

November 28, 2021



## Worship ~ We Welcome & Affirm Everyone

*First Church - A Reconciling Congregation*

*First United Methodist Church, at the top of 10<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Des Moines, strives to love others as Christ loves us and, in doing so, to be the Body of Christ in word and deed.*

*As the Body of Christ, we welcome and affirm all of God's children, knowing that each is created in the image of God. We welcome and affirm people of all gender identities, sexual orientations, ages, races, ethnicities, family configurations, and physical and mental capabilities to join us in full participation as we come together to worship God and then go out to share God's love in the world around us.*

# **First United Methodist Church**

10:30 AM

November 28, 2021

Des Moines, IA

## **SERVICE OF WORD**

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*As you are able, please stand wherever there is an \*.*

### **GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

Prelude

"Coventry Carol"  
Ben Allaway, piano

arr. Janet Vogt

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Moment

Lighting the Candle of Hope  
Mandy and Anthony Chouangmala

Hymn TFWS #2090 (vs 1)

Light the Advent Candle

As days dim and bow to early darkness, you, God of light, set watch in the night sky and beckon the wise to follow. When hope hangs low in the human heart, you, loving creator, kindle compassion, breathing life into the early embers of change and empathy. We light a candle for hope, sending prayers high into the inky heavens and dreams deep into the human soul. As Advent dawns, God of all hope, shine your light on the story of the saints who journeyed before us. May the seeds they planted in the world – peace, joy, love – take hold in our hearts and stretch towards the light.

All: ***We light a candle for hope. May it light the way.***

*Adapted from Christian Aid Light the Way Campaign*

Call to Worship

Have you seen it...the Spark of Hope which God is placing among us?

***All we can see is hectic lives, crowded stores, darkness, anger, injustice and fear.***

Look again...the Spirit of God is moving among us, bringing hope.

***We need to place our hope in God but we are afraid.***

The prophet Isaiah tells us that the days are surely coming when God's promises of hope, peace, joy and love will be fulfilled.

***We receive the promise of hope God offers us today.***

Hymn # 211 (vs 1, 2, 6, 7) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Epistle Reading – Romans 5:1-5

Twila Glenn

*After the reading:*

The Word of God for the people of God!

***Praise to the living Word!***

Music Ministry

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence with  
El Cant dels Ocells (Carol of the Birds)”  
Ben Allaway, piano

French/Catalan Carol  
arr. Victor Labenske

Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah 29:4-14

Christine Anders

*After the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

A Thanksgiving of Birth - Flourish Baadom, child of Grace and Ninnii

Introduction

A Call to Thanksgiving

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the birth of a child is a joyous and solemn occasion in the life of a family. It is also an occasion for rejoicing in the church family. I invite you, therefore, to join with Grace and Ninnii in giving thanks to God, whose children we all are, for the gift of Flourish to be their son.

Invitation to Parents

Grace and Ninnii, will you live your faith in such a way, that Flourish, may come to accept God's grace for himself and to confess his faith openly?

Parents: ***We will.***

## Prayer

Gracious God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, strengthen us through your Spirit. Help us joyfully to nurture Flourish within your Church. Bring him by your grace to Christian maturity that Christ may dwell in his heart through faith. Give power to Flourish and to us, that with all your people we may grasp the breadth and length, the height and depth, of Christ's love. Enable us to know this love, and to be filled with your own fullness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation: ***Amen.***

Children's Time

Laurie Hoskins

Good News Message

Christine Anders

Prayers of the People

People: ***Lord, we want to follow you. Be with us as we journey together the pathways of discipleship. Be at work in our lives as we strive to become the disciples you have called us to be.***

Pastoral Prayer

Twila Glenn

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

[The Passion Version]

***Our Father, dwelling in the heavenly realms, may the glory of your name be the center on which our lives turn. Manifest your kingdom realm, and cause your every purpose to be fulfilled on earth, just as it is fulfilled in heaven. We acknowledge you as our Provider of all we need each day. Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we ourselves release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. Rescue us every time we face tribulation and set us free from evil. For you are the King who rules with power and glory forever. Amen.***

Ministry of Sharing

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Prayer

## SENDING FORTH

Hymn UMH #209

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Commission And Blessing

Today we have begun the season of Advent, a time of waiting.

***We are looking for signs that God's reign is coming near.***

In our darkness, we wait for the light who is coming among us.

***We wait with anticipation for the light that cannot be extinguished.***

God's steadfast hope never fails; God will keep covenant with us.

***God has spoken words of hope into our lives. We will live as those who are unafraid.***

Amen.

***Amen.***

Benediction

Chimes

Postlude

"Comfort, Comfort Now You People" Goudimel arr. Allaway

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## Unique Gifts



Looking for a unique Christmas gift? Today after worship in Kenyon Hall, we will be selling some beautiful hand embroidered items created by Palestinian women. There will also be some olive wood pieces. Stop by and take a look.

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## In-Person Fellowship Time



After church coffee will be held today in Kenyon Hall. Please remember to stay socially distanced as you visit. Due to shortages of environmentally friendly cups and lids, we encourage all to bring your own drink cup/coffee thermos.

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Creative Center for Young Children (CCYC) is starting a **food drive for Bidwell Riverside Food Pantry**. They will be collecting items through the end of this month. Here are some items that are needed:



- Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken)
- Cereal
- Soup
- Spaghetti Noodles
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Canned corn and green beans
- Ramen Noodles
- Canned Fruit
- Mac-n-Cheese
- Chef Boyardee with meat
- Healthy Breakfast Bars

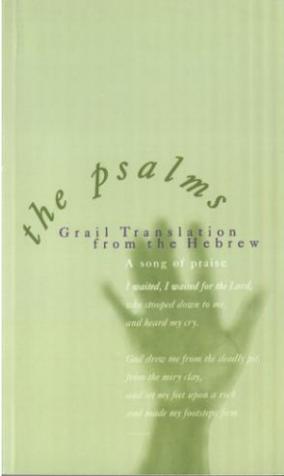


Wreath Making Workshop  
Tuesday, December 7 at 6:00 PM

Join Angie Sadler and others  
to create your own fresh Christmas wreath.

**Please sign up on the attendance slip.**

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**the psalms: Grail Translation from the Hebrew (book)**

Pastor Kevin LaGree is looking for copies of the psalms: Grail Translation from the Hebrew. A number of years ago Pastor Kevin used this book to teach a class on the Psalms. The book is out of print and if you have a copy you would be willing to sell back to him, please let Christine know at [discipleship@dmfirstchurch.org](mailto:discipleship@dmfirstchurch.org) or 515-244-6209.

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**United Methodist Student Day – Special Offering**

For more than 100 years, United Methodists have been supporting their students' educational needs through a special offering. The funds received from the offering go into the United Methodist Student Loan Fund to underwrite scholarships for United Methodist students. Scholarships are awarded to deserving United Methodist students annually.

Right now, there are United Methodist young people who might not have the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all. But because of people like you, they will be sent into the world God loves with gifts made through United Methodist Student Day. Your contribution is an acknowledgment that the church has confidence in them and in their abilities. Please help deserving, young adults continue their education and their faith journeys. Write "Student Day" on the memo line of your check if you wish to help with this mission.

Supporting this ministry allows us to invest in future missionaries, engineers, teachers, pastors, film producers and so many other careers. Our students are depending on your support.

## Just Imagine



Close your eyes and imagine for just a moment you have to leave your home with nothing more than the clothes on your back. You are then flown to a place where you don't know anyone, you don't speak the language and the customs seem strange. That is the situation faced by many refugees. The Outreach Committee at First Church has been in contact with Catholic Charities here in Des Moines. They are one of two organizations in the state currently helping with the resettlement of refugees, many of them from Afghanistan. In a recent 20 day period, they had to begin the

resettlement process for 111 refugees. They are in need of our help. During this Advent season we have offered to help in the following ways:

1. We will collect household items (towels, sheets, blankets, dishes, pots and pans, silverware, etc). These items do not need to be new but they must be in good shape. Please don't donate items that are worn and should be tossed.
2. We will collect personal hygiene items (deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, etc.)
3. They are currently in desperate need of sofas and dining room tables and chairs. If you have either of these items, please let Christine know. Catholic Charities will pick them up.

Each Sunday of Advent (November 28, December 5, 12, and 19) we will be collecting items. Please bring them to church and take them to the collection location in the church library.

By donating, you can be a blessing to those who have just arrived in our state and are hoping to begin a new life.

**First United Methodist Church, 1001 Pleasant Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309**

PH: 515-244-6209 / FAX: 515-282-6106

E-mail: [info@dmfirstchurch.org](mailto:info@dmfirstchurch.org)  
Web site: [www.dmfirstchurch.org](http://www.dmfirstchurch.org)



<http://www.facebook.com/DSMFirstChurch>  
[https://twitter.com/des\\_first](https://twitter.com/des_first)  
<https://www.instagram.com/1stchurchdsm/>

**Worship Participants This Morning**

Preaching:	Christine Anders
Liturgist:	Twila Glenn
Organist:	Ben Allaway
Music:	Ben Allaway
November Greeters:	Arnie Brown, Millie Wade
November Ushers:	Craig Strayer (Head Usher) Ron Roulet
Nursery:	Renea Losee (Nursery not currently open)
Children's Church:	Laurie Hoskins (Coordinator)

**First Church Staff**

Rev. Edgar F. Solís – Pastor	<a href="mailto:pastor@dmfirstchurch.org">pastor@dmfirstchurch.org</a>
Christine Anders – Minister of Discipleship	<a href="mailto:discipleship@dmfirstchurch.org">discipleship@dmfirstchurch.org</a>
Ben Allaway, Director Of Music & Composer in Residence	<b><a href="mailto:MusicDirector@dmfirstchurch.org">MusicDirector@dmfirstchurch.org</a></b>
Lonnie Liggitt – Associate Organist	
Michelle Mathews – Finance Manager	<a href="mailto:finance@dmfirstchurch.org">finance@dmfirstchurch.org</a>
Lisa Karen Determann – Office Manager	<a href="mailto:officemanager@dmfirstchurch.org">officemanager@dmfirstchurch.org</a>
Connie McFarlin – Director at CCYC	<a href="mailto:director@creativecenterforyoungchildren.org">director@creativecenterforyoungchildren.org</a>
Lino Ordonez – Custodian	<a href="mailto:custodian@dmfirstchurch.org">custodian@dmfirstchurch.org</a>