

*Faith United Methodist Church*  
*December 23, 2018*

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The asterisk(\*) indicates those times in worship when those who are able are invited to stand.

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PRELUDE Matt & Brenda Stier

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Woodward

**\*CALL to WORSHIP**

The day foretold is coming, when we will hear a heavenly choir.

**The one foretold is coming, whose sound will pierce the deepest gloom,**

A newborn's cry in the silent night!

**World, listen! The Savior draws near!**

\*HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" UMH 238

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**God of mystery, at every turning point in Joseph's life you spoke, directing him to safety and refuge. As you spoke to him, you speak to us. Your voice sounds in the depths of our being, as we become still to hear it. In this hour, still the voices that distract us, that we may clearly hear you speak. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE Schoppers Family

\*HYMN "Love Came Down at Christmas" UMH 242

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS and GOD MOMENTS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

SPECIAL MUSIC Matt & Brenda Stier

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 1: 18-25

MESSAGE "Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph"

RECEIVING of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY Matt & Brenda Stier

\*DOXOLOGY Gloria refrain UMH 238

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**O Lord, may the offering we make be used to the glory of your name in the work of your kingdom. Teach us to bring not only our gifts, but our whole lives for your service, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN "Sing We Now of Christmas" UMH 237

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

\*POSTLUDE

**Adult Sunday School** | There will be no Adult Sunday School today.

**Historic Lenora Services** | Enjoy the wonder of the season by the heat of the wood stove and the glow of the oil lamps at the historic Stone Church in Lenora, MN. Special Christmas Service today, December 23 at 5 pm and 7:30 pm.

**Sunday School** | Monday, December 24 | The Sunday School kids will be singing during the 4 pm Christmas Eve service.

**Christmas Eve** | Monday, December 24 | Christmas Eve candlelight services schedule:

4 p.m. Spring Valley Faith UMC

6 p.m. Fountain UMC

7 p.m. Spring Valley Faith UMC

8 p.m. Cherry Grove UMC

**Christmas Dinner** | Tuesday, December 25 at 12 pm | Faith UMC is hosting the annual Christmas Dinner. Everyone is welcome

**Confirmation** | There will be no confirmation Wednesday, December 26 | Enjoy Christmas break.

**Appreciative Inquiry** | On Sunday, January 6, during coffee hour, small groups will be going over an appreciative inquiry. There are forms available if you would like to fill one out before then.

**New Congregational Care Team** | Our first meeting will be held Tuesday, January 15 at 10 am | The goal of the group is to visit those in need, and meet every couple of months. Everyone is welcome to join.

**FAITH FAMILY FINANCIALS 12/16/2018:**

Needed for budget	\$3,741.55
Offering	\$4,319.01
Attendance	189

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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