

Welcome to **OUR SAVIOUR'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin (920) 748-2544  
[www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com](http://www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com)

Advent Four Year C December 22, 2024

\*\*\*\*\*

*\* All who are able please stand* *L: Leader; P: People*  
Prelude Accompanists: Terri Wilke

Words of Welcome and Good News.

ADVENT VISUAL REFLECTION: The Anticipation of Love From The Skit Guys

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Love

L: When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, "But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day." (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, "But you, O Our Saviour's, from you shall come forth for me..." What? What might God be calling forth from us?

**P: God invites us to receive the promise of God's salvation and the sustenance of God's mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-bearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God's invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.**

L: We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God's promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God's love for all creation. (Fourth candle is lit)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Love deeply, creating the wells of kinship,

**P: For in the Body of Christ we belong.**

L: Love boldly, like the spirited colors of a rainbow,

**P: For in the Body of Christ we find peace.**

L: Love joyfully, like the blissful songs in the wind,

**P: For in the Body of Christ we claim our connections.**

**\*HYMN: "Hark the Glad Sound" R82/Projected**

**\*INVOCATION**

***ALL: Holy Tapestry of Bliss, the patches of memories are stitched together as we tell our stories with you, Loving God. We cherish the individual pieces of our diverse stories, and the beauty of narratives sewed together. We honor the ways these Holy Threads have connected us. May the creation from our connections be like a quilt to our souls, keeping us warm in this season of reflection. 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: Micah 5:2-5a

WITNESS OF FAITH: Psalm 80:1-7

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

L: John the Baptist called people to repentance, to prepare them for the coming of God's reign. Let us, too, repent, that we may be ready for God who comes to us.

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*ALL: God, we confess that it is not easy to wait for you. Our world worships the power that acts quickly through force; how difficult it is for us to wait for the power of your rule which comes slowly through love. We admit, that while claiming to desire your reign of peace and justice, we take part in the ways of war, hatred, and injustice. We leave little room for you to act in our lives. We turn now to you in repentance and openness to your Spirit.*

*Forgive us and show us how to clear a path for you. Come to us in your Christ and reveal your reign on earth. Amen.*

#### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L: God says: Remember these things, O Israel, for you are my servant; you will not be forgotten by me. I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

I say to you in the name of Jesus the Christ, our sins are forgiven.

**P: Thanks. Come, Lord Jesus!**

\*Passing of the Peace [Let us bless one another in Christ as we are comfortable.]

WITNESS OF FAITH: Hebrews 10:5-10

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:39-45

A TIME OF LEARNING: "Advent Symbols" with Purple Pete    Projected

\*STATEMENT OF FAITH: A New Creed (UC of Canada)    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

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Wonderful” with Scott Street Puppet Ministry

## 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, forever. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Mary, Did You Know?/Breath of Heaven” Projected  
With Anthem Lights & Charlotte Ave

MEDITATION: “My Nephesh Magnifies the Lord” Rev. Mundell

HYMN: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” R99/Projected

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

L: We reconnect in this space and time to seek God’s call for our lives and our congregations. As part of our spiritual journeys, we share our treasures, time, and talents, bringing God’s light into our world. We do not give to impress God or share offerings because of our shame. Instead, we bring our offerings to celebrate the Body of Christ.

## 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: God of All Joy, Holy Hope, we delight in living in your ways as we create your Realm here on earth. These offerings of talents, treasures, and time are not to appease you but to collaborate with you. As co-creators, we seek your intentions and celebrate your love for us and our neighbors. 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 EVENTS

- Thur. Dec. 19 9:00 am - Mind, Body, Soul Clinic with Nurse Emily  
5:15 pm - Senior Choir Practice  
5:45 pm - Lego Multiverse  
6:30 pm - [Blue Christmas Ecumenical Service](#)
- Sun. Dec. 22 9:00 am - Worship Service in the Sanctuary - 4th Sunday of Advent  
10:15 am - Sunday School  
10:30 am - Adult Education

## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

- Tues. Dec. 24 **Noon - Office Closes for the Christmas Holiday**  
4:00 pm - Christmas Eve Early Candlelight Service with Communion  
9:00 pm - Christmas Eve Late Candlelight Service with Communion
- Wed. Dec. 25 **Merry Christmas to you and yours! The church office is closed.**
- Thur. Dec. 26 9:00 am - Church office reopens  
9:00 am - Mind, Body, Soul Clinic with Nurse Emily  
5:15 pm - Senior Choir Practice  
5:45 pm - Lego Multiverse  
6:30 pm - Worship Service in the Chapel
- Sun. Dec. 29 9:00 am - Worship Service in the Sanctuary  
10:15 am - Sunday School  
10:30 am - Adult Education



## QR CODES FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Please feel free to use either of these two scannable QR codes with your Smart Phone.





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

**OUR SAVIOUR'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
FAITH FAMILY FRIENDSHIP

*Large print bulletins and regular bulletins are available in the vestibule and online. If you would like one mailed to you, please let us know.*

## **Join us for worship on Sunday at 9:00 am and Thursday at 6:30 pm**

Our Sunday Service is broadcast via radio at 11:00 am on WRPN, AM station 1600. If there is a problem with the broadcast, please let the Church Office know on Monday morning.

All worship services are livestreamed on our Social Media Platforms and are available to watch at your convenience. If you are viewing from one of our Social Media Platforms, please make sure to leave a comment or like our post to know you are worshipping with us! If there is an issue with the stream, or you have any feedback, please let the Church Office know.



<https://OurSavioursUCCRipon.com>



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCFacebook>



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCYouTube>



## **Staff Contact Information**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell	revdrmundell@me.com	920-385-8990
<b>Custodian</b>	Rick Stracy	rlstracy@gmail.com	920-229-1367
<b>Office Manager</b>	Jane Brady	osuccripon1@gmail.com	920-748-2544
<b>Parish Nurse</b>	Emily Burk	osuccpnripon1@gmail.com	920-748-2544
<b>Social Media</b>	Conrad Winkelman	osuccripon1@gmail.com	920-748-2544

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 AM till Noon. There is also a drop box adjacent to the office door if you need to drop off items when the office is not open.

**COPYRIGHT LICENSES:** CCLI #: 938092; CCS Perform #:9734; CCS Worship #: 9734; OL: A-729567



**Rodney Sommer** Dec 19, **Orion Gatzke** Dec 20, **Sophie Baitinger** Dec 21, **Carol Ann Cate** Dec 23,  
**Leigh Brown** Dec 24

### **ATTENDANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR LAST WEEK**

Thursday:	In-Person: 6	Livestream: 143	Total: 149
Sunday:	In-Person: 106	Livestream: 178	Total: 284

General Fund: \$3,070.50                      OCWM: \$173.00                      Capital Improvements: \$337.50

*Thank you so much for your continued support of in-person, mailed in, and online contributions.*

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP TEAM**

**Audio Operator:** John Kwiatkoske                      **Liturgist:** Heidi Schwanke                      **Musician:** Terri Wilke

### **RADIO BROADCAST SPONSOR**

Today's radio broadcast is given in Memory of David Lang by his family.

### **TODAY'S SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING**

Our special mission offering today is to benefit the United Church of Christ's Christmas Fund. The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to the lower-income retirees.

There are special contribution envelopes for this offering available in the East Narthex, and at the main entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you for your support of this special mission!

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

The week of Christmas, our church office will be open from 9am - Noon on Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>; Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>; and Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

The week of New Year's, our church office will be open from 9am - Noon on Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>; Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>; and Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## PUPPET PRACTICE SCHEDULE UPDATE

Please note there will not be any practices held on December 23<sup>rd</sup> or December 30<sup>th</sup>. See you again in the New Year!

## TRADED TREASURES COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY HOLIDAY MEAL PROGRAM

Thank you for your generous support of the Community Food Pantry's Holiday Meal Program! We received member donations of \$200 and a donation of \$450 from our Women's Guild. Rev. Mundell hand delivered the funds to the community pantry so they can be used immediately.

The Community Pantry's goal was to be able to provide 200 Christmas meals for families in our community that are in need. Early this week the pantry had enough for 150 meals, so now with our donations this brings them much closer to being able to meet their goal. Thank you again!

## MISSIONS FOOD COLLECTION

Suggested food items for *December* are:



All Purpose Flour, vanilla extract (imitation is ok), vegetable oil, cookie decorating sprinkles, frosting, sugar cookie mix, white sugar, brown sugar, powdered sugar, chocolate chips, walnuts, raisins, baking soda, salt, oatmeal, peanut butter.

Thank you so much to those who have already donated!

*Note for January: The Community Food Pantry will be adding toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues to their suggested list. In February they will add shampoo, conditioner, and soap.*



## PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Are you in need of special prayers? Feel free to use our prayer chain ministry by contacting Caroline Retzlaff, 920-748-2367.

***IN OUR PRAYERS:*** Sandra Badtke, Cattibree Dailey, Tara Koller, Sue Meyer, and 12 Unspoken.

*The Family and friends of Diane Miller, sister of Arnie Dahlke and Carol Grandt. Diane passed away on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.*