



Our Mission: To serve and unite those we touch with the Grace of God.

Our Vision: Transforming lives to become the heart, hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

10:00 a.m. Service *Please stand as able

December 29, 2019

ORDER OF WORSHIP

1st Sunday after Christmas

Prelude

“The Westminster Carol”

- arr. Wilson

***Call to Worship**

One: Glory to God in the Highest! And peace to all God’s people on earth!

All: **Good Tidings - Great joy - are yours! Glory to God on high!**

***Hymn #249**

“There’s a Song in the Air” verses 1, 2 and 4

Prayer for Guidance

In the light of Christmas, may we too, tell the story, hear the angels, make the journey, and rejoice with the shepherds. Let us ponder these things with Mary in prayer. Amen.

Children’s Message

The children are invited to join Pastor Rory at the chancel steps. Afterwards, Pre-K to 5th graders are welcome to go to Sunday school or return to sit with their families.

Anthem

“A Time for Hope, A Time for Joy”

- Price/Besig

Scripture

Luke 2:8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Hymn #221

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Message

The Story of a Birth

Pastor Rory Swenson

Prayers of
the People

Following each Joy

Pastor: God is good

Congregation: All the time

Following each Concern

Pastor: Lord in Your mercy

Congregation: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer *Unison*

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. Amen.

Offertory

“How Brightly Beams the Morning Star”

- Bach

*Doxology - Hymn #94

Offertory Prayer

Litany of Dedication (by Howard Thurman)

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.



Hymn #251

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

*Benediction

*Song of Peace

Go in peace, my friend, till we meet again.
May God’s blessing be on you, may you be a blessing too.
May God’s Spirit burning bright, be your ever-guiding light.
God go with you, making all things new.

WELCOME

- **Children are welcome in worship.** We welcome the wiggles, curiosity and expressions of children in worship. Children’s bulletins and crayon bags may be found in the wicker basket just outside the Sanctuary doors. Child care is provided in our well-equipped nursery for children up to the age of three during the service.
- **Hearing assistance devices** for use during service are located at the Welcome Center.
- For your safety, please make sure that your valuables are not in plain sight and that your car doors are locked when attending any function at Grace UMC.

WORSHIP NOTES

Serving us **TODAY**: **Greeter**: Doris Marek; **Usher**: John Podratz; **Sound**: Roy Koenigsberg; **Liturgist**: Diane Martin; **Acolyte**: Sean Litterer; **Nursery**: Jamie Moeller and _____.

Serving us Sunday, January 5th: **Greeter**: Kay Pasvogel; **Usher**: Melisa Devine; **Sound**: Robert Timmerrman; **Liturgist**: James Milne; **Communion**: Mark Anderson, Steve and Diane Martin; **Acolyte**: Claire Conaway; **Nursery**: Jamie Moeller and _____.

Sunday School will not be taking place TODAY.
Children’s Church will be in it’s place.

**Next Weekend
Is Sandwich
Sunday**



There will be coolers in the Narthex where prepared sandwiches can be placed as well as in the freezer in the hallway by the kitchen. Thanks for contributing to this worthy cause.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If Burnsville Schools close, all children’s activities are cancelled.

Ruth Voll Circle will not be meeting during the months of January and February. All women of Grace are invited to attend in March when meetings resume. For further information, please contact Vicky Kline at 952-435-7532 or quilervicky@gmail.com.

Happy New Year!

12/29 SUN	9:30 am	Coffee and Treats in the Narthex
	10:00 am	Worship Service
	10:10 am	Nursery & Children's Church
12/31 TUE		OFFICE CLOSED/NO Activities
1/1 WED		OFFICE CLOSED/New Years Day
1/2 THUR	7:30 pm	AA
12/27 FRI	6:15 am	Men's Fellowship/Cracker Barrel
	8:00 pm	AA
12/28 SAT	9:30 am	Al-Anon



Pastor Jen sent Grace UMC a Christmas card. It can be found next to December's Grace Notes on the small black roller cart. There's an Anderson family update on the back side.

Tuesday, December 31st and Wednesday, January 1st



As Epiphany is on Monday, January 6th this year, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 12th after the 10:00 a.m. service. It usually goes quickly with lots of hands helping out. Also, if you purchased any poinsettias, feel free to take them home at any time. For clean-up purposes, we'd appreciate it if none were left behind.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

**All-Church Quarterly Town Hall Meeting
And Church Conference
Sunday, January 19th
following the 10:00 a.m. Service
More details to follow.**

GATHERING AT THE PASTOR'S HOUSE:

Pastor Rory and Beth would like to invite church members to sign up for a Sunday afternoon at the pastor's house. This is an opportunity for us to get to know each other better. We will have coffee and punch. We ask each family to bring a small appetizer or treats to share. We will gather from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and each go around the circle to introduce ourselves. A sign-up sheet can be found on the table in the Narthex. It would be great if you joined group that you aren't as familiar with.

Gathering Dates: January 12th, 19th and 26th