

Prelude / Instrumental
Welcoming Words

GATHERING IN PRAYER AND PRAISE

Centering Song

Love's Pure Light

J. Raney

* Call to Worship

During Advent we recall God's promises spoken to us long ago, when the earth would yield prosperity for everyone and even enemies would live in peace.

Let us prepare the way of the Lord.

In Advent, we learn how to let go of bitterness and resentment that we may clear out space for God's love to grow in us.

Let us prepare the way of the Lord.

For a shoot is coming forth from the stump of Jesse, a branch of faithful love for all people.

God's Spirit is moving among us, preparing us for what is to come.

This love of God is big enough that in its light, timid hearts turn bold and the whole world rejoices.

As we enter Advent, we open ourselves to the love of God so that we, too, may share God's light with all around us.

Advent Candle Lighting

* Gathering Prayer

Loving God, In this season of preparation and reflection, help us to see the world as you see it. Let your love shelter us, giving us warmth in a time that can be so cold. In the light of that embrace, help us to see what could be – a world full of joy, a place of peace. Breathe your passion for justice into our hearts, that we may join with your work of defending the poor, delivering the oppressed, and helping the weary. Through the love of your embrace we pray. Amen.

* Hymn of Praise

Hail To the Lord's Anointed

203 UMH

HEARING THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Children's Moment

Chris Smith-Kozlowski, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Nursery care is provided after the children's moment. Feel free to check on them anytime in our nursery area.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 72:1-17

UMH 795

The Word in Music

Advent Fanfare

Lloyd Larson, arr.

* Reading of the Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

Witness to the Word

Clearing Out and Making Room Rev. Michael Mann

WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People

Share a prayer concern on the cards in the pews. Join us in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory followed by Advent Doxology (projected)

Blessing of the Gifts

We thank you, Holy One, for all your good gifts, especially the gift of your abundant love. It is your love that joins us together and allows us to care for each other. As a thankful response to how you have loved us, we offer our commitment and our treasure so that we may hasten the time when no one will hurt or destroy on all your holy mountain. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession, pardon, peace, and breaking bread.

* Hymn of Celebration

To a Maid Engaged to Joseph

215 UMH

* Charge & Benediction

Let us go and live in harmony with God, each other, and all creation.

Through the love we find in Jesus, let us act so that justice may flourish.

And let us live with hope and love, that joy may fill our days,
and peace may shine like sunlight on a cold winter's day.

Amen. We go to do the work of preparing for God's peace!



"Loving God, Loving Others, Proclaiming Christ"

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First United Methodist Church of Lombard



First Sunday of Advent

November 27th, 10am

Native American History Month

Lombard First UMC

155 South Main Street Lombard, Illinois 60148

