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HELPFUL TO KNOW

If you'd like to join virtually, please go to our Facebook page or YouTube and connect with the following link:
<http://upc-superior.com/youtube>

NURSERY

Our nursery is open 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Normally after the Passing the Peace portion of our service, children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to meet by the round table in the narthex for Children's Church. However, today there is none because of the Christmas program.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the worship service. Share a request in the comments section. Additionally, the Prayer Chain may be activated by calling Jan Heckman at 715-392-1072 (jan_KB9LTA@yahoo.com) or Dean Hecht at 715-919-1325.

Choirmaster & Handbell Director

Church Secretary

Custodian

Director of Spiritual Formation

Financial Secretary

Nursery Coordinators

Organist & Pianist

Pastor

Pastoral Intern

Treasurer

Jane Wester

Reese Stariha

Kaiti Magdzas

Laura Foote

Cathy Hecht

Annika Nikoi & JoAnn Rush

Alexander Sandor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

Jocelyn Langholz

Christy Willmore

Cover Art: *Joseph's Dream* done by Lauren Wright Pittman + inspired by Matthew 1:18-25



A CONGREGATION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)



UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI



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unitedpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

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Online Worship

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22nd, 2024

10:00 AM

If you are joining us online, please light a candle to remind yourself of the presence of God.

* Please rise in body or spirit.

If the text is bolded, everyone is invited to say the words in unison.

PRELUDE

Alex Sandor

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP & INTROIT** Light One Candle (vs 1-4) #85

CANDLE LIGHTING— Matthias Family

CHANCEL CHOIR Prepare Ye The Way

*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

One: Gracious God, You paint beautiful pictures of what could be.

All: They inspire us to believe that a different way is possible,

One: but we declare those visions impossible.

All: You speak of the lion lying down with the lamb,

One: but we often spout skepticism and uncertainty in the face of change.

All: Young and old alike remind us that You dream of a more just day,

One: but we poke holes in the plan, unable to fathom that horizon.

All: Forgive us for losing sight of hope.

One: Forgive us for assuming that what we see is all there is. Open up our hearts to see the world as you see it.

All: Open up our hearts to risk hope, to dream dreams, and to not be afraid of either. With gratitude we pray in the name of Jesus, amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: United, no matter what, the good news of the gospel doesn't change.

All: Even if we hold on to things we should let go of and let go of what we should hold on to you are not alone.

One: God is holding onto you. That good news will never change.

All: So hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

One: Today is a new day.

All: Today, we have reason to hope.

One: Today, we are forgiven because of Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection.

All: The same will be true tomorrow and the day after that. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

You are invited to bless those around you with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you." In response you may say "And also with you!"

***RESPONSE** Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child #126

RECEPTION OF A NEW MEMBER TO OUR COMMUNITY

Presentation of Gretchen Schiek

*APOSTLES CREED

One: With the whole church let us confess our faith...

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius

Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament

New Testament

Laura Petite

Isaiah 53: 1-3

Luke 2: 1-20

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Hymn He Came Down #137

Hymn The Friendly Beasts (vs 1,2) See Insert

Hymn Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #119

Hymn Go, Tell It on the Mountain #136

Hymn We Three Kings (vs 1) #151

Hymn Joy to the World #134

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Alex Sandor

RESPONSE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow #607

*PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God of the generations, take our gifts of time, talents, and treasures and grow them for your kingdom. Help us to live openhanded lives sharing the gift of our lives with others. Move in us so that we may center the voices of those on the margins. Send your grace filled Spirit so we can connect with, serve, and care for our congregation, Superior community, and this world. We want others to know the beauty of new life in Christ for all humanity! Amen.

TIME FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

***CLOSING HYMN** Once in Royal David's City #140

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Liturgy inspired by the folks at A Sanctified Art

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity, and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Isaiah 53: 1-3

NEW TESTAMENT READING

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room. Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Luke 2: 1-20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW YEARS PARTY

January 1st @ 12:00 PM at Amnicon Lake, 4519 E Pleasant View Rd, Superior, WI 54880. Fun, fun, and more fun! Games, outside ice time with boot hockey, ice fishing, bonfire, ice sliding, food and more! Contact Beth Lisak at 715-817-4861 if you have any questions.

COMMUNITY GARDEN FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

The UPC Community Garden's Seedmoney fundraising campaign period ended on December 15. We exceeded our goal, raising \$810 and receiving a \$200 grant from Seedmoney. Many thanks to the wonderful folks who donated! Watch for news of 2025 gardener sign-ups, which will commence in late March.

CYBER SECURITY CLASS

Join us January 8th for a Cyber Security Class with Tavi Mattson who is a Cyber Financial Detective with the Superior Police Department. The class goes from 3:45p– 4:30p and is open to the public.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY 12/22

8:45 AM Chancel Choir
Coffee Hour
6:00 PM Volleyball

MONDAY 12/23

UPBeat Deadline

TUESDAY 12/24

10:00 AM Pickleball
4:00 PM Interactive Family Service
9:00 PM Traditional Service

WEDNESDAY 12/25

Office Closed– Merry Christmas

THURSDAY 12/26

Office Closed
10:00 AM Pickleball

FRIDAY 12/27

SATURDAY 12/28

Birthdays This Week

12/28— Tom Lisak

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE?

At United Presbyterian Church, we offer many opportunities to give of yourself to glorify God. From signing up to volunteer to donating financially, if you'd like to support the mission and vision of the church you can do so at the following link:

<https://www.upc-superior.com/donate>

Ways to Serve

There are plenty of ways to get involved here at United!

**Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.*

- Coffee Hour*—Make coffee and bring treats for everyone.
- Liturgist*—Being a liturgist is a great opportunity to get involved by leading the church in our scripture readings, and our call to worship.
- Crafters Group—Every Wednesday at 10:00 AM.
- Community Dinner— Volunteer for our Community Dinner the third Sunday in October, February, June and August.
- Twin Ports Welcome Corp— Join the TPWC and help sponsor a refugee.
- Community Garden*— Help plan and carry out the UPC Community Garden project, which provides vegetables for UPC Community Dinners and Great Lakes Elementary students.
- Nursery— Come spend time with our babies and toddlers in the nursery during the Sunday service! You will serve with a Nursery Coordinator once or twice a month (your choice). **A background check is required.*
- Children's Church— Come help our young ones grow in their faith during Children's Church! This takes place during the Sunday service. You can volunteer once or twice a month (your choice). **A background check is required.*
- Volunteer with Great Lakes Elementary— Support the students at our neighboring school, Great Lakes Elementary. The times and days vary—connect with Laura to find out availability. **A background check is required.*

Ways To Learn, Grow, & Get Involved

- Pickleball—Every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00 AM.
- Volleyball— Every Sunday at 6:00 PM.
- Annual Meeting— Following the service on January 19th.
- Munch Bunch*— Dinner at the Hammond Steak House at 5:00 PM, sign up by January 12th.

78 The Friendly Beasts

Words: Anonymous 12th cent., based on Luke 2:7

Music: 12th century French melody, harm. by G. D. R.

1. Je - sus, our broth - er, strong and good, Was
 2. "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown, "I
 3. "I," said the cow all white and red, "I
 4. "I," said the sheep with cur - ly horn, "I

hum - bly born in a sta - ble rude And the friend - ly beasts a -
 car - ried his moth - er up hill and down; I car - ried her safe - ly to
 gave him my man - ger for his bed; I gave him my hay to
 gave him my wool for his blan - ket warm; He wore my coat on

round him stood, Je - sus, our broth - er, strong and good.
 Beth - le - hem town. "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown.
 pil - low his head. "I," said the cow all white and red.
 Christ - mas morn. "I," said the sheep with cur - ly horn.

5. "I," said the dove from the rafters high,
 "I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry;
 We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I."
 "I," said the dove from the rafters high.

6. Thus all the beasts by some good spell
 In the stable dark were glad to tell
 Of the gifts they gave Immanuel,
 The gifts they gave Immanuel.

134 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav-ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor-rows grow, nor thorns in-fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na-

her king; let ev-ery heart pre-pare him room,
 em-ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless-ings flow
 tions prove the glo-ries of his righ-teous-ness

and heaven and na-ture sing, and heaven and na-ture
 re-peat the sound-ing joy, re-peat the sound-ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won-ders of his love, and won-ders of his

and heaven and na-ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na-ture sing.
 joy, re-peat, re-peat the sound-ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won-ders, won-ders of his love.

heaven and na-ture sing,

151 We Three Kings of Orient Are



1 We three kings of O-ri-ent are; bear-ing gifts we tra-verse a-far,
 2 Born a King on Beth-le-hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a-gain,
 3 Frank-in-cense to of-fer have I; in-cense owns a de-i-ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit-ter per-fume breathes a life of gath-er-ing gloom;
 5 Glo-rious now be-hold him a-rise, King and God and Sac-ri-fice:

field and foun-tain, moor and moun-tain, fol-low-ing yon-der star.
 King for-ev-er, ceas-ing nev-er o-ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais-ing glad-ly rais-ing, wor-ship-ing God Most High.
 sor-rowing, sigh-ing, bleed-ing, dy-ing, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
 Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

O star of won-der, star of night, star with roy-al beau-ty bright,

west-ward lead-ing, still pro-ceed-ing, guide us to thy per-fect light!

Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child 126

Je-sus, Je-sus, O what a won-der-ful child.

Je-sus, Je-sus, so ho-ly, meek and mild;

new life, new hope the child will bring.

Lis-ten to the an-gels sing: "Glo-ry,

glo-ry, glo-ry!" Let the heav-ens ring.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah 85

Am Em F Dm E

1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si-ah: let the

2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si-ah: let the

3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si-ah: let the

4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si-ah: let the

E7 Am E Am E

light ban-ish dark-ness. He shall bring sal-

light ban-ish dark-ness. He shall feed the

light ban-ish dark-ness. Lift your heads and

light ban-ish dark-ness. He is com-ing;

Am Dm Esus E

va-tion to Is-rael, God ful-fills the prom-ise.

flock like a shep-herd, gent-ly lead them home-ward.

lift high the gate-way for the King of glo-ry.

tell the glad ti-dings. Let your lights be shin-ing.

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man-ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

He Came Down

137

He came down that we may have love; he

This system shows the first line of music in 4/4 time, key of D major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. There are triplets in the melody and bass line.

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

This system continues the melody and bass line. It includes a triplet in the melody and a triplet in the bass line.

have love; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

Leader: Why did he come?

This system concludes the main melody and bass line. It includes a triplet in the melody and a triplet in the bass line.

Additional stanzas:

... that we may have light
... that we may have peace
... that we may have joy

607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

This system shows the first line of music in 4/4 time, key of D major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef.

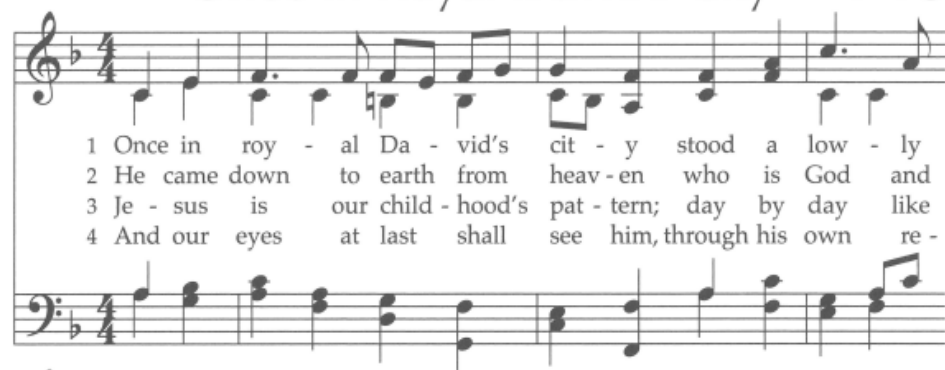
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;

This system continues the melody and bass line.

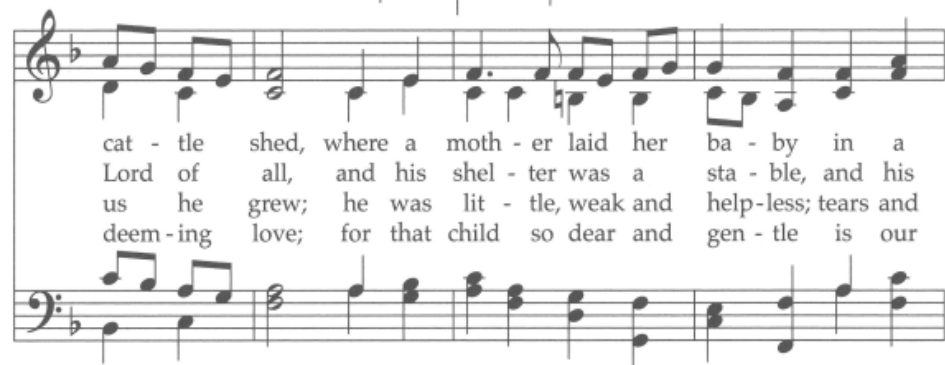
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

This system concludes the melody and bass line.

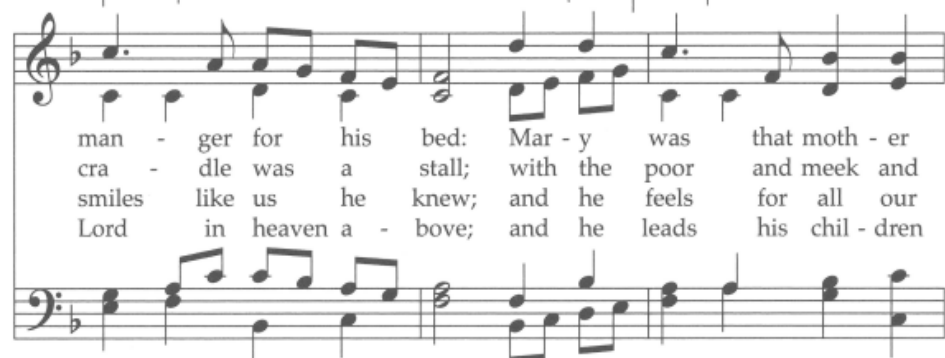
Once in Royal David's City 140



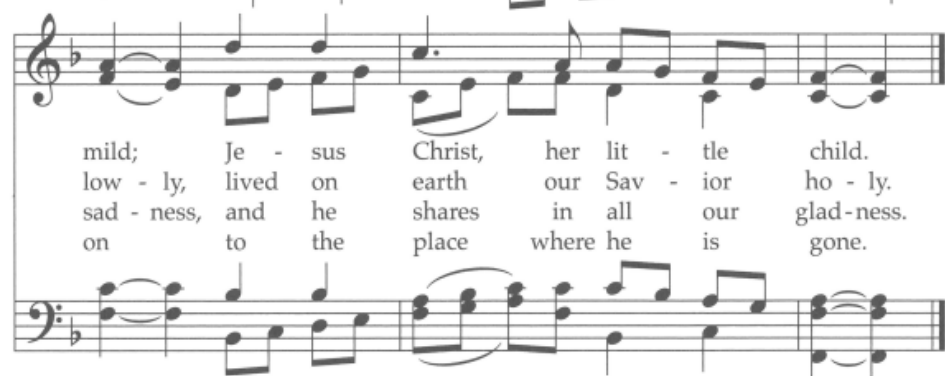
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
 3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 us he grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and
 deem - ing love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and meek and
 smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren



mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.