



United Methodist Church
340 N Newell Ave, Minden, Nebraska
3rd Sunday of Advent
10:00 a.m., December 15, 2024

Prelude

Lena Choi

Video

Welcome and Announcements

1. A warm welcome to everyone attending our Christmas program! Our Wednesday School and Youth Group students, along with their teachers, have worked hard for over a month in preparation. A heartfelt thank you to all who have put in so much effort.
2. The Christmas Eve Service will be on December 24th at 7 PM. We encourage you to invite those around you so we can all come together to sing carols and celebrate the birth of Jesus.
3. The Bell Choir will practice this coming Wednesday, December 18, at 6:30 pm. They will play in worship on December 22.
4. A lunch hosted by the Boy Scouts will be held at the Windmill today, December 15, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
5. 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.
6. Refreshments will be served in Room 300 following worship.
7. Last week we received offerings of \$4,046.

Third Sunday in Advent: Joy

The Sinsel Family

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” UMH#211 vs. 1

Call to worship!

L: Today, we come together to celebrate the unexpected moments of joy.

P: We come with anticipation, ready to experience the joy that catches us by surprise.

L: God’s joy is often found in the most surprising places—in the midst of our ordinary days and even in our struggles.

P: We embrace this joy with open hearts and spirits.

L: The Lord has turned your sorrow into joy.

P: We sing praises to the One who has brought us through hard times.

A: Let’s celebrate the joy that lifts us up, the joy that heals us, and the joy that reminds us of God’s amazing love. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Transform us, O God. Transform our worry into calmness. Transform our concern into peace. Transform our sadness into contentment. Transform our tears into joy, for you teach us that every day living with you is brand new. Today, grant us newness with you. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

The Apostles’ Creed (Ecumenical Version)

Happy Birthday to

Chad Fries
Jennifer Muller
Loree Johnson

Happy Anniversary to

Fred & Joyce
Will—47 years
Doug & Diana
Hammer—42 years

Prayer List

Nadine Fahrlander
Lee Mills
Joe Hultquist
Larry Anderson

December 15-21, 2024

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

3:30pm Wed School
6:30pm Youth Group
6:30pm Bell Choir
Practice

Thursday

9:30am Prayer Time

Friday

Saturday

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

UMH#882

Opening Songs “Lord Reign in Me” & “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Passing the Peace of Christ

Christmas Skit “New Star”

Scripture Reading

Lori Conyers

Psalm 30 (NIV)

A psalm. A song. For the dedication of the temple. Of David.

I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.

Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

When I felt secure, I said, “I will never be shaken.”

Lord, when you favored me, you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.

To you, Lord, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:

“What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit?

Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness?

Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me; Lord, be my help.”

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.

Lord my God, I will praise you forever.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message

“Sorrow for Joy”

Pastor Peter Choi

Joys & Concerns—Pastoral Prayer—The Lord’s Prayer

Offering

Special Music

“The First Noel”

Youth Group

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

Offertory Prayer

Almighty God, prepare our hearts to receive Jesus this Advent season. As we give these gifts, let us make space in our sorrow for the joy that Jesus brings. Through these gifts, may that joy be shared. Amen.

Closing Song

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Sending Forth

As we go from this place, may the joy of the Lord fill your hearts, not just today but throughout this season and beyond. Let us go forth with hearts full of hope, sharing the love and joy of Jesus with all those we meet. May God's peace and light guide you in all you do. Go in the joy and grace of our Savior, now and always. Amen.

Postlude

Lena Choi

