

# 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 9:15 AM

## Gathering Music & Announcements

Jeff Beyers

### Advent Call to Worship (Responsive)

Light and life in our Lord, Jesus Christ

**He is the light of the world, and the light of our lives.**

Light and hope in our Lord, Jesus Christ,

**He is the light of the world, and the hope of tomorrow.**

Light and love in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**He is the light of the world, and the love that shines in the darkness.**

**Darkness shall not overcome the light of his love. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

### Opening Hymn\*

*Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

UMH 182

### Opening Prayer (Unison; Congregational Prayer)

Meg Kolarik

**O God, we thank you for the hope that is in our hearts because Christ has revealed your love to us. Fill us with the joy and peace of believing. May the power of your Holy Spirit bless this day and the coming weeks of preparation, so that we may be ready to receive Christ in our hearts and homes anew, serving him in all that we say and do. Amen.**

### Lighting of the Advent Candle (Responsive)

Ken, Meg, Matt, & Ben Kolarik

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the time when we prepare for the coming of Jesus.

*(Light the first candle.)* We light the Candle of Hope for all God's people struggling to know hope in a troubled world.

**God, as we wait for your promise, give us hope and light.**

A candle burns, the first marker of our Advent journey. As we set out on our journey to Christmas, may we travel hopefully. The God of Journeys travels with us. This candle burns as the sign of our hope.

**God of hope, come to us again this Advent. Amen.**

### Hymn Response

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

UMH 206

### Moment for Ministry

The Homestead

John Caspero

### Prayer of Confession & Silent Prayer

Lee Stielper

### Words of Assurance (Psalm 130: 7-8)

People of God, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

And great power to redeem. It is God, who will redeem us from all our sins.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### Special Music

Duet, Karis Ferdick & Reagan Roop

Kristen Brought, Director & Deb Lampton, Piano

## Scripture Readings

Lee Stielper

Isaiah 64:1-3

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

Amos 5:21-24

I hate... I despise your festivals,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.  
Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.  
But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

**Hymn\***

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

UMH 213

**Sermon**

The Heart that Grew Three Sizes

Rev. Byron E. Brought

**Special Organ Music**

**Communion & The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn\***

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

UMH 242

**Benediction**



**Continuing Prayers**

Art Benson, Paul Bowden, Pat Grahe, Betty Grimm, Stephanie Juchs Heidbreder, Nancy Jenkins, Wes Jenkins, Lynn King, Tim Knabe, Carol Lingelbach, Ted Lingelbach, Wayne Mason, Bruce Middlekauff, Dick Moen, Sally Moen, Alice Paradise, Jack Potter, Pat Potter, Ron Stearn, Shirley Yantz

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the family of Shirley Renshaw upon her passing.

**Generosity is a Gift of the Spirit!**  
**It doesn't depend on what you have. It depends on who you are,**  
**And what God is doing through you!**

### ***Word of God, Come Down on Earth***

Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heaven descending;  
touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.  
Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,  
Word that came from heaven to die, crucified for our salvation,  
saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring.

Word that caused blind eyes to see, speak and heal our mortal blindness;  
deaf we are: our healer be; loose our tongues to tell your kindness.  
Be our Word in pity spoken; heal the world, by our sin broken.

Word that speaks your Father's love, one with God beyond all telling, Word that sends us  
from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling, Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life,  
with one Bread feed us.

### ***I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light***

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to  
the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the  
light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

I want to see the brightness of God, I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of Righteousness,  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with  
patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

### ***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates***

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits; the King of kings is  
drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for  
heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide; let us thy inner presence  
feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won; eternal praise, eternal fame be  
offered, Savior, to thy name!

### ***Love Came Down at Christmas***

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine; Love was born at Christmas; star  
and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the God head, Love incarnate, Love divine; worship we our Jesus, but  
wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine; love to God and all men, love for  
plea and gift and sign.