

1st Sunday After Advent

Color: White (symbolizing Life)

The United Methodist Church of Chugiak

Guest Pastor: Rev. David Dyrenforth

Ministers: The Entire Congregation

10:15 am Worship Service

December 29, 2019

As you are seated, please remember to fill out the attendance pad and pass it along the pew.

* - Indicates those who are able may stand

Bold – Everyone speaks

UMH – United Methodist Hymnal (blue hardcover)

FWS – The Faith We Sing Hymnal (black paperback)

WAS – Worship and Song (green paperback)

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

Terri Schimmack

Prayer of Safety

Betty Burke

As we light this lamp, we pray for the safety of all who are in harm's way this day and especially for all those in the midst of conflict.

Grant us peace, grant them peace, grant the world peace, in the name of Your Son. Amen.

*Gathering Song

UMH #220

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Gathering in God's Name

*Call to Worship

One: We recount the gracious deeds of God, all the praiseworthy acts the Lord has done for us:

Many: Praise God for coming to dwell among us, Immanuel.

One: Praise God for the good news of Jesus, the pioneer of our salvation.

Many: Praise God for making us brothers and sisters in Christ.

One: Praise God who is present with us still, lifting us up and carrying us.

Many: God's glory shines in heaven and on earth. Praise the Lord!

Call to Confession

Brothers and sisters, Jesus became like us in every respect so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God. As we confess our sins, we come before One who was also tested by what he suffered, confident that he is able to help us.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in great love you have claimed us as your children. We confess that we have not loved you as we should. We have not participated fully in your purposes and plans; we grow weary and give up when the way is hard. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as you intend. Complacent in the presence of injustice and violence, we fail to recognize our own complicity. Forgive us, especially when we fail to protect children so vulnerable and precious in your sight. Forgive our misuse of power against people, and against your creation. Help us to praise you by living in harmony and peace. Do not be ashamed of us, we pray, but strengthen us in our time of testing. Set us free from fear that we may wholly trust in you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shared our flesh and blood. Amen.

Moment of Stillness and Reflection

Words of Assurance

One: Children of God, it is clear that Jesus Christ came to help sinners. He is our Savior in all our distress, and it is his presence that saves us. Declare with me the good news of the gospel:

Many: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Call to Prayer

Exalted God, even as the heavenly host sang of your glory in the night skies over Bethlehem; even as the star shone in the heavens, and sheep and cattle gathered in that light, so we gather, young and old together, to recount all that you have done for us in mercy and steadfast love. No tyrant's threat or deadly act can destroy the dreams and visions you have placed within us, for you have drawn us close. With all creation, we praise you and exalt your name forever and ever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Brief prayers may be shared by people in the congregation.

*If it is a prayer request, the Pastor will end the prayer by saying,
"God, to your love..."*

If it is a praise, the Pastor will say, "God, in thanksgiving..."

*Then the people shall respond each time by saying:
"...we trust this prayer."*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

First Reading from the Word

Isaiah 63:7-9

***Responsorial Hymn**

Doxology

UMH #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Proclamation of God's Word

***Prayer of Illumination**

Holy One, your Word comes to us: Jesus Christ, Immanuel. Holy Word, you cross every border meant to shut you out. Holy Wisdom, speak to us in the word read and proclaimed. Hearing, may we dream your dreams and faithfully follow wherever you lead. In your triune name we pray. Amen.

***Gospel Reading**

Matthew 2:13-23

Especially for Children

FWS #2233

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

Responding to God's Word

Response in Praise and Offering

UMH #251

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

(All loose change goes to Anchorage Gospel Mission)

If you are visiting for the first time, your presence is gift enough. We would love to see you again next Sunday!

***Presentation of the Gifts**

"Glory Be to the Father"

UMH #70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Service of Holy Communion**

UMH #13

***Hymn of Reflection**

UMH #242

"Love Came Down at Christmas"

***Taking Christ's Light into the World**

Extinguishing the altar candles

***Charge and Blessing**

One: Go out to share the good news with a world bent low from suffering and fear: Jesus Christ has come to help us and to set us free! May God the Creator, Christ the Savior, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, guard your going out and your coming in; and be your strength and help in every time of need.

Many: Amen

***Benediction (Beam Song)**

***Passing the Peace**

May the Peace of God go with you.

And also with you.

****Communion Note**

We also have a separate gluten-free bread and chalice available for those who cannot have gluten. Please ask the servers for "gluten-free".