

# A Time of Worship & Praise

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**\*Processional:** *There's a Song in the Air* (vv. 1, 3, 4) 249

### Call to Worship

Greetings, favored ones! God is with you.

**Our soul magnifies the Holy One,  
and our spirit rejoices in God, our savior.**

You have found favor with God.

You shall conceive in your hearts  
and bear God's love into the world.

**God has looked with favor on us in our lowliness,  
for God has done mighty things for us.**

The Holy Spirit will come upon you, so your love will be of God.

**God has brought down the powerful and lifted up the lowly,  
filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.**

Look about you and see the fruitfulness of God's love.  
for nothing is impossible with God.

### Opening Prayer

**Beloved, we have found favor with you. May your Holy Spirit come upon  
us, your love overwhelm us, that what is conceived in our hearts be holy.  
Here we are, in service to you. May it be for us according to your word.  
Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise:** *Love Came Down at Christmas* 242

### Kids Minute

## WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

### Scripture

Luke 1.26-38

Luke 1.46b-55

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

**Message:** *Be Courageous*

### Lighting the Advent Wreath

see insert for litany

## WE RESPOND TO GOD

### Prayers of the People

**The Lord's Prayer**

895

### Offerings of the People

**\*Doxology**

(tune: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*)

### Prayer of Dedication

**Lord, we trust you with our gifts today because you are the God of  
love. By grounding us in love, you move us beyond fear into courage,  
and so we ask not only that you bless our gifts today, but also that  
you'd give us the courage to use them to fulfill your vision. In Jesus'  
name we pray. Amen.**

## WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD

**\*Benediction**

**\*Hymn of Joy:**

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord;  
let it be with me according to your word."

*Luke 1.38*

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

**Worship Ends | Service Begins**

## Announcements



A BIG thank you to Sarah Strohman for coordinating Children's Church and our Christmas Program last week. Thank you to all the students who led our worship today. Thank you to those who brought food & set-up brunch for us – it was truly a day of JOY! (See your photos in the Narthex – feel free to take yours if you like!)

### Coming Up

- ◆ **Mon, Dec 18:** Card Club, 12 pm (FLC); Horizons, 1:00 pm (FLC)
- ◆ **Tues, Dec 19:** Card Club, 12 pm (FLC)
- ◆ **Wed, Dec 20:** Bible Study Christmas Lunch, 12:30 pm (Narthex); Coffee Time, 3 pm (Narthex), [Newsletter articles DUE](#)
- ◆ **Thurs, Dec 21:** Trinity PALS at Pizza Ranch, 11:30 am
- ◆ **Friday, Dec 22:** Hope Haven, 12:30 pm (FLC)
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday):** Worship & Communion, 10 am; Candlelight Service, 6 pm
- ◆ **Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1:** OFFICE CLOSED

### Worship Stewards

#### Today

Music: Rosemary Matthews  
Liturgist: Michelle Chase  
AV: Duhn Family  
Livestream: Paxton Duhn  
Candlelighters: Burns Family  
Offering Counters: Jim Hobart

#### Dec 24, 10 am

Rosemary Matthews  
Danielle Ditch  
Ditch Family  
Paxton Duhn  
Kogel Family  
Karen Sargent & Shayne Kogel

#### Dec 24, 6 pm

Music: Rosemary Matthews  
Liturgist: Brian Garrles  
AV: Hudson Family  
Offering Counters: Tony Salas, Steve Hoyman  
Candlelighters: Pastor Kolleen

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

801 Broadway St, P.O. Box 99, Emmetsburg, IA 50536  
712.852.2154, **NEW:** [emmettsburg-first-umc@iaumc.net](mailto:emmettsburg-first-umc@iaumc.net)  
NEW OFFICE HOURS: M-TH: 9 am – 1 pm

Pastor Kolleen Queener: [kolleen.queener@iaumc.net](mailto:kolleen.queener@iaumc.net), 712.541.3266



# FIRST UNITED

## METHODIST CHURCH



FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
**ADVENT**

LOVE

December 17, 2023

10:00 AM