



First Congregational United Church of Christ

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Pastor Emily Munger

Larry Lyngstad, Choir Director

Email: pastor.pierreucc@midconetwork.com

Gloria Merriam, Organist

Jack Horner, Pianist

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

Cherlyn Christiansen – Liturgist

Ensemble – Song Leaders

Sound – Larry Lyngstad AV –

broadcast on-line

MUSIC TO GATHER US IN

PASTORAL WELCOME

MOMENT FOR CENTERING & PRAYER

***OPENING SONG** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” #121

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*inspired by Mark 13*)

ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Leader: O Holy One, we light this first candle, a candle of grief, in the midst of the stories of this year; Let it burn through these weeks as a beacon to become *The light of Hope*. Let it guide us to your presence in our midst, leading us to your justice and joy in the service of peace.

People: God be with us in this Light of Hope.

Leader: After such suffering, we go searching for a sign, any sign. The sun seems to dim, the moon fails, the stars fall. We need a sign, any sign.

People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.

Leader: We hope that the Human One is on the way, gathering the faithful from the four winds into a place of peace –We need a sign, any sign.

People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.

Leader: So together we search for a sign of the One who is coming.

Clarity in confusion; Green shoot in a barren landscape; Song arising in a weary soul.

People: Be aware, stay awake, change is coming. Come, let us worship!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

***SONG** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1 & 2 #120

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, or in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

***SONG** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 3 & 4 #120

SERMON

“What’s Your Symbol Of Hope?”

Isaiah 64:1-9

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Bring Us Hope”

Choral Ensemble

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***SONG** “It Came Upon The Midnight Clear” #134

GIVING STORY

BLESSING OUR 2021 PLEDGES & GIFTS

Invitation to Offering

OFFERTORY SPECIAL MUSIC

Gloria & Jack

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O Faithful One, accept these gifts of our hearts and hands. May they be multiplied and magnified as the living presence of Christ in the world. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** “Go Tell It On The Mountains” vs. 1 #139

POSTLUDE

(* indicates moments to stand

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If you or a family member has any of the above symptoms or you have been in close contact with someone who has these symptoms, you should not attend church.

When you are able to attend church, upon entering we ask you to:

- * Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds or apply hand sanitizer located throughout the church.
- * We will require you to wear a mask at all times.
- * We want everyone to stay 6 feet apart, so some of the pews have been taped off to accomplish this, there will not be a social time after church and we ask that you do not linger at the back of the sanctuary.
- * If we have too many people in the sanctuary for proper social distancing, we have a smart tv in Bradford Hall and the overflow will be able to sit down there and watch the service.



No Christmas Store in 2020

The Christian Ed. Board has decided to not have a Christmas Store due to the high numbers of Covid-19. You will have to save your donations for 2021.

We begin a new church



year today with the first

Sunday of Advent. We watch for Jesus' advent, or coming, among us: his return on the last day, and his presence with us now.

Week of November 29, 2020

Sunday, November 29	10:00 am	Worship
Wednesday, December 2	10:00 am	Altar Guild
Sunday, December 6	10:00 am	Worship Communion
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting



Marshall and Merrie Miller
 Lori Eschen
 Reta Lathem, Val Kelly's grandma, colon cancer
 Members living in care centers: Jeannette Beemer
 Glenn Kitzmann Gerald Voorman
 Kay Swenson Mickey Thomson
 Shirley Hinzman Lloyd Kannegieter
 Gary Cutler Loni Norman
 Members self distancing: Helene Miller
 Robert & Bev Huckins Gail Neumann
 Carol Jennings Lerseth Family
 Jennifer Evans
 Joseph Merriam
 Blair Krueger
 Friends with cancer
 Everyone with Covid-19
 Pierre and Ft. Pierre School Systems
 Firefighters and families

Please write out prayers, joys and concerns and place in the offering or in the office. Thank you.

Scholarship Applications

It's time to get your applications for the General, Gladys Kemp and Hyde scholarships. Applications are due **December 1**. Request forms from the office. They can be mailed or picked up.

Marshall Miller fell, broke several ribs and has undergone surgery. He will be in recovery for some time to come. Keep Marshall and Merrie in your thoughts and prayers. Their address is Peaceful Pines #304, 1770 Tablerock Rd.; Rapid City, SD 57701.

Last Week's Attendance: 22 +online

	November 22, 2020
Weekly Offerings	\$ 1,625.00
TOTAL GENERAL GIVING	\$ 1,625.00
Weekly receipts needed to meet budget	\$ 2,985.48
Love fund	\$ 225.00
TOTAL SPECIAL GIVING	\$ 225.00
General fund receipts Year-to-Date	\$ 145,541.33
General fund expenses paid Year-to-Date	\$ 125,965.62
Budgeted Expenses Year-to-Date	\$ 139,966.64



Lectionary
Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8



Holiday Feast Project

PARS, Feeding SD, and Lynn's Dakotamart are working together to share our bounty with those who are less fortunate. It is a time to reflect on our blessings and share with others.

It is a great opportunity to purchase a complete holiday feast for someone less fortunate. The goal is to be able to provide 350 meals for Thanksgiving and 350 meals for Christmas. Complete details may be found on the 1/2 sheet of paper found at the back of the sanctuary or by the office.

This year's Holiday Feast packages cost \$60.00 each.

THANK YOU

Larry and I wish to thank everyone for your words of sympathy and care at the loss of his brother Mickey. Memorials are going to a favorite animal shelter. Cheryl



THE ALTAR GUILD will be using Poinsettias to decorate the Altar during the Christmas Season. We have pre-ordered 25 plants this year. You may purchase a poinsettia in REMEMBRANCE or in

HONOR of a loved one, or simply to help beautify the Altar. **TO ORDER** a poinsettia, contact **Patti Jennings** at **280-3091**. Poinsettias are \$21 each and checks should be made out to **CAPITAL CITY FLORIST**. We need your order in by **December 11**.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Following the service

Election of Officers, Boards and Committees

Watch bulletins and e-news for how we will be conducting the meeting

Time for Medicare Part D Review

Deadline December 7

It's time for your Medicare Part D review. Every fall, Medicare prescription drug (Part D) plans announce changes to their premium, co-payments, pharmacy network and the drugs they cover. You need to check to be sure you are covered well for the 2021 plan year. Many Medicare beneficiaries find they can save money by choosing a different plan.

During the Open Enrollment Period, Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, you can change your Part D plan for 2021 or enroll in Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage) if you have not already done so. If you have questions or need help comparing and enrolling in plans, call the Senior Health Information and Insurance Education (SHIINE) program at (605) 494-0219 for assistance in the Pierre area.

For everyone's safety during this COVID-19 epidemic, we will not be having in-person appointments at the Senior Center this year, but I will be helping by email. Please email me at shiine.arlene@gmail.com if you would like me to compare plans for you.

Let me know whether SHIINE helped you last year, and, if so, whether your address, phone number, or medications have changed or there has been a substantial change in your income or assets.

Thank you, Arlene Krueger

Dakotamart Receipts

We continue to collect Dakotamart receipts. I was asked if the receipts received at the Dakotamart gas station counted in our collections? The answer is yes they can. Receipts may be dropped in the box in the Peter Room or mailed if you are not getting to church regularly. Within the last 2 months we have received \$600. Thanks to everyone who drops off receipts. Small or large they all count and add up.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.
Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all-gracious King" –
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing; –
Oh, rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old
When, with the ever circling years,
Shall come the time foretold
When the new heaven and earth shall own
The prince of peace their King
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Go Tell It On The Mountains

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.

1 While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by
night, Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

[Refrain]

2 The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang
out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. [Refrain]

3 Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us
salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

[Refrain]