



First United
Methodist Church
WEST DUNDEE

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 15, 2024

Welcome!

Rise in body or in spirit where designated by * Please join in speaking the words in bold.

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you.

Do not fear; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst. He will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love.

The Lord will remove disaster from us. He will heal the lame and gather the outcast and change their weakness into praise.

The Lord will bring his people home and make us renowned and praised among all peoples of the earth. God will restore the fortunes of the nation before our eyes. Praise be to the Lord our God!

From Zephaniah 3:14-20

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH #196

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Turskey Family

Reader: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kingdom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

Congregation: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.

Reader: We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation together.

*PASSING THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SONG

Like a Child

TFWS #2092

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LESSON

Isaiah 12:2-6; Luke 3:7-18

SPECIAL MUSIC

Heirlooms
Luann Lamz and Marcia Buchs

MESSAGE

“One Greater Than I”

Pastor Rick Carlson

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God ye creatures here below

Alleluiah! Alleluiah!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit Holy Spirit!

Alleluiah! Alleluiah! Alleluiah!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Love Came Down at Christmas

UMH #242

***SENDING FORTH**

POSTLUDE

Please join us for a time of sharing in the Fireside Room.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Greeters Carol Buvel, Mark Lauber, and Sonja Hunter

Liturgist Sue Gould

Media Dane Granholm, Laura Suskin

Pastor Pastor Rick Carlson, Pastor Chris Winkler, Pastor Matthew Johnson



Our Adult Education Forum is a welcoming space for open dialogue, reflection, and a deeper understanding of how our faith shapes our lives. This month we will consider why the Grinch hated Christmas. During the four weeks of Advent, you are invited to this 8:45 Sunday Morning Adult Faith Forum in the Library to discuss Matt Rawle's "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes." All adults are urged to attend.

Christmas choir rehearsal at the church

Sunday, December 15 at 11:20 a.m.

Wednesday, December 18 at 5:00 p.m.

We will sing Sunday, December 22. Please plan to be at church by 9:10 a.m. — there are three pieces possibly four.

Christmas Care Packages at FUMC

Help create Christmas Care Packages for our homebound members and those needing extra cheer during the holiday season. Your participation will help bring joy to others this Christmas!

For more information, contact Marcia at mkbuchs@sbcglobal.net.

Celebrate the Season with Christmas Caroling and Chili!

You're invited to a joyful afternoon of Christmas caroling on Saturday, December 21, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., followed by a delicious chili supper back at the church. Bring your friends and family to share in the festive fun and spread holiday cheer! We'll meet at the church at 12:40 p.m. to carpool to our caroling stops.

For more information, contact Marcia Buchs at 331-276-7979.

Let's make this Christmas merry and bright together!

If you need pastoral care, call Pastor Rick at 630-564-0413

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