



• **United Methodist Church**
340 N Newell Ave
Minden, Nebraska
First Sunday after Christmas
10:00 a.m.
December 31, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

1. New Year's worship service will take place on January 7th at 10:00 am. We invite everyone to join us as we come together to usher in the year 2024.
2. If you'd like to volunteer as a scripture reader, usher, greeter, or refreshment host, please write your name on the clipboard in the back.

Call to worship!

L: Praise the Lord, all the earth, from the highest heights to the deepest depths!

P: Let everything sing and shout praise to the Creator!

L: Praise the Lord, all the heavens and starry host!

P: All throughout the universe, may praise to God abound!

L: Come, let us joyfully praise God!

**P: Let us live our praise in deeds of loving-kindness.
AMEN.**

Opening Prayer

God, who walks with each one of us, helps us to place our trust in your guiding care for us as we gather to learn the great lessons of living in a peaceful community with each other. Prepare us to be witnesses of your love and forgiveness. Make us ready to work for you in your creation; for we ask this in the name of Jesus, your beloved Son.
AMEN.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Hymn “O Come, All Ye Faithful” MH#234

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children’s Time

The Apostles’ Creed

UMH#882

Scriptures

Tony Ratka

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message

by

Tony Ratka

Joys and Concerns

Happy Birthday to Joyce Will, Steven Fries, Dick McBride, Rita Smith, Steven Favinger, and Edna Carlson.

Prayer List: Joe Hultquist, Marjorie Hultquist, Larry Anderson, Merlin Beahm, Kent Verbeck, and Peggy Rasmussen.

Prayer—The Lord’s Prayer

“Doxology “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Offertory Prayer

God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further your work in a dark world. May they bring your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time, indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for all to see and be brought into the sphere of your love and righteousness.
AMEN

Closing Hymn

UMH#240

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Sending Forth

Beloved of God, depart now in peace, knowing that you have encountered Christ, our Savior. Go now to watch, to wait, and to spread the light of Christ to the ends of the world, that God’s kingdom might reign on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.