

Gathering & Welcoming God's Presence

Prelude Jean Okuye
GREETINGS Ida Escola

Light the Candle of Advent –the Candle of Love

Reader One; When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, “But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, who origin is from of old, from ancient day.” (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, “But you, O Livingston church, from you shall come forth for me...” What? What might God be calling forth from us?

Congregation: God invites us to receive the promise of God's salvation and the sustenance of God's mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-hearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God's invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.

Reader Two; We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God's promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God's love for all creation.

Light the Candle candle of the Advent—HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Adult Bible Studies -- Sundays @9:30am
2. Candlelight Service on 12/24@7pm.
3. Mochi 12/28

Opening Prayer: O Holy God, you promised to do great things for us, yet we do not trust you. You extend your mercy to us, yet we do not trust you. You lift up the humble, you fill the hungry with good things, and yet we still do not trust you. Forgive us, and help us to trust in the promises you have given us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

LUMC's Vision Statement:

“Show God's love by accepting, supporting, and serving all people.” Matthew 25:35,36,40

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here! We wait as people of God's promise.

People: The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary's womb call to us today. We listen as people of God's promise.

Leader: Mary's “yes” and Elizabeth's faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God's good news into the world. We follow as people of God's promise.

All: This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, and the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today—God is with us! God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem v 1-4 UMH#230

TIME TO SHARE OUR JOY AND CONCERN

PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor Kalo

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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 and ever. Amen.

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

UMH#95

OFFERTORY PRAYER

*HYMN; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing v 1-3 UMH#240

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-45

Message: “Leaping for Joy”

*HYMN; Angels We Have Heard on High v 1-4

UMH#238

*BENEDICTION:

***POSTLUDE**

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:39-45

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Reader: This is the Word of God Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

LIVINGSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE IS RESPECTED

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Visit our website, www.lcaumc.org, to watch our Sunday Worship

Service live! YouTube Channel

<https://m.youtube.com/@livingstonumclivingstonca7746/videos>

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Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Pastor Kalo's contact information:

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