

First Congregational Church of Winona

United Church of Christ

2nd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.

December 10, 2023

Prelude

Sandy Todd

Invitation to Worship

Rev. Danielle Bartz

Chimes

Call to Worship

One: We believe that joy is a sacred gift,

Many: stemming from the truth that we belong to God.

One: We believe that joy is not meant for isolation.

Many: Joy is meant to be shared, weaving us together in laughter and hope.

One: And when joy feels impossibly out of reach,

Many: we believe that part of being sacred community is leaning on one another.

One: So together we say:

Many: I will share my joy when yours runs out. You will share your joy when mine runs out. And in doing so, we will all see God.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Duffy and Harro Hohenner

*Hymn

"Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"

#122, Black Hymnal

*Morning 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. As we approach your Word, do not let us pass you by. Instead, give us the wisdom to turn and run your way. In hope we pray. 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

'People, Look East' by Eugene Butler

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)

We dedicate these gifts that have been shared for the fortification of the beloved community. Let these gifts usher peace into this world and signal to the people that God is with us. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:24-45

Sermon

"Unexpected Joy"

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

"Mary, Woman of the Promise"

#123, Black Hymnal

Benediction and Blessings

Chimes

Postlude

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