

Joys and Concerns

Prayer List: Gary Smidt (healing from Surgery), Roger Erickson (Phyllis Burnham's brother) (Covid), Virginia Madsen (healing), Brad Lange (covid), Christy (healing), Julie Ratka's Aunt (covid), Marjorie Hultquist (healing), Maxine Grams (healing), and Lori Conyers's Parents (healing).

Happy Birthday to Sheryl Heath, Sam Martin, & Jade Melroy

Happy Anniversary to William & Becky Barber, 7 years

Pastoral Prayer—The Lord's Prayer

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH#94

*Offertory Prayer

Lord, as you have shined the light of your love into our lives; may the same brightness of your love be revealed as we receive this morning's offering. AMEN

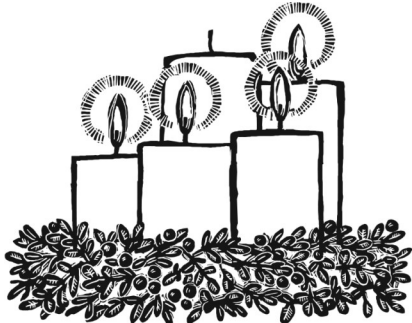
***Closing Song** "Saviour of the World"

Benediction

God has a message for us to deliver! Just as John came as the forerunner of Jesus, so we, too, must prepare the way for Christ into our world. Christmas is not all about us, it's about Jesus, the Rose of Sharon, who comes to offer forgiveness, who comes to transform lives, who comes to baptize with the Holy Spirit. Let us announce him with our actions and our words. Amen.

Postlude

Minden United Methodist Church
340 North Newell Ave. Minden, NE 308-832-1995
Pastor: Rev. Peter Choi cel phone: 1-201-888-8430
www.facebook.com/MindenUMC
www.mindenumc.org



Minden United Methodist Church

Order of Worship
December 20, 2020



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

1. Please continue to read the gospel of Luke for this Advent season. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve, you will have read an entire account of Jesus' life.
2. Christmas Eve service will be offered on-line at 7:00 PM, Thursday. Please pick up candles at the church or prepare your own candles at your home.
3. The Minden Community is offering a Carry Out Christmas Dinner to all those in need on Christmas Day at 4 pm at St. John's Catholic church. To order you must call or text 402-418-1501. Delivery is also available in needed. Please let them know by December 21.
4. Last week we received offerings of \$2,280. Thank you for the offerings, prayers, and food pantry items.

Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love

Suchsland Family

*Opening Songs

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
"10,000 Reasons"

***Call to Worship**

L: Now is the time of watching and waiting.

P: The time of pregnant expectation of new life.

L: Now is the season of hope unfolding.

P: The dark winter season when hope is waiting to be born.

L: Let us come before God with receptive and willing spirits.

P: May our souls magnify God's name and may our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

A: Rejoice! God comes to bring the birthday of life and hope. Amen.

***Opening Prayer**

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel! God with us, You came to us long ago as a helpless babe, as one in need of human love and care. You taught us how to love and care for one another. Help us to hold on to childlike wonder, amazement, and love, and help us to love one another all year long. Guide our feet into the way of peace, as only the Prince of Peace can lead us, by laying down our lives for one another and serving one another. In the name of Christ, Emmanuel, God with Us, we pray. Amen.

***Congregational Prayer**

Children's Time

Scriptures

Luke 1:26-38 (NIV)

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Luke 1:46-55 (NIV)

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message

"The Virgin Birth"

Pastor Peter Choi