

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

December 10, 2023

9:30am

Theme: How Does A Weary World Rejoice?

If you have a prayer request today, please fill out the card in your pew rack and hand it to an usher prior to the Prayers of the People.

Prelude

Welcome

*Song of Praise “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” Hymnal 203

*Greeting

Leader: Family of faith, one of the greatest joys of worship is that it is not a solo act. We gather together. We find joy, and God, in the act of connection. So as we begin our worship, I invite you to turn and face someone you are close to so that you can see one another. Now repeat these phrases after me: Welcome to worship.

People: Welcome to worship.

Leader: I am glad you’re here.

People: I am glad you’re here.

Leader: Surely God is in this space.

People: Surely God is in this space.

Leader: I see God in your face.

People: I see God in your face.

Leader: Let us worship together.

People: Let us worship together.

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle The Posthumus Family

Leader: How does a weary world practice peace?

Congregation: By listening before we speak and saying sorry when we need to.

Leader: By advocating for justice and caring for our neighbor. By practicing Sabbath and forgiving seventy times seven.

Congregation: By choosing grace over hate and opening the door for each other.

Leader: There are a million ways to practice peace. So today we light the candle of peace as a reminder and a charge.

ALL: With God’s help, may we bring peace into a weary world. Amen.

Opening Prayer (unison)

Holy God, We know that you are near. We know that you are standing at the door, you are running down the driveway, you are inviting us in— into your Word, into relationship, and deeper into joy. So as we approach your Word, O God, we pray: do not let us pass you by. Do not allow distraction or doubt to get the best of us. Do not let us walk down this road without you. Instead, give us the wisdom to turn and run your way. Give us the wisdom to hear your wisdom, to let it sink into our bones and change us. With hope and gratitude we pray. Amen.

Prayer Song “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (vs 1) Hymnal 196

Prayers of the People/Our Lord’s Prayer

Prayer Song “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (vs 1) Hymnal 196

Gospel Reading Luke 1:24-45

Children’s Message

*Hymn “Here I Am, Lord” Hymnal 593

Sermon “We Find Joy in Connection” Pastor Chad Gilbertson

*Hymn “Make Way, Make Way” W&S 3044

Offering/Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Generous and loving God, you give us everything we need. Surrounded and supported by your love, there is nothing we lack. As we bring our offerings to you, may they support your work of peace and justice, and bring joy to the world. As we bring our very selves to you, mold and shape us as you will, then send us forth to serve. AMEN.

Announcements

*Benediction

Leader: Family of faith, as you leave this place, you go into a weary world— so speak tenderly.

People: We will do the good that is ours to do, choose connection, hold onto hope.

Leader: And remember that Christ took on flesh for you. You are God’s beloved. So go rejoicing. The world needs it.

ALL: AMEN!

*Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vs 2) Hymnal 211

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Chad Gilbertson
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Church Admin: Tina Chant
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Children, Youth & Family Coordinator:
Lynnette Dobberpuhl
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Choir Director: Randi Erlandson
Pianist/Organist: Randi Erlandson
Liturgist: Carol Ottoson
Ushers: Sheila Posthumus & Michelle Maus

This Week:

Monday, Dec. 11	9:30am 7:00pm	AA (Parsonage) Al-Anon (Parsonage)
Tuesday, Dec. 12	7:00pm	Co-Dependents Anonymous (Parsonage)
Wednesday, Dec. 13	8:30am 12:00pm 6:15pm 7:00pm	Moment of Prayer for Holy Trinity UWF Christmas Lunch (Charlie's on Prior) 7th/8th Confirmation (Parsonage) Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Dec. 14	6:00pm	Veterans AA (Parsonage)
Sunday, Dec. 17	9:30am 10:30am	Worship/Live-Stream One Table Fellowship Event (Fellowship Hall)

Prayer Requests:

Rene's sister Denise—prayers following another fall at her group home.

Prayers of joy for a new grandson - Alden Lee Burkart - born to Brian and Nora on 11/28. Thanks be to God!

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Website: www.htumc.org

Pastor Chad Gilbertson