Pastoral Prayer—Lord's Prayer

"Doxology United Methodist Hymnal #94 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Special Music "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" Carrie Taylor

Offertory Prayer

Giver of all good things, as we offer these gifts to you, open our eyes to see more clearly all that we have been given and all that we have to give. Stretch our capacity to give of ourselves: our love, our companionship, and our material resources, wherever they are needed. Amen.

Closing Hymn United Methodist Hymnal #203 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Benediction & Sending Forth

Brothers and sisters in Christ, it is time to rejoice. The Lord is near! We are called to go forth from this place in the full assurance of One who promises peace, strength and salvation. You have heard the Good News. Now go forth and allow this news to shine for all that you say, all that you do, and all that you are. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Glen Haselbarth

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 November 28, 2021 1st Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Glen Haselbarth

Welcome and Announcements

 Thank you for sharing your estimate of giving with our church for next year. You are an important part of the ministry of our church and of God's work in our community and the world.
We have pledges for \$117,930 for 2022. If you have not yet returned your estimate of giving commitment cards, I encourage you to return your card. Your commitment makes it possible for us to budget, plan, and provide appropriate resources for our ministries.
Today the Advent season begins. It is an exceptional time of year because it is the first day of a new church calendar and begins a four-week period of preparation in anticipation of the nativity of Jesus at Christmas. Today Pastor Peter starts a sermon series, "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem." As we walk toward Bethlehem for four weeks, we will navigate the meaning of Jesus' birth for us.

3. We would like to thank the UMW members and some other helpers for the Christmas decorations of the church.

4. Also thank all financial committee members for preparing and serving the meal last Sunday.

5. Last week we received offerings of \$3,122.75. Thank you for the offerings and prayers.

First Sunday in Advent: Hope

Call to Worship

L: The days are shorter, and darkness comes early to our lives.

P: Lord, hear our prayers through the darkness.

L: Come, seek the Lord. Place your hope in God's mercy and love.

- P: Lord, we seek your presence among us.
- L: Look closely! God is making us ready.

P: Brighten our Spirits this day, and help us to receive your Good News. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, as we begin this season of Advent, remind us again that in the midst of our darkness you are bringing us peace, to calm our anxious spirits and hectic lives. Turn our hearts again toward you. Make us ready to receive your Son, our Savior. Slow our pace, and give us the blessing of feeling your peace in our spirits. For we ask this in Jesus' precious name. AMEN.

Silent Prayer

Opening Hymn

nn United Methodist Hymnal #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Children's Time

Scriptures

Luke 1:26-38 (NIV)

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

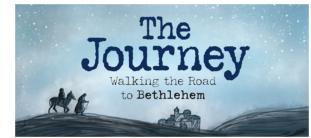
In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with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

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.



Message "What Kinds of Hearts are you Preparing?" by Pastor Peter Choi

Hymn United Methodist Hymnal #211 (vs. 1-4) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Joys and Concerns

<u>Prayer List:</u> Janet & Daughter-Joyce Will's niece,
Gary Smidt, Merlin Beahm, Fred Will,
Jan Hofferber-Kathi Schutz's mother, and
Larry Preston-Jeanette Wilkinson's brother.
<u>Happy Birthday</u> to Diana Hammer, Mike Boudreau, and
Jensen Rowse.
<u>Happy Anniversary</u> to Paul & Mindy Heath—11 years

and Kevin & Terese Smith—34 years.