one day walk on water  
Mary did you know  
That your baby boy  
Would save our sons and daughters  
Did you know  
That your baby boy  
Has come to make you new  
This Child that you delivered  
Will soon deliver you  
  
Mary did you know  
That your baby boy  
Would give sight to the blind man  
Mary did you know  
That your baby boy  
Would calm a storm with His hand

Did you know  
That your baby boy  
Has walked where angels trod  
And when you kiss your little baby  
You've kissed the face of God  
  
Mary did you know  
That your baby boy  
Is Lord of all creation  
Mary did you know  
That your baby boy  
Will one day rule the nations  
Did you know  
That your baby boy  
Is heaven's perfect Lamb  
And the sleeping Child you're holding  
Is the great I Am

**SERMON**

***Choosing Sides***

**Donald Perschall**

**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.**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

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

**DOXOLOGY**

**“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**

**Holy God, as the travelers with their treasures were overwhelmed with joy on finding Jesus, we also are overwhelmed on finding out the depth of his love for us. Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts so that they may be used in your ministry in the world today. Amen**

**WORDS OF BLESSING**

**SONG OF SENDING**

**“Let There Be Peace on Earth”**

**CCLI Song # 93690**

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  
As we walk with each other  
In perfect harmony

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now  
With ev'ry 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