

HYMN “Prepare the Way of the Lord” 207

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Liturgist

MESSAGE “Spirit and Family” Pastor Lourey

COMMUNION *You are invited to respond at the Pastor's invitation*

1: **Holy, Holy, Holy is our God--maker of earth and heaven. Blessed, too, is the one God sent into our world to bring new life. Hosanna in the highest!**

2: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!**

OFFERING *Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness*

~\*DOXOLOGY “Traditional Old 100th” 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God, we are here to prepare a way for you. Where our hearts are ready, engage our hands and feet. Where our hands and feet are ready, engage our hearts. Bless our offering for growth in your love. Amen.**

~\*HYMN “Light of Those Whose Dreary Dwelling” *insert*

\*DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

~POSTLUDE Organist

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~**Wiggling is appropriate & welcome.**

\*Those who able are invited to stand in praise.

*But now, Lord, you are our father. We are the clay, and you are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand. Isaiah 64:1-9*

**On the Lookout for God--Advent in the Arts**  
Second Sunday, December 7, 2014

***What's with our nativity scenes?*** Our focus is on newly recognizing the Gospel through art. Our nativity scenes started with all the usual folks, but simplify every Sunday.

**We are delighted to welcome you to our service**

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out the information card in your pew and place in the offering basket or hand it to an usher. If you are interested in becoming part of the church family or wish to give a message to the pastor please check the appropriate box on the card.

**We seek to make worship accessible and inclusive!**

- *Large print books and magnifiers are in the front pew.*
- *Sermon topic outlines are available with your bulletin.*
- *Coloring books and crayons are in back of the sanctuary.*
- *Children's Sunday School begins in worship.*
- *Parents with infants may use the easy chair and pack 'n' play.*
- *Speakers amplify worship throughout the building.*
- *Gluten-free communion is offered—ask the one serving.*
- *A wheelchair-accessible restroom is in the kitchen hallway.*

***Please join us for Christian fellowship in the Marion Bagley Memorial Fellowship Hall following worship.***

**PASTORAL SUPPORT:** Pastor Lourey is available by appointment for counseling or other church related needs. To set up a meeting, or in the event of an urgent need, please call Pastor Lourey at 603-892-3682, or contact Dr. Phyllis Porter (924-0818).

GATHERING SONG "Tradin' My Sorrows" *insert*

WELCOME Pastor Lourey Savick

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (CEB)  
Liturgist

Lord, you've been kind to your land; you've changed Israel's circumstances for the better. You've forgiven your people's wrongdoing; you've covered all their sins.

**Let me hear what the Lord God says, because he speaks peace to his people and to his faithful ones. Don't let them return to foolish ways. God's salvation is very close to those who honor him so that his glory can live in our land.**

Faithful love and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed. Truth springs up from the ground; righteousness gazes down from heaven.

**Yes, the Lord gives what is good, and our land yields its produce. Righteousness walks before God, making a road for his steps.**

ANTHEM

NEW MEMBERS Andy and Linda Wallenstein  
LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

**Sing: Light one candle to watch for Messiah; Let the light banish darkness. He shall bring salvation to Israel. God fulfills the promise.**

**Light two candles to watch for Messiah; Let the light banish darkness. He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.**

*Children may be excused to attend Sunday School.*

~OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE

Worship Leaders

*At this time, let us testify to God's work in and among us.*

PRAYER AND PEACE-MAKING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

“...Lord in your mercy” Individual

RESPONSE: “Hear our prayer” Congregation

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Congregation

**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.**

Light of Those Whose Dreary Dwelling

*Charles Wesley*

*To the tune of "Ode to Joy"*

**Light of those whose dreary dwelling  
Borders on the shades of death,  
Come, and by Thy love’s revealing  
Dissipate the clouds beneath.  
The new heaven and earth’s Creator,  
In our deepest darkness rise,  
Scattering all the night of nature,  
Pouring eyesight on our eyes.**

**Still we wait for Thine appearing;  
Life and joy Thy beams impart,  
Chasing all our fears, and cheering  
Every poor benighted heart.  
Come, and manifest the favor  
God hath for our ransomed race;**

**Come, Thou universal Savior,  
Come, and bring the Gospel grace.**

**Save us in Thy great compassion,  
O Thou mild, pacific Prince;  
Give the knowledge of salvation,  
Give the pardon of our sins.  
By Thine all-redeeming merit  
Every burdened soul release;  
Every weary, wandering spirit  
Guide into Thy perfect peace.**

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as Christ’s body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this person now before you in your care?

**With God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround Linda and Andy with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who will walk in the way that leads to life.**

THE APOSTLE’S CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**[who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
[the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.]**

#### RECOMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of God,  
I recommend Andy and Linda Wallenstein to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love.**

**As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**