

All Voices: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Prepare Yourself, Zion BWV 248 by J.S. Bach
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Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring by J.S. Bach
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All Voices: Loving God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you give yourself to us. May we go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable doing so.

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- **Mail:** 3600 75th Street, Urbandale IA 50322
- **Online or mobile:** www.aldersgatedsm.org/give
 - **Automated:** reoccurring bank bill pay
- **Drop off:** in the outside mail box next to the office door

General Office Hours: Monday—Thur. 8:30am to 12:30 pm / Closed on Friday
3600 75th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322 | (515) 278 - 0466 |
office@aldersgatedsm.org | www.aldersgatedsm.org



At Aldersgate we believe that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome each person into full participation in the life of this community and offer a safe and loving environment for everyone.

December 7, 2025
2nd Week of Advent

Gathering

Prelude

Gentle Mary of Noble Mien

by Arnolt Schlick

Welcome

Centering Ourselves

*A Call to Worship:
One Voice: Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus.
All Voices: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
One Voice: We remember the signs and the times that heralded the arrival of the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.
All Voices: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
One Voice: We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the times, watching for glimpses of God’s here-and-not-yet kingdom among us.
All Voices: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
One Voice: Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.
All Voices: Come, let us worship as we journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
(Lisa Hancock, [www.discipleshipresources.org](#))

*Gathering Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#196 UMH

Lighting of the First and Second Advent Candles
One Voice: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future
.... neither shall they learn war any more” (Isaiah 2:4).
All Voices: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of god’s reign has come and is coming among us.
One Voice: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise

Lighting the Candle of Hope

One Voice: Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story
....and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).
All Voices: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.
One Voice: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment
(Based on a Litany from [www.discipleshipresources.org](#))

Lighting the Candle of Peace

An Advent Hymn

Toda la Tierra (vs 1, 2)
(All Earth Is Waiting)

#210 UMH

Proclamation

First Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

After the readings:
One Voice: The Word of God, for the People of God.
All Voices: Thanks be to God.

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Children's Moment

Reflecting Hymn

The King of Glory Comes

#2091 FWS

Introduction to the Scripture Readings

Reflection Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

After the reading:
One Voice: The Word of God, for the People of God.
All Voices: Thanks be to God.

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Reflection

Response

Responding Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

#206 UMH

Invitation to the Table
One Voice: Christ invites to this table and to all the tables...

A Prayer of Confession
One Voice: When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness,

All Voices: but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place. Forgive us, O God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life. Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you. May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

An Assurance
One Voice: Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things (Psalm 72:8). The most wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ, "not to condemn the

world, but that the world might be saved through him." "Those who believe in him are not condemned" (John 3:17,18). Thanks be to God!!
(Jane Stranz, [www.discipleshipresources.org](#))

*Sharing God's Peace
May the Peace of God be with you; May it rest on me;
May it be with all of Creation.

Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves

Offertory

Amazing Grace

Arr. Glenda Austin

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*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

#94 UMH

Preparing the Table

A Great Thanksgiving for Advent
One Voice: The Lord be with you.
All Voices: And also with you.
One Voice: Lift up your hearts.
All Voices: We lift them up to the Lord.
One Voice: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All Voices: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One Voice: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
All Voices: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One Voice: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...
...even as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
All Voices: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

One Voice: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us...
...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
All Voices: Amen

One Voice: And now, with confidence as children of God...

Over