

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



"let the little children come to me..."  
Luke 18:16, NIV

**WELCOME CHILDREN!** Children are always welcome in worship! There are **worship activity bags** near the sanctuary entrance that include coloring sheets and stickers to take home, as well as their own glow stick for the candle-lighting at the end of worship (please return other materials for continued use). If you prefer, our **nursery room is open as a "cry room,"** with worship livestreamed on the TV monitor. Go to your left as you leave the sanctuary, through the clinic waiting area.



**CHRISTMAS MISSION OFFERING** This year's Christmas offering will support the ministry of Hawthorn Hill in Des Moines which provides shelter and services for homeless families with children. Their mission is to help homeless families with children obtain permanent housing and achieve economic self-sufficiency. (*Designate "Christmas Mission" in your giving now through Dec 31*)



**SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DEC 26, 9:30 AM.** There will be no in-person worship on Dec. 26. Stay home, have that extra cup of coffee and join us for ONLINE WORSHIP. Be sure to use the comments on Facebook to wish one another a Merry Christmas, and to share joys & concerns. [www.polkcitiumc.org/online-worship](http://www.polkcitiumc.org/online-worship) or [www.facebook.com/polkcitiumc](http://www.facebook.com/polkcitiumc)



**WELCOME PASTOR WENDY MUSGRAVE** who begins her appointment as Polk City UMC's next pastor on January 1! Join us for worship on Sunday, Jan 2 – in person or online – as we meet and welcome Pastor Wendy and her family!



**ALPHA IS COMING** Make plans to join our Alpha program on Wednesdays starting January 5th! Great small group opportunity exploring faith in an open and informal environment. Watch a short preview video after worship on Jan. 2! Sign up on the entryway board or at [www.polkcitiumc.org/grow](http://www.polkcitiumc.org/grow)



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2021**



Thank you for worshipping with us today! For more information on how to get connected, email [office@polkcitiumc.org](mailto:office@polkcitiumc.org) or contact our staff:

Melody Webb, *Outgoing Pastor*: [melody.webb@polkcitiumc.org](mailto:melody.webb@polkcitiumc.org)  
Wendy Musgrave, *Incoming Pastor*: [wendy.musgrave@polkcitiumc.org](mailto:wendy.musgrave@polkcitiumc.org)  
Lauren Wilken, *Children & Youth*: [lauren.wilken@polkcitiumc.org](mailto:lauren.wilken@polkcitiumc.org)

1421 W. Broadway St, Polk City, IA 50226  
[polkcitiumc.org](http://polkcitiumc.org) | [Facebook.com/polkcitiumc](https://www.facebook.com/polkcitiumc)

**PRELUDE MUSIC** *Welcome to worship! Masks are requested for this service, regardless of vaccine status.*  
**Christmas Carols** Instrumentalists: Avery & Makenna Bird, Carson Cupp, Hannah Mangae,  
Carol Parrott, Caleb Webb; Vocalists: Abby Mangae, Melody Webb

**Christmas Medleys** Carol Parrott, French horn  
“Somewhere in My Memory” [Williams] duet by Molly McConnell & Emily Lemay; Tim Haight, piano

**GATHERING SONG** “Heaven Everywhere”

**WELCOME** Pastor Melody Webb  
Please record your presence in the Facebook comments ([facebook.com/polkcitiumc](https://www.facebook.com/polkcitiumc))  
Or fill out an attendance card (on the Welcome table or at [polkcitiumc.org/online-worship](https://www.polkcitiumc.org/online-worship))

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Amber Schelling

Leader: An unmarried teenage girl was invited—

**People: to carry Christ into this world.**

Leader: An ordinary carpenter was invited—

**People: to be a father to a child unlike any other.**

Leader: The shepherds were invited—

**People: outcast and isolated, included at the manger.**

Leader: The Magi were invited—

**People: foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.**

Leader: And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited—

**People: then we can trust that we too are invited.**

Leader: This story is for us.

**People: This love is for us.**

Leader: Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome home.

**People: Amen.**

**SONG OF PRAISE** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” HYMN #234 vs. 1, 3

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING** Abby & Hannah Mangae

**CANDLE-LIGHTING CAROL** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” HYMN #240 vs. 1, 3

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** Angela Cupp

Holy God, we’ve heard this story a million times—Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds. We’ve heard it a million times, but we want to hear it like it’s the first. So move among us. Circle back. Draw close. Crack open our hearts and fill them with your goodness. Help us to hear what it is you might be saying to us with curiosity, joy, and hope. This is an invitation. Come be here with us. Gratefully we pray, amen.

**THE STORY OF MARY** LUKE 1:26-33  
“Mary, Did You Know” Angela Cupp  
Donald Perschall

**THE STORY OF JOSEPH** MATTHEW 1:18-23  
“Light of the World” Donald Perschall  
Melody Webb

**THE STORY OF A BIRTH** LUKE 2:1-7  
“Sweet, Little Jesus Boy” Melody Webb  
Thomas Webb

**THE STORY OF THE SHEPHERDS** LUKE 2:8-14  
“The First Noel” Thomas Webb  
HYMN #235 vs. 1-2

**THE STORY OF THE SHEPHERDS II** LUKE 2:15-20  
“O Holy Night” Molly McConnell

**CALL TO OFFERING / PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, Your story is one that forever invites us to be our full selves, to take up space, to go where we feel called, and to allow this community to feel like home. So use these gifts to keep building your home here. With gratitude as tall as this ceiling, we pray. Amen.

**THE STORY OF THE MAGI** MATTHEW 2:1-2, 7-10  
“The First Noel” Donald Perschall  
HYMN #235 vs. 3, 5

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE** Pastor Melody Webb

**THE STORY OF HOME** JOHN 1:1-2, 4-5, 12-14  
“Silent Night, Holy Night” HYMN #239

**SONG OF SENDING** “Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)”

**BENEDICTION**

**OFFERING:** Your gift in-person, by mail or mobile device, or online at [www.polkcitiumc.org/give](https://www.polkcitiumc.org/give) supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. Thank you for your extravagant generosity!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Find announcements on the back side of the bulletin, or at [www.polkcitiumc.org](https://www.polkcitiumc.org)

**WORSHIP SERVANTS:** Donald Perschall, Caleb Webb (band); Angela Cupp, Kim Johnson, Molly McConnell, Amber Schelling (singers); Rob Cupp, Thomas Webb (tech support); Alissa Mangae, Susan Mahannah (greeters); Dixie Bequeaith, Dan & Mai Golbuff (Christmas decorations)