



December 23, 2018  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Hope United Methodist Church  
301 West St. Marie Street  
Duluth MN 55803

Liz Raihala - Accompanist  
Rev. Sarah Lawton - Pastor  
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Office Hours: Monday - Friday ~ 9:00 am ~ 2:00 pm

*With God's grace, we care for the soul for a lifetime and beyond.*

**CAROL SING****CALL TO WORSHIP**

Now is the season to be a star that shatters the dark.  
You see it everywhere you turn these days of Advent:  
What breaks any dark is the courage of just one star.

**Renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence. Give us love, hope, joy, peace within our hearts that we may recognize your coming among us.**

**\*CAROL**

“There’s a Song in the Air”

# 249

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

We come together in the midst of a busy season to take a breath.  
To breathe in together the life that God gives us. To listen to the beat of God’s heart and the blessings and lessons this season brings to us.  
Each week of Advent we light this Advent Wreath. With its light come our prayers and our stories.

This week we light a candle of peace. Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the peace that Jesus brings into this world and his presence with us. Jesus said, “I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn’t like the peace that this world can give. So don’t be worried or afraid.”

*Light the candle.*

Let’s listen for a moment to the peace that Jesus has given us this week. When have you felt the gift of peace this week? When have you known God’s presence driving out fear in your life or life around you – in the big things or the small? How might you build peace in your home, community, on Earth? (silence)

Let there be peace in, with, through, and beyond you. Peace in each greeting. Peace in each embrace. Peace over each meal. Peace in every attempt to be helpful. Peace in every gift wrapped and unwrapped. Peace in every tear shed and each memory you savor. Peace in every act of kindness. Peace in the love you share.

Peace dear friend, peace in the ordinary stuff of life, for in that peace dear you will discover the sacred, the Holy One who is the Christ for whom we long for in this moment, here and now. Amen.

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Liz Raihala*

### **SCRIPTURE**

Micah 5:2-5a, p. 815

*Rosemary Tripp*

### **SCRIPTURE**

Luke 1:39-55, p. 53

*Rosemary Tripp*

### **MESSAGE**

Peace

### **CAROL**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
verses 1, 6, 7

#211

### **OFFERING**

#### **\*OFFERING RESPONSE**

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

#204

### **\*BLESSING**

**O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a unified peace. Let the design of your great love shine on our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our communities, homes, and peace in our hearts. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*CAROL**

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

#218

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

*\*You are invited to stand as you are able*

***LARGE PRINT hymnals, bulletins, and Bibles, as well as hearing devices are available from the usher.***

### Finance & Attendance Update:

Amount needed each Sunday to meet budget (2018):	2,615.00
Amount received last Sunday:	4,428.00
Total received to date this year	131,691.08
Amount received last week for <b>Capital Fund</b> :	680.00
Amount received year to date for <b>Capital Fund</b> :	20,805.00
Attendance last Sunday	117

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Sunday, December 23

10:00 a.m. Worship – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
3:00 p.m. Grace Korean worship

#### Monday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Family Worship Service with  
Choir and candle lighting  
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

#### Tuesday, December 25

*Office closed – Blessed Christmas!!*

#### Wednesday, December 26

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ Mt. Royal  
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon

#### Thursday, December 27

9:00 a.m. Painters Group  
10:30 a.m. Yoga for Parkinsons  
12:00 p.m. Gentle Yoga  
1:00 p.m. Music @ 1 – Holiday keyboard duets  
1:30 p.m. Exercise

#### Sunday, December 30

10:00 a.m. Worship  
3:00 p.m. Grace Korean worship

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*Christmas Eve Worship tomorrow!** Our 4:00 pm service is designed with families in mind, and will also feature our Choir. Our 10:00 pm service will be more reflective and feature music, scripture, and prayers. Candle-lighting will be part of both services. Invite a friend or neighbor who has no church home or no Christmas Eve service to attend.

**\*Winter PJ collection continues:** We are still collecting pajamas for Myers-Wilkins' first grade students, sizes 6x-10. Bring any Sunday or any time; thank you!

**\*2019 Offering Envelopes are in the Narthex for those who use them; please stop by to pick yours up!** Third-quarter giving statements are also there, if you wish to check your giving to the church before year's end.

**\*Music @ 1 Thursday this week** features holiday season duets on keyboards by Sam Black and Beth Kaiser.

**\*Healing Group for Those Dealing with Grief:** Catharine Larson, licensed psychologist, will guide a small caring, loving community of those experiencing grief of any kind, towards acceptance and new life. **First session: Monday, January 7, 5:30-7 pm** in the Mathison Room. Three additional sessions will be set by the group to accommodate all schedules. \$25 for all four sessions. **RSVP Catharine or the church office.** And please share about this opportunity with any friends, neighbors or family members who may find it helpful!

### STAFF

**Administrative Assistant:** Jennifer Amy-Dressler  
**Administrative Assistant:** Beth Kaiser  
**Nursery Attendant:** Cassidy Kelley, Ella Karki

**Music Director:** Liz Raihala  
**Custodian:** Matt Johnson  
**Kids' Quest Director:** Anita Rixe