

Third Sunday of Advent



DECK THE HALLS

COMPANY'S COMING WORSHIP SERIES



December 13, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.

“Live Stream” Today!



Davis United Methodist Church

*We Are a Reconciling and an Inclusive Community of Faith
Open and Affirming to the LGBTQIA Community and to All
Committed to Living and Teaching The Love of Jesus Christ*

Order of Service for the Worship of God

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal

FWS = Faith We Sing

GOD CALLS US TO GATHER FOR WORSHIP

"In the name of Jesus, the Christ and our brother, you are most welcome!"

The Light of God's Presence is Among Us

Prelude *What Child Is This? With Gymnopedie No. 1* *arr. Fetke*

Hymn of Worship **Holy, Holy, Holy** **UMH # 64**

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert and art and evermore shalt be.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Lighting the Candles of Advent THE CANDLE OF JOY

Scripture Reading Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11 (NRSV) *Rosa Washington-Olson, Reader*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, "God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit." No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Advent Candle

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

UMH # 196

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Anthem

"I Saw Three Ships"
Today's anthem is offered by Miles Butler

arr. Lloyd Larson

Pastoral Welcome

Pastor Brandon

Moment with Children/Song

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

*Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Every color shining bright, we are precious in his sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world!*

The Peace of Christ is Given to All

One: The peace of the living Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

WE LISTEN FOR THE LIVING WORD

Focus Scripture

John 1. 6-8, 19-28 (NRSV)

Pastor Brandon

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you

baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Witness to the Word

"Deck the Halls"

Pastor Brandon

****Prayer Hymn**

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

UMH # 221

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man
I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him,
Give my heart.

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WE OPEN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS TO GOD

Praying in Community

One: The Lord be with you. Let us pray together.

Beloved Creator,

Have we ever known a time like this? As we move around and between the upheavals of these days, picking up the pieces of our lives, it seems as though new shatterings spread more pieces than we can gather. It seems that making straight the way for You means bulldozing away a lot of wreckage.

Now, into our lives You bring Christmas, a quiet, simple Christmas. Exactly the Christmas we need. Gone are many of the hours of cooking, shopping in crowded stores, cleaning the house for company. Instead, we clean away the wreckage within ourselves. Instead, we open

yearning hearts to the coming of the Christ Child. Everything about Christmas that is healing, everything that is comforting, everything that is joyful, You bring with You to fill our hearts. Thank You for your warm and loving embrace, Lord. With joy we prepare the way for you! Amen.

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kin-dom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

WE OFFER OUR SELVES & OUR GIFTS TO GOD

This season of Advent, the church year begins anew and our opportunities to multiply the joy of the season are plentiful. Let us take up these ministries and joyfully bring our gifts to God!

To give online and have it channeled to the special offering fund, please click on or visit this link:

<https://onrealm.org/DavisUnitedMeth/give/specialoffering>.

This will allow you to make your donation electronically.

If mailing a check, please allow for extra processing time.

You can find information about this month's special offering in the announcements section below.

Offertory

"The First Noel"

arr. Mantooth

****Doxology Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow // "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

WE GO TO SERVE GOD & OUR NEIGHBORS IN ALL WE DO

****Hymn of Benediction**

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

UMH # 240

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity,

Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

****Benediction**

This is the season when hope cannot be silent,
When the longing for peace must come to full expression.
So may mighty God give you voice,
The coming Christ hear the calling of our hearts,
The Holy Spirit turn our hopes into song and bring our longings to fullness.
The peace of God be within us and among us. Amen.

Postlude

"Once in Royal David's City"

arr. Tom Fettke

The Light of God's Presence Goes Before Us Into The World

Annus Mirabilis

In this, the season of delight,
we take solace from the cold--
and, although the moon seems bright,
we know our night is growing old.

But though we sense that dawn is coming,
stars still make their shadows known:
the frame of darkness holds the earth--
each household waits alone.

Our hearts have failed the test of time.
Our minds have wandered far afield;
our doors are shut against the storm,
our weaker selves, revealed.

And yet-- from sickness, we find hope,
from desperation, strength;
all riches have their roots in woe,
all sorrow has its length.

So let this wretched year be our goad
to shed the bonds of station,
and well perceive our tortured road--
to lose ourselves, but find salvation.

Advent, 2020 (offered by Andrew Hudson, Music Director)

Announcements and Milestones

Birthdays:

December 13th: Kim DeYoung
December 19th: Aubrey Niegocki
December 20th: Molly Williams
December 24th: Jim Tischer
December 25th: Caroline Chantry
December 27th: Nick Bachand
December 27th: Jessica Cron
December 30th: Betsy Nishikawa
December 30th: Evan Wise
December 31st: Joyce Smuda

Anniversaries:

December 14th: Vince Sturla and Kelly Wilkerson
December 17th: John and Celeste Cron

December Special Offering: Paul's Place

Note: We are accepting donations to our special offering at any time during the month. Please indicate on your check or in your e-giving that your donation is for the special offering. If giving electronically, please follow the link in the bulletin to direct your gift effectively.

This year our December offering will go to **Paul's Place**, a new multi-functional facility at 1111 H Street in Davis. Paul's Place is designed to help people in Davis who are experiencing extreme poverty and homelessness to find the help and healing they desperately need. Paul's Place will connect participants with public benefits, housing and employment opportunities, health and human services — as well as basic needs for food, clothing, showers, restrooms, and laundry facilities. It will also have space for some people to live there as they transition to permanent housing. **Please give generously to this important project.** More information is available at www.paulsplacedavis.org. Helen Roland's appeal video is found via a link on the church's Website (www.davisumc.org).

Empower Yolo gifts

Again this year we will provide Christmas gifts to families escaping domestic violence and spending the holidays at the Empower Yolo Safe House. To request one or more "ornaments" that describe a person's gift wish list and to obtain instructions on how to deliver the gift, please contact Jim Cramer at cramerjc@gmail.com or call (530) 756-3973. You can view Jim's video on behalf of Empower Yolo via our Website- a link is on the homepage.

A Christmas Gift For Our Staff

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Our *Staff-Parish Relations Committee* encourages your holiday giving for the benefit of our staff, who offer their best in ministry with us throughout the year. As you are able, please contribute generously toward this year's Christmas gift which we will distribute to them for the holidays. Checks for the gift should be made to **Davis UMC** and please note "**staff gift**" on your check. **Please send your gift with enough time for it to be received at the church by December 15th. Please (please!) do not mail cash to the church.**

In these times, electronic and text giving options may suit you. The link is <https://onrealm.org/DavisUnitedMeth/give/Staff>. To give via text, right from your phone, send a text message in the format "DavisUMC Staff \$X" (Where X is the amount offered) to 73256.

Contact the Finance Secretaries (finance@davisumc.org) with any questions about this year's staff offering- and thank you!

Manger and Mystery, An Advent Adventure

An Advent study by Marilyn Brown Oden

Isaiah 43:19 announces, "Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it?" (The Message Bible)

This, of all years, with everything upside-down and inside-out, we're all wondering how the Advent and Christmas season can be observed and celebrated. If we can't travel, can't gather all our generations around one feasting table, crammed shoulder-to-shoulder indoors for the Nutcracker ballet or Christmas Eve candlelight service, what will it be like?

Perhaps more than any other year in recent memory, this may be the year to consider this an opportunity to look at our spiritual practices surrounding the holidays as a time for adventure.

In five weekly Zoom sessions, to be held on successive Tuesdays at 7:00 PM through Advent, we will study and adventure together through Ms. Oden's book to unlock the mystery of Isaiah's words of long ago. Here is the plan:

Session 4	Dec. 15	Reclaiming the Star
Session 5	Dec. 22	Recalling the Story, Restoring the Call

To register and reserve your place and book, please e-mail me at dori.marshall@gmail.com or call me at 530-219-5221. Books are on first come, first served basis, as long as supply lasts. (Books are \$5.00).

Let's adventure together! Dori Marshall, Facilitator

From the UMW

United Methodist Women invite all interested women of the church to their monthly meeting. It's a Zoom meeting during the pandemic, so the commute is great! We do a lot of good and have fun besides. Meetings are 3rd Thursdays, 1:30 pm. Just tell Rosa you want to attend: 753-2088 or golson7373@aol.com

UMW Christmas Program on Zoom

Open to all our Church Family

3rd Thursday of the Month: December 17, 2020 at 1:30pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83756111825?pwd=VDBWZ056eHFJMEZXb0tKdnQ2cDdpZz09> or phone in to listen by calling +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) and enter Meeting ID: 837 5611 1825 and Passcode: 405992 when asked.

We hope you will all join us in celebrating the hope that comes with the birth of the Christ child at our December meeting. If you don't zoom, please join us by phone to listen in. Join us at 1:00pm to chat and visit ahead of the program which will begin at 1:30pm.

Contact: Rosa Washington Olson: golson7373@aol.com (530) 753-2088

Alice Lakin: alicelakin13@gmail.com, (530) 759-9978

Davis UMC Alternative Giving Christmas Fair:

Gifts which benefit the greater good

Our annual church event goes virtual

Please also consider supporting our many wonderful local small businesses!
They especially need our help this year.



Equal Exchange

<https://equalexchange.coop/>

Buy coffee, tea, and chocolate from worker coops using fair trade practices.

Yolo Diaper Bank

Improve the health and stability of local families by providing this basic need
<https://www.yolodiaperbank.org/>

Yolo Diaper Bank



Keeping Yolo County Dry  One Bottom at a Time.

Limitless Horizons

Support educational and economic programs in the indigenous Maya community of Chajul, Guatemala by buying their handmade artisan goods.

<https://limitlesshorizonsixil.org/buy-artisan-goods/>



Sahaya International

Benefit projects in developing countries with beautiful, handmade cards
<http://sahaya.org/cards/>



Heifer International

Empower communities around the world through sustainable agriculture
<https://www.heifer.org/give/giving-in-honor.html>



Sierra Club Store

Fight for the environment with beautiful gifts
<https://store.sierraclub.org/storefront.aspx>

Grace Garden

Help our church garden to thrive. Make checks out to DUMC with Grace Garden in the memo line. For gifts of plants and a selection of quilts, contact Cid Barcellos at cidbarcellos@sbcglobal.net.

India Volunteer in Mission Projects

Continue our long-standing commitment to programs in India.
Support our projects in India by writing a check to DUMC with India VIM in the memo line.