

December 19, 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.*



\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, joy, lighten our spirits.

***Come, hope, lift us from despair.***

Come, peace, ease our frantic worry.

***Come, love, shine in all we do.***

Come, Jesus, be born in us.

***Come, Lord, set us free.***

Come, God,

***Rule in our hearts and teach us to sing with joy!***

*Dr. Derek C. Weber, Director of Preaching Ministries,  
Discipleship Ministries of the UMC*

\*Hymn UMH #230

O, Little Town of Bethlehem

Music Ministry

"Coventry Carol"  
The Chancel Choir  
Jim Tener, baritone

15th century anonymous

"Keep Your Lamps!"  
The Chancel Choir

arr. A. Thomas  
Traditional Spiritual

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

\*Gospel Reading – Luke 1:39-55

Christine Anders

*After the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.  
***Thanks be to God.***

Children's Time

Pastor Edgar

Good News Message

Pastor Edgar

Music Ministry – Sermon Response

"Peace, Peace/Silent Night"

arr. Fred Bock

Prayers of the 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

Christine Anders

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

[Good News Version]

***Our Father in heaven: May your holy name be honored; may your Kingdom come; may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need. Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive the wrongs that others have done to us. Do not bring us to hard testing, but keep us safe from the Evil One. Amen.***

Ministry of Sharing

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Prayer

Holy One, this Advent season we wait in peace,

***And we give in peace.***

A peace deeper than our anxiety and fear.

***A peace growing from our trust in your loving power.***

Receive these generous offerings,

***And use them to bring your peace to our world. Amen.***

SENDING FORTH

\*Hymn UMH #240

Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

vs. 1 Congregation

vs. 2 Choir

vs. 3 Congregation

\*Commission and Blessing

Depart from this place to do God's will.

Carry your discipleship and service into the world.

***Our spirits rejoice in God's saving grace.***

***Our lives have been equipped to meet the world.***

Greet strangers as you have been greeted here.

Feed them as you have been fed by a living God.

***Our estrangement has been overcome.***

***We want to welcome neighbors into God's family.***

God's mercy continues from generation to generation.

You are accepted and loved and sent forth.

***In gratitude and joy we accept our commission.***

***Our spirits rejoice to share good news.***

Amen.

***Amen.***

*By Lavon Bayler*

Benediction

Chimes

Postlude

"Von Himmel Hoch" (From Heaven Above)

Pachelbel



**Candlelight Lessons and Carols**

**Friday, December 24  
at 7:00 pm**

## Alternative Gift Mart



Be sure to check out the Alternative Gift Mart. Catalogs of this year's selections will be available at the table in Kenyon Hall. **Today is the last day to purchase from the Alternative Gift Mart.**

Don't forget to check out the Fair Trade Coffee Cart too!

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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 Fellowship Hall (lower level). 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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Volunteers are needed next year to help prepare the CFUM Supper Club meals on the third Friday of each month. Shirley Christoffersen will be preparing a schedule so please let her know if you would like to help at 276-3112 or [shirley.christoffersen@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:shirley.christoffersen@dnr.iowa.gov). Thank you!

## US Disaster Response and Recovery

Help bring hope to the people impacted by the December 11<sup>th</sup> tornadoes through prayer and gifts to The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

UMCOR can help with the immediate needs of housing, food, shelter, and transportation, as well as long term recovery. United Methodists who want to help with this disaster are encouraged to donate. 100% donation goes directly to those in need. You can designate this on your giving by writing UMCOR Advance #901670 on your check memo line, placing cash in an envelope and marking it for UMCOR, or you can go to our online giving page on the church website.

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**Save the Dates – January 22-23** so you can participate in activities occurring as we *vision for the future*. Watch for the schedule in the January LIGHT.

**In addition, your consultant team is hard at work** developing key questions for First Church to address on our Big Weekend January 22-23. These discussions will frame our *vision for the future*.

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## Observing the Feast of the Holy Innocents



The Des Moines Faith Committee for Peace will present a service on Tuesday, December 28th, at 6:30 PM, on the theme, "Wailing for Children Who are No More." It will be in person at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church, 511 Des Moines Street, in Des Moines and will also be live streamed.

The Facebook link is <https://fb.me/e/3TlxZtVEs>.

The Outreach Committee is a co-sponsor of this service. Please join us!

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<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:	Rev. Edgar Solís
Liturgist:	Christine Anders
Director of Music	Ben Allaway
Organist:	Lonnie Liggett
Music:	The Chancel Choir Scott Davis – trumpet Dan Stevenson – clarinet Chuck Kuba – bass Clayton Hunn - percussion
December Greeters:	Arnie Brown, Millie Wade
December Ushers:	Ned Johnson & Craig Strayer (Head Usher) Ron Roulet
Nursery:	Renea Losee, Jill Fresh (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	<a href="mailto:musicdirector@dmfirstchurch.org">musicdirector@dmfirstchurch.org</a>
Lonnie Liggitt – Associate Organist	
Michelle Mathews – Finance Manager	<a href="mailto:finance@dmfirstchurch.org">finance@dmfirstchurch.org</a>
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