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

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

*www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com*

Christmas Two Dec. 30 & Jan. 02, 2022

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

Prelude Accom.: Craig Bowden

Words of Welcome and Good News

CHIRSTMAS GREETING

L: In many ways the Holy One has spoken of old, but now God has been made known in Christ, the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. Let us sing a new song to the God who loves us and who receives us as children and heirs with Christ.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: People of God, sing and rejoice! God has come to us in Jesus the Christ, to reconcile and make new.

**P: God has entered our existence of joy and sorrow, taking on human likeness in Jesus, born of Mary.**

L: Therefore, we rejoice, praising God and singing:

***ALL: Glory be to God in the highest, on earth peace to those who will the good. Christ is born. Alleluia!***

\*HYMN: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” R89/Projected

\*SENTENCES

L: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

\*INVOCATION

***ALL: Our faces are sometimes lined with worry, O God; our days are full of stress and struggle. Yet we come today grateful that in the midst of this crowded and troubled world, your child was born, lived, and died, full of grace and truth. Surprise us with your presence; renew our sense of wonder; and give us peace and courage to live as your people in the world. May you be glorified in us, as in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. 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: Jeremiah 31:7-14

WITNESS OF FAITH: Psalm 147:12-20

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: We live as if Christ had never been born. We abuse the privileges that are ours as children of God. Let us confess our sin before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***ALL: God, you have come to us in Jesus, your true child, in whom you give us power to be your children. Yet, O God, we confess that we turn from your love, fearing the comfort and challenge of being your children. We are your own, yet we refuse you, clinging to the security of familiar ways rather than accepting the new life you offer. We tolerate hatred, violence, and injustice in the world you loved so well that you sent the child Jesus, begotten from your own being. We trust not in ourselves, but in your great compassion. Forgive us, and renew a right spirit within us that we may live as your children and once again praise you; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L: Hear the good news, children of God: In Jesus Christ, God forgives and frees you. Live by the Spirit.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

Passing of the Peace [A blessing from our minister]

WITNESS OF FAITH: Ephesians 1:3-14

GOSPEL LESSON: John 1:10-18

A TIME FOR LEARNING WITH OUR CHILDREN

 A visual telling of the Prologue to John Projected

\*HYMN: “Away in a Manger” R93/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 Amazing Grace” Projected

 By Caleb & Kelsey

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: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” R99/Projected

MEDITATION: “Grace Upon Grace” Rev. Kevin Mundell

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

L: Wisdom has been our companion and God’s gift to us since time immemorial. What righteous path is she leading you toward this Christmas season? What does she beckon you to offer? Where does she want you and God’s church to go?

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: Most wise and wondrous God, we pray that soon and very soon your blessings will cover the face of the earth like a mist, that divine offerings and the offerings of human hands mingle imperceptibly as every need is satisfied. Amen.***

HYMN: “The First Nowell” R100/Projected

HOLY COMMUNION

\*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 30 9am-12pm Office Hours**

 **6:30pm Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion**

**Fri. December 31 OFFICE CLOSED!**

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

 **10:15am Sunday School Class – NO ADULT ED OR YOUTH CLASS**

**Mon. January 3 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**Tues.**  **January 4 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**Wed. January 5 9am-12pm Office Hours**

 **5:15pm Confirmation Session Thirteen**

**Thurs. January 6 9am-12pm Office Hours**

 **6:30pm Worship Service**

**Fri. January 7 9am-12pm Office Hours**

**Sun. January 8 9:00am Worship in Sanctuary**

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

**FUTURE COMING EVENTS**

**Wed. January 12**  **5:15pm Confirmation Session Fourteen**

**Thurs. January 13 6:30pm Worship in Sanctuary**

**Sun. January 16 9:00am Worship in Sanctuary with Lindsey Michaels**

 **and the Turkey Dinner Donation**

 **10:15am Altar Guild Meeting in Conference Room**

**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 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**:

Blue Christmas Thursday 6:30 – 25 Christmas Eve 4:00pm - 104 Christmas Eve 10:30pm - 51 Sunday 9:00-56

Livestream Views: Thursday – 160 Christmas Eve – 164 Sunday: 43

General Fund: $6891 Capital Improvements: $132.50 OCWM: $252.50

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

**Sunday Worship Team 9:00 am**

**Audio Operator:** Audrey Cluppert **Liturgist:** Kelly Mundell

 **Organist:** Craig Bowden

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***Birthday Greetings to our Young at Heart (50+)***

***Delores Retzlaff,*** *December 31,* ***Connie Turner,*** *December 31,* ***Allan Mortenson****, January 2,*

***Earl Schrader****, January 2,* ***Julie Carr****, January 3,* ***Tom Carr,*** *January 4,* ***Lyle Lenz,*** *January 4,*

***Linda Towne,*** *January 4,* ***Jane Hilke****, January 5*

**ALTAR & ORGAN FLOWERS; RADIO BROADCAST; BULLETIN SIGN-UP:** 2022 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 January, 100% fruit juice, canned fruits and vegetables, instant potatoes, cereal, and rice are the recommended items during this time.

**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!

**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.

**HAVE THE MINDSET OF AN OLIMPIAN:**

If you watched the 2021 Olympics a few months ago you heard about the Fear, Anxiety and Depression of Naomi Osaka and Simone Biles, who showed that “it’s ok not to be okay”. (Paul White/AP and Gregory Bull/AP) (The Washington Post). By dismissing stigma, shame, and silence they were able feel better about themselves and then were able to talk openly with others to get the help they needed.

 Often our feelings of doubt were planted in our minds at an early age by something said to us by a parent, teacher, or friend. This can setup a negative belief for us to go through life with. Try instead “thought-stopping “, a technique used in cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). This is how to train your mind to stop a negative thought and replace it with a positive one just like the delete tab on the computer. Try to remember a verbal or written compliment someone gave you and substitute that when talking to yourself. It is like being your own cheerleader! Accept and be yourself in whatever you do. You may learn or complete a task or job differently than others but ***embrace your uniqueness*.**

And strive for perfection in whatever you do. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said –if you’re a street sweeper, sweep streets as Michelangelo painted.

Last but not least, **do not hesitate to seek mental health.** Times have changed as compared to years ago when there was much more embarrassment about psychological care. In fact, today it is known that improving your mental health can improve your overall physical health.

***Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord, and not for men.* Colossians 3:23 ESV**

Monica Gagnon (Gon-yo), Parish Nurse

Judy Kuriansky, PhD, clinical psychologist, *Anxiety? Depression? Lessons from Our Olympic Athletes on Admitting You Need Help, Bottom Line Personal,* January 1, 2022