

“The Christmas Stories”

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

+ Call to Worship

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Expected of the nations and their Savior:

Come and save us, O Lord, our God.

O Wisdom, who came forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end, and ordering all things mightily and sweetly:

Come, and teach us the way of prudence.

O Adonai and Leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flames of the bush and gave him the law on Sinai:

Come, and with your outstretched arm redeem us.

O Root of Jesse, who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and to whom the Gentiles shall make their supplication:

Come, and deliver us and tarry not.

+ Hymn

UMH 211, vs. 1-4

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

+ Unison Prayer

Holy One, you shaped creation and placed your grace within us. Your song of hope has rung out from ancient days beckoning us to listen and join in. A young woman named Mary opened her heart to your song. She heard the promise that she would give birth; she heard the promise that this child would transform the world – and she believed. In the stillness of this Advent season we wait and prepare, as our hearts echo an ancient cry: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

+ Passing the Peace

Children’s Message

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Baker’s & Fischer’s

The poet Emily Dickinson wrote, “Hope is the thing with feathers / that perches in the soul.”

The psalmist declared, “I put my hope in you all day long.”

The prophet Martin Luther King Jr. said, “We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.”

Hope is more than wishful thinking. Hope is the Spirit of God dwelling within us, reminding us that we are never alone.

Hope is our active commitment to be God’s faithful people, whether we walk an easy path or traverse rocky ground.

When we light the candle of Hope, we embrace God’s presence among us, yesterday and today and always.

Whatever we face in life, we will put our hope in God.

Call to Prayer

TFWS 2232

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

Hymn

UMH 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Sermon

Rev. Dempewolf

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel:
The Christmas Stories*

The Genealogy Play

Offertory

Special Music

Suz Eberle & Kristie Shorter

+ Offertory Response

UMH 213, vs. 1-2

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

+ Offertory Prayer

Precious Lord, amid the twinkling lights, the bustling shoppers, and the traffic jams, we see you. We see you in the smile of a child who is sitting on Santa’s lap and in the face of a homeless person who is standing on a street corner. We see you and are amazed by your abiding presence. O come, O come, Emmanuel. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

Come, all who listen for hope.

Here is a place where you are welcome.

Here is a place where you can rest in the heart of love.

We come to this table, we come.

Words of Institution

We prepare for Emmanuel, God with us.

We remember how this child, born in a stable lived a life of healing, mercy and wisdom.

We remember a special meal shared with friends.

Gathering them together, Emmanuel spoke with boundless love.

In the blessing of the bread, Emmanuel asked them to share the bread of life.

In the blessing of the cup, Emmanuel asked them to share the cup of promise.

Then Emmanuel asked us always to remember.

We remember your life, your words, your love.

Send down your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and cup.

May it strengthen our hope in the promises of this season, and give us courage to live in the way of peace.

Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we give thanks for having received your hope and joy in the sharing of the bread and the cup.

Strengthened by the outpouring of your love we go forth to bear peace and love in your world. Amen.

+ Hymn UMH 202
People Look East

+ Blessing

+ Postlude

Church Council | Today, 10:30 am | Meet in the fireside room.

Adult Sunday School | Today, 11 am | Meet in Pastor Donna's office.

Cluster Church Conference | Today, at 2 pm, Homestead UMC, Rochester | We'll join with other UMC churches in the River Valley District for worship, celebration of local church ministry, and individual church conference voting. Rev. Cynthia Williams, District Superintendent, will preside. The entire congregation is invited to attend.

Poinsettia Garden | We would like your help in creating a Poinsettia Garden during the month of December. You may

bring it to the church or have it delivered. For any questions contact Norma Merkel at 346-2569.

UMW Potluck | December 5 at 11:30 am | Faith UMW will be having their annual potluck lunch at the church. Everyone, including men, are invited to come and enjoy some good food.

Confirmation | Wednesday, December 5, at 7 pm | Faith UMC
Fountain UMC | Saturday, December 8 from 11 am - 2 pm
Fountain United Methodist Bake & Craft Sale and Luncheon, at the Fountain Community Center. Santa comes at 1:30.

ALS Bake Sale | Saturday, December 8 from 1 - 5 pm |
Fundraiser for ALS research at the Spring Valley Community Center.

Christmas Performance | Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 pm
Entertainment will be provided by the FUMC Hand Bell Choir, now in its 20th Year! A special presenter will also enlighten us with a Christmas story. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to come. Those who would like to sponsor a table, please sign up on the bulletin board. All are welcome! Questions may be directed at any Hand Bell Choir member.

Christmas Eve Service | Monday, December 24 | There will be two Christmas Eve Services held at 4 pm and 7 pm.

Christmas Dinner | Tuesday, December 25 | Sign up to volunteer on the bulletin board. | Do you need a ride to the dinner? Would you like a meal delivered to you? Call the church office to have your name put on the list.

FAITH FAMILY FINANCIALS 11/25/2018:

Needed for budget	\$3,741.55
Offering	\$1,820.84
Attendance	54

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Faith United Methodist Church December 2, 2018



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