**Welcome to OUR SAVIOUR’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin *(920) 748-2544*

*www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com*

Christmas One Dec. 26, 2021

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*\* All who are able please stand L: Leader; P: People*

Prelude Accom.: Craig Bowden

Words of Welcome and Good News

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Children are precious to God. The child Samuel grew in God’s favor and the child Jesus grew likewise.

**P: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!**

L: Older adults and elders are precious to God. Young and old together praise God’s name.

**P: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!**

L: Creation is precious to God: cedars, mountains, snow & frost, shining stars.

**P: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!**

\*HYMN: “Angels from the Realms of Glory” R126/Projected

\*INVOCATION

***ALL: Creator God, you are worthy to be praised. You have created “Rulers of the earth and all peoples, young men and women alike, old and young together!” You made them to be together in a good creation that provides for them, a world covered in “Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!” All of life is connected by your design. We give you thanks for creating all of us, invaluable. Amen.***

\*Response & Invitation: “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” by Thomas A. Dorsey

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired,**

**I am weak, I am worn; Through the storm, through the night,**

**lead me on to the light: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

WITNESS OF FAITH: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

WITNESS OF FAITH: Psalm 148

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***ALL: O God, clothe us anew, for we confess we do not clothe our spirits as you require. The compassion we clothe ourselves with is conditional. The love we clothe ourselves with is limited. Forgiveness and gratitude: these are the garments we need to live in community, yet we rend them and fail to fit them, over and over again. Weave us new garments which do not need mending, clothes that protect us like suits or armor and that we can delight in like cozy sweaters. May we outwardly show what we inwardly know: Your love has no bounds.***

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L: The Word of Christ is that your sins are forgiven. Let it indeed dwell within you richly and shine through you brightly. Let it dwell and shine also in your neighbor, near and far. We need only let our lights mingle to know first-hand the connective power of Jesus’ Incarnate Love. Amen.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

Passing of the Peace [A blessing from our minister]

WITNESS OF FAITH: Colossians 3:12-17

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:41-52

A TIME FOR LEARNING WITH OUR CHILDREN

A visual telling of the Gospel story Projected

\*STATEMENT OF FAITH: A New Creed Projected

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place**

**I can feel God’s mighty power and God’s Grace**

**I can hear the brush of angel’s wings**

**I see glory on each face**

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place**

VISUAL REFLECTION: “Christmas Tree Symbolism and Meaning Projected

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Prayer of Our Savior:

**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, for ever. Amen.**

HYMN: “Winter Snow” with Chris Tomlin and Audrey Assad Projected

MEDITATION: “Holy and Beloved” Rev. Kevin Mundell

HYMN: “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” R131/Projected

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

[Offering plates by the sanctuary entrances/social media/mail/office.]

L: God, you call us to give as we have received in this Christmas Season when you have shared your Child with us, help us to share our blessing with those in need.

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

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

Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***ALL: Just as you, Holy God, crossed every conceivable barrier by taking on flesh and teaching on behalf of the outcast and poor, we are called to respond in kind by your grace. May the gifts offered today aid truly your work of reconciliation and peace in our world. Amen.***

\*BENEDICTION: “Go Now In Peace”

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know he will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

\*Postlude

**THIS WEEK’S COMING EVENTS**

**Thurs. December 23 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**6:30pm Blue Christmas Worship Service in Sanctuary**

**Fri. December 24 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship Service in Sanctuary**

**10:30pm Christmas Eve Worship Service in Sanctuary**

**Sun. December 26 9:00am Christmas Worship Service in Sanctuary**

**10:15am Christian Ed Classes**

**Mon. December 27 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**Tues.**  **December 28 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**Wed. December 29 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**Thurs. December 30 6:30pm Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion**

**Fri. December 31 OFFICE CLOSED**

**Sun. January 2 9:00am Worship in Sanctuary with Communion**

**10:15am Christian Ed Classes, NO ADULT ED**

**10:30am Drive-Thru Communion**

**FUTURE COMING EVENTS**

**Wed. January 5**  **5:15pm Session Thirteen**

**Thurs. January 6 6:30pm Worship in Sanctuary**

**Sun. January 9 9:00am Worship in Sanctuary**

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If any of your contact information changes, please let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

**WORSHIP & COMMUNION:** Our next Drive-Thru Communion will be happening on January 2nd. On December 5th, we had 15 participants.

**LOOSE COIN UPDATE:** We are still using the loose coins in the offering plate for special projects. You can still give by specifying on the envelope that it is for Stewardship loose coin offering. Thanks to all for your continued support.

**LIVE STREAMING:** If you are viewing the worship from one of our social media platforms, make sure to leave a comment or like our post to know you’re worshipping with us! If there is an issue with the stream, or you have any feedback, please reach out to Conrad.

**BULLETIN INFORMATION DEADLINES:** If you are interested in getting information placed in the bulletin, or would like to sponsor an item through the Altar Guild, these requests are needed by **Tuesday, 11am.** This deadline ensures our delivered bulletins are received before Thursday/Sunday Service!

**WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY!**

We welcome all visitors and guests, and we are glad you can join us for our services.

**Large print bulletins and regular bulletins with copies of the hymn for those wanting a print form, are available in the vestibule and online, if you would like one mailed to you, please let us know. Weekly hymns are being printed and some are available in the vestibule by the bulletins.**

Worship Services are Thursday at 6:30pm and Sunday at 9:00am.

Both services are live streamed, and a video recording is placed on our social media sites to view at any time. For those videos, please visit: www.oursavioursuccripon.com or “Our Saviours United Church of Christ” Facebook page & Youtube Channel

Either the Thursday or Sunday service will be broadcasted via radio at 11:00am on 1600AM WRPN

**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell revdrmundell@me.com 920-385-8990

**Parish Nurse** Monica Gagnon monica@churchclinic.org 920-318-1295

**Office Manager**  Conrad Winkelman osuccripon1@gmail.com 920-748-2544

**Custodian** Rick Stracy [rlstracy@gmail.com](mailto:rlstracy@gmail.com) 920-229-1367

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  The office hours are: Monday-Friday, 9AM-NOON. If you need to get into the church at an unopen time, please call the church office and leave a message, or call a church council person.

**CONTRIBUTIONS & ATTENDANCE FOR LAST WEEK**:

Attendance: Thursday 6:30 – 15 Sunday 9:00 - 56

Total Livestream Views: Thursday – 66 Sunday – 59

General Fund: $3267 Capital Improvements: $1283 OCWM: $683

Thank you so much for your continued support of mailed in and online contributions.

**Sunday Worship Team 9:00 am**

**Audio Operator:** John Kwiatkoske **Liturgist:** Confirmand

**Organist:** Craig Bowden

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**ALTAR & ORGAN FLOWERS; RADIO BROADCAST; BULLETIN SIGN-UP:** 2021 Sign-up is available on the stand outside of the office! This sign-up is for ALL SPONSORSHIPS! Altar flowers are $25 and Organ flowers are $16 each. Radio Broadcasts are $50 per sponsor & $25 per sponsor per bulletin. You can also send a letter with payment into the office or call the office to sign up. Please remember to send payment in for your signed-up slots.

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The Office will be closed on Friday, December 31st.

**YOUTH CHRISTIAN ED CLASS:** Phil Wepner’s class will not be meeting on January 2nd.

**PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY:** Feel free to use our prayer chain ministry by contacting Caroline Retzlaff at 920-748-2367.

**MISSIONS FOOD COLLECTION:** In the Month of December, Peanut Butter, Canned Chili, Soup, and Condiments are the recommended item to be donated.

**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPE BOXES:** Available in the East Narthex! Please pick them up at your earliest convenience.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES:** During Winter Break, we will not be holding Confirmation Class. Our next scheduled confirmation class will be January 5th. Enjoy Christmas break!

**CHRISTMAS PAEGENT:** Everyone enjoyed seeing the spectacular show put on by our Sunday School and Confirmation Students, Puppeteers, and Sunday School teachers. Thank you so much for all the hard work put into the show! If you were unable to make it, or would like to rewatch it, the Christmas Pageant is available to watch online at your convenience!

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

**Thursday December 23rd at 6:30pm** – Blue Christmas Service with First Congregational Church and Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

**December 24th at 4:00pm and 10:30pm –** Christmas Eve Services with Communion and Candle lighting at each service.

**Sunday, December 26th** - Christmas Service at 9:00am.

**BETTER NIGHT SLEEP:** By the time we reach 60 we tend to wake up more, snooze for shorter periods, and get less deep sleep then younger people. Stress is the number one reason individuals report having difficulty getting enough sleep. By decreasing tension before going to sleep we can improve our sleep progression. As a young child often has a nighttime routine to help get their mind and body prepared for sleep, so should we. Consider preparing yourself for a better night sleep with the following suggestions.

First try to get 30 minutes of morning and afternoon sun – even if it is inside by a window. The sun will clear your morning fog and reset your production of melatonin - the hormone that regulates your sleep/awake cycle. Later in the afternoon do the “dreaded deeds” first before dinner. Whether you need to make a difficult phone call, help the children to get their homework done, or have a household discussion. Start the process sooner rather than later. This will free your mind and lifts your spirits. Try then to sidestep negative; TV, internet, and/or video games which can activate your mind, making it difficult to fall asleep or get back to sleep once you wake up during the night. If you do utilize screens around bedtime, be sure to turn them off at least 30 minutes before retiring. Finally, avoid salty snacks before bed because they usually make you thirsty, increasing your sleep interruptions with trips to the bathroom. Also, more time will then be lost getting back to sleep. Instead have oatmeal, a banana, or yogurt which all has sleep inducing properties. Goodnight.

**“In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

**Psalm 4:8 ESV**

*Monica Gagnon (Gon-Yo), Parish Nurse*

*Nicole Pajer, December 2021, Why You Couldn’t Sleep Last Night, AARP Bulletin*

**SANTA CLUB:** This year the church had the Santa Club use the space in our Chapel as a mini-workshop instead of at the North Pole. We thank those church members who helped coordinate this great event, and love to see the positive effects it has on our community in Ripon.

**MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES:** Church Health Services in Beaver Dam has a large amount of medical equipment and supplies which have been donated to them by individuals and organizations. These products are given out free to individuals. If interested just ask me and I will look for your request next time I am there! – Nurse Monica

**IN OUR PRAYERS:**  Billi Kaufman, Bill Waltenberry, Roger Fenner, Lorraine Fischer, Steve McSorley, Bob Schouten, Caroline Sowersby, Audrey Cluppert’s Brother, 15 unspoken, and all others.

*Please keep in your prayers the Family and Friends of Marion Vandebrink as they grieve her loss.*

*Please keep in your prayers the Family and Friends of Orville Breivogel as they grieve his loss.*

*Red Poinsettias - 2021*

*In Memory of…*

*Dave Gittens and Mabel & Erv Boese Given by the Gittens Family*

*Merwin & Ruth Stellmacher and*

*Melvin & Lucille Miller Given by Thomas and Julie Stellmacher*

*Doreen & Jeff Badtke Given by Tom Badtke*

*Loved Ones Given by Don & Caroline Retzlaff*

*Mabel & Dick Bloedel and Jerry Long Given by Jerry Long Family*

*Peter Theisen, Louis & Loretta Albright,*

*Herman & Minnie Huth, Frank & Minnie Albrecht,*

*Elda Huth, and Wilbur Huth Given by Nancy Theisen*

*Loved Ones Given by Patti Schaalma & Family*

*Susan Wille & James Wille Given by Debbie & Ricky Prellwitz and Family*

*Warren Luedke and Our Parents Given by Orrin & Jo Luedke*

*Loved Ones Given by Linda Neuenfeldt*

*Loved Ones Given by The Miller Family*

*Loved Ones Given by Bob and Judy Lueck*

*Milton & Sandy Turner Given by Mike & Connie Turner and Family*

*Loved Ones Given by Pete and Kathy Schieler*

*In Memory of…*

*Loved Ones Given by Rick & Barb Stracy*

*Floyd Baird Given by Dorothy Baird & Family*

*Len Quinn and Bill Zinecker Given by Kay Quinn and Family*

*In Honor Of…*

*The Members of Our Saviours Given by John & Carol Blattner*

*Thank you to those who helped make our Sanctuary beautiful with Red Poinsettias*

***Merry Christmas from the Altar Guild!***

***Memorials for 2021***

***Bulletins***

In Memory of Cal Schaub

In Memory of Dave Gittens

In Memory of Clarence Schwandt

In Memory of Dave Gittens

In Memory of Donald Stracy

In Memory of Mabel & Erv Boese

In Honor of Jayden Hinton’s Confirmation

In Memory of Doris Stracy

In Memory of Clarence Schwandt

In Memory of David Lang

In Memory of Don & Beth Walters

In Memoriam, Earl & Lorraine Fischer’s Anniversary

In Memory of Betty Miller

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Dick Mlodzik

In Memory of Cal Schaub

In memory of Pastor Tretow & Ken

In Memory of Donald Miller

***Radio***

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Muriel

In Memory of Betty Miller

In Memory of David Lang

***Altar Flowers***

To the Glory of God

In Memory of Loved Ones

Iona and Ronald’s 60th Anniversary

***Organ Flowers***

In Memory of Joan Bischop

In Memory of Ken Wittchow

In Honor of the marriage of Allyssa Langenfeld and Grant Schlieve

In memory of Dick & Mabel Bloedel

***Undesignated Funds***

In Memory of Betty Miller

In Memory of Donna Liefke

In Memory of Jackie Jenkins

***Memorial Garden***

In Memory of Joyce Krueger