**CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING**

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| **4th Sunday in Advent - Love** | | | | **12-22-2024** | |
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| ***WE GATHER*** | | | | | |
| **PRELUDE** | | | | | |
| **WELCOME** | | | | | |
| **\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 12:2-4)** | | | | | |
| L: Children of God, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here!  **P: We wait as people of God’s promise.**  L:The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary’s womb call to us today.  **P: We listen as people of God’s promise.**  L: Mary’s “yes” and Elizabeth’s faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God’s good news into the world.  **P: We follow as people of God’s promise.**  L: This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, and the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today—God is with us!  **P: God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!** | | | | | |
| **\*HYMN** | *“O Come all Ye Faithful”* | | | | ***UMH# 234*** |
| ***\*OPENING PRAYER (IN UNISON)*** | | | | | |
| **Lord, remind us, that like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News. We are called to proclaim hope, peace, joy, and love in your name. Open our hearts to receive with great joy the love that you have for us today. Amen!** | | | | | |
| **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (IN UNISON)** | | | | **UMH# 881** | |
| **\* GLORIA PATRI** | | | | **UMH #70** | |
| **ANNOUNCEMENTS** | | | | | |
| ***WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD*** | | | | | |
| **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING** | | | **Ross & Donna Jones** | | |
| **YOUNG DISCIPLES’ TIME** | | | | | |
| **OLD TESTAMENT READING** | | | **Micah 5:2-5a** | | |
| **CHOIR ANTHEM** | | |  | | |
| **NEW TESTAMENT READING** | | | **Hebrews 10:5-10** | | |
| **OFFERING** | | | | | |
| **DOXOLOGY** | | | **UMH# 95** | | |
| **OFFERING PRAYER (IN UNISON)** | | | | | |
| **God of grace and wonder, we offer these gifts in response to your call. As Mary responded with faith, we too say, "Here we are, let it be to us." Use these offerings to further your kin-dom on earth. Empower us to be bearers of Christ's presence, bringing hope and love to our community. May our giving reflect the promise of Emmanuel, God with us, and bring light and joy in this Advent season. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen** | | | | | |
| **GOSPEL READING** | | | **Luke 1:39-55** | | |
| Reader: The Word of God for the people of God  **People: Thanks be to God** | | | | | |
| **MESSAGE** | *Promise* | | | | **Pastor Chris** |
| **\*HYMN** | *“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”* | | | | **UMH# 240** |
| ***WE RESPOND*** | | | | | |
| **JOYS AND CONCERNS**  (over) | | | | | |
| **PASTORAL PRAYER** | | | | | |
| **THE LORD’S PRAYER (IN UNISON)** | | | | | |
| **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.** | | | | | |
| **\*HYMN** | *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”* | | | | ***UMH# 220*** |
| **BENEDICTION** | | | | | |
| **POSTLUDE** | | | | | |
| **PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP**  **FOLLOWING THE SERVICE. \* (Those who are able, please stand)**  **UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal)  FWS (The Faith We Sing)** | | | | | |

