

**United Methodist Church
340 N Newell Ave
Minden, Nebraska
1st Sunday of Advent
10:00 a.m., December 1, 2024**

Prelude

Lena Choi

Welcome and Announcements

1. Advent season begins today, and we are excited to invite families to participate in the tradition of lighting the Advent candles during our worship service. If your family is interested in being a part of this exceptional experience, please sign up on the sheet in the lobby.
2. Thank you to the United Women in Faith for decorating our church beautifully as we wait for the coming of Jesus.
3. This year's Christmas program, titled "New Star", will take place during the worship service on December 15. Our youth and children are practicing making this Christmas meaningful. Please mark your calendars, and we hope everyone can join us for this precious time together.
4. Please volunteer to be a scripture reader, greeter, communion server, or refreshment host. If you want to serve our church and ministry, write your name on the sheet in the back.
5. Please pick up the December newsletter if you want a printed one.
6. Refreshments will be served in Room 300 following worship.
7. Last week we received offerings of \$4,453.

First Sunday in Advent: Hope

The Graham Family

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" UMH#196 vs. 1

Call to worship!

L: Come, all who need help!

P: Our help comes from God, the One who made heaven and earth.

L: When life feels overwhelming, and we're not sure where to turn, we ask: Where does our hope come from?

P: Our hope comes from God.

L: When stress and despair weigh us down, we know we're not alone. God is with us, guiding us through every challenge.

P: God watches over us now and always, in our struggles and our joys.

L: Come, let us worship the Lord, the source of our hope.

P: We lift our eyes and hearts to You, O God, our ever-present help and hope. We come to worship you with joyful hope. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Today, O God, we recognize that even in our challenges, worries, and concerns, you are present. Your presence provides assurance that things will be alright. Even though we might feel lost in the valleys of our lives, you provide direction, strength, and comfort. Thank you for never leaving our side. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical Version)

UMH#882

Opening Songs "Our God" & "Advent Hymn"

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Message

Happy Birthday to

Mike Boudreau
Jensen Rowse
Mike Conyers

Happy Anniversary to

Kevin & Terese
Smith—37 years

Prayer List

Nadine Fahrlander
Lee Mills
Joe Hultquist
Larry Anderson

December 1-7, 2024

Sunday

Monday

7pm Girl Scouts

Tuesday

Wednesday

3:30pm Wed School
5:00pm Education Mtg
6:30pm Youth Group

Thursday

9:30am Prayer Time

Friday

Saturday

**Vision for 2024:
All things work
together for good.
(Romans 8:28)**

Psalm 121 (NIV)

A song of ascents.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?

My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you—
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;
the Lord will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message

“Despair for Hope”

Pastor Peter Choi

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Doxology “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH#94

Offertory Prayer

God of generosity, our strength and hope come from you. As we offer our gifts, may we present our discouragement and despair, hoping for care and protection. May these offerings be used to build hope in our communities where despair previously resided. Amen.

Holy Communion

Special Music “In Christ Alone”

Closing Song “Mighty to Save”

Sending Forth

Go forth into the world as people of hope. Even in the midst of life’s challenges and valleys, lift your eyes to the One who watches over you. Trust in God’s love and protection, and carry the gift of hope to those around you. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

Postlude

Lena Choi

