

# Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A community of disciples for Jesus Christ, dedicated to glorifying God through worship, spiritual growth and service to others.*

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

***Service of the Word***

## GATHERING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### \*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**P:** Most merciful God,

**C:** **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen**

### \*GATHERING SONG

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

**ELW 264**

### \*APOSTOLIC GREETING

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### \*KYRIE

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

**Omitted During Advent**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*in unison, see insert*)

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**WORD**

**READINGS** (*See Insert*)

**FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10**

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: 72:1-7, 18-19** (*read responsively*)

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*Light One Candle (Vs. 2)*

**ELW 240**

**SECOND LESSON: Romans 15:4-13**

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia*

**216**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter

C: **Glory to you, Oh Lord.**

**\*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:1-12**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

**George Simmons**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

**ELW 249**

**\*STATEMENT OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)** (*read in unison*)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*See insert*)

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING SONG**

*Salvation Belongs to Our God*

**219**

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

**220**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*in unison*)

**221**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom 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 and ever. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*BLESSING**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG**

*Hark the Glad Sound*

**ELW 239**

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*\*Congregation Stands*

*Congregational Responses are in bold*

**UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.**

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**Sunday School 9:30am**

**Worship 10:30am**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS. "THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE..."** We will rejoice and be glad in it." Thank you for choosing Unity as your place to worship this morning. If you would like more information concerning the ministries and outreach of Unity church in the community please speak to one of the Ushers.

**WELCOME George Simmons** as our worship leader for today.

**ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY** are given by the Huffman Family in memory of their mom, Nancy  
**FLOWERS NEXT SUNDAY:** Tinita Stoker

**2020 FLOWER CHART IS POSTED IN HALLWAY**, claim your special date for Altar Flowers

**JOINT HOLIDAY CELEBRATION:** Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 PM. This will be a joint covered dish meal with House of Mercy and presentation of gifts to a family in need. There is a sign-up sheet on small table in narthex to let us know what food you will be bringing.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM. Experience the birth of our Savior anew through the eyes of “The Shepherd”, a sermon video and the familiar Candle Light Service!

**ADVENT IS** a season of anticipating the glorious birth of the Son of God in our hearts once again. To emphasize this as a time of solemn preparation, the Hymn (Canticle) of Praise will be omitted, and the Nicene Creed will be used.

**THE SECOND CANDLE** on the Advent Wreath will be lighted today. Tradition names this the Bethlehem candle. It reminds us that the hope of the world is centered in an obscure, out-of-the-way place in which Christ was born.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

**MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL CONCERNS:** Tina Carpenter, Lora Childers, Glenn and Peggy Davis, Bill & Farrell Gibbs, Dave Shannon, Kathy Whisnant, Sue Heavner, Unity college students.

**HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:** Dave Shannon, Candyce Webb, Kenneth Webb, Bette Killian.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Betty Huffman, Brenda Caldwell, Lucy Jones, Terry Jenkins, Michael Fox (Farrell Gibbs’ grandson), Edith Michael, Judy Houser, Lesa Fox, Dan Drinkard, Diane Futrelle, Gay Apple, Cort Hollar, Nancy Lang, Rachel Jones, Pam Beeson, all public safety personnel and military personnel.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:** Unity’s Planting Hope Team, Gifts and graces of the Unity Lutheran Family.

#### SERVING TODAY, December 8

<b>Presiding Minister:</b>	George Simmons
<b>Organist:</b>	Chuck Lindler
<b>Reader/Assisting Minister:</b>	Bea Isenhour
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Joy Burns
<b>Ushers:</b>	Richard Huffman/Ralph Adcock
<b>Counters:</b>	Adrian Jones/Maurice Huffman
<b>Altar /Narthex Care:</b>	Ruie Jones
<b>Property Contact:</b>	Adrian Jones

#### SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, December 15

<b>Presiding Minister:</b>	William Miller-Zurell
<b>Organist:</b>	Frances Whitener
<b>Reader/Assisting Minister:</b>	Adrian Jones
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Joy Burns
<b>Ushers:</b>	Richard Huffman/Ralph Adcock
<b>Counters:</b>	Adrian Jones/Maurice Huffman
<b>Altar /Narthex Care:</b>	Ruie Jones
<b>Property Contact:</b>	Adrian Jones