

First Congregational Church of Winona

United Church of Christ

3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.

December 11, 2022

Prelude

Sandy Todd

Invitation to Worship

Rev. Danielle Bartz

Chimes

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Roger Andring, See Insert

Call to Worship (based on the Magnificat)

One: Our souls magnify the Lord. Our Spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

Many: We come today with eager hope, awaiting God's new revelation.

One: The mighty One has done great things! God's mercy covers generations.

Many: We come today with ready peace, trusting with anticipation.

One: The One who lifted up the lowly and filled the hungry, dwells with us.

Many: We come today with fervent joy, we worship with great expectation.

***Hymn**

"My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise"

#106, Black Hymnal

***Morning Prayer** (unison)

God of us all, we enter this moment of worship with eager anticipation. We know that even before Christ would come to lead the way, you were leading our way. From the valleys of the shadows of death to the tables in the presence of enemies, you have never left us nor forsaken us. Your rod and your staff have guided us. Guide us now, O God. Make your presence known as we worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

***Passing the Peace**

Towards the Camera: "The Peace of Christ Be With You!"

Towards one another: "And with all of you!"

Call for Offering

Anthem

'On Wings of Light' by Dana Mengel

Senior Choir

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost! Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

For the wondrous ways this offering will bless this community, for the ways it will help us live out God's mission, we dedicate these gifts. Let them strengthen our call to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

Sermon

Desert in Bloom

Joys/Concerns/Requests for Prayers

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Announcements

See Insert

***Hymn**

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"

#117, Black Hymnal

Benediction and Blessings

Chimes

Postlude

*As you are comfortably able, please rise in body and Spirit