

SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We welcome you to this celebration and invite you to consider our church if you are seeking a church home, to walk and grow in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

* Indicates people are to stand, if able.

Bold text is to be read by the congregation.

PRELUDE	LIGHT OF CHRIST	WELCOME
SHARING	MINISTRY MOMENT	PRAYER

ADVENT READING (sing TWFS# 2090 v.1-4 when directed)

*HYMN "To a Maid Engaged to Joseph" UMH# 215

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: This is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a time to rejoice in the wondrous things that God is doing.

P: Our hearts are filled with the hope for the one who is coming.

L: The time is fast approaching, not for parties or presence, but for the awareness of God's loving gift to us-the gift of the Christ child.

P: Help slow us down, Lord, that we may realize that your gift of love is at the center of our lives and our celebrations.

L: Thanks be to God who reminds us of God's eternal love.

P: Open our hearts, to receive your blessed gift. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC/FAVORITE HYMN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we confess that we are rushing headlong into Christmas. It's only four days away and we still have so much to do. Our preparations are far from complete, and we are exhausted. We wish this whole thing were over so that we could rest. Forgive our shortcomings and our shortsightedness. You have poured upon us blessing after blessing, daily reminding us of your love and presence. Slow

us down. Remind us of the ways in which you are present with us-not in the wrapped packages or the abundance of food, but in the love and compassion that is brought to all. Forgive us, we pray. Make us truly ready to receive your love and the gift of the Christ Child. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The light of God's love shines upon each of us in the gift of Jesus Christ. This is given for you. Rejoice! **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH# 881

GLORY SIGHTINGS ... where have you seen God at work?

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

All are invited to share your joys and concerns to the Lord.

Following each, our response: **Gracious Lord, hear our 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (Pg OT 623) Isaiah 7:10-16

(Pg NT 152) Romans 1:1-7

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN

"Like a Child"

TFWS# 2092

*GOSPEL READING

(Pg NT 1)

Matthew 1:18-25

YOUNG DISCIPLES' MESSAGE

Connie Ashley

MESSAGE

Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy

OFFERING (If you are visiting with us today, you are not obligated to give.)

*RESPONSE UMH# 95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Giver of all good gifts, bless the offering we make today, a small token to all the blessings you have poured down on us. Into our human weakness, you gave the greatest gift of all: Emmanuel, your presence with us in Jesus the Christ. Not just a presence, but an invitation: through him, to be your children and heirs to your Kingdom. May our gifts, hymns, prayers, and promises help us realize your Kingdom in our hearts and in our world. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” UMH# 240

*BENEDICTION

My friends, may you be blessed with a Peaceful Joy that gives you deep serenity. May you work to help prove that truth and grace are the way to bring right relationships—a right way of looking at the world, of being in the world, and bringing peace to the world. And may you sing along with all of heaven and earth. **Amen.**

*HYMN “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” UMH# 251

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE

Let us make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Anthon United Methodist Church

4th Saturday in Advent
Saturday, December 21, 2019



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We are glad you are here today. Thank you for joining us in this celebration of God’s love for you. We pray this time will uplift you in your spiritual walk and you will feel God’s presence here today... in this place. May you always find us to be a church of “open hearts, open minds, and open doors.”

Thank-you for all who serve in our church each week.

Liturgist: JoLynne Reimert Ushers & Greeters: Parker Family
Accompanist: Eileen Van Meeteren

UP-COMING EVENTS

Today Lighting of the 4th Advent candle by the Klindt Family
Today Please get your focus items in!
Dec. 21 7pm Blue Christmas in Mapleton
Dec. 22 No Sunday School
Dec. 24 6:30 Christmas Eve Service, 5pm at Ticonic,
8 & 11pm at Mapleton.
Dec. 30 11:30 Anthon Community Blood Drive, ends at 1:15
Jan. 5 9:00 am New Worship Time Starts,
10:30am -Mapleton, Sat. at 5pm - Ticonic

Outreach Team is asking for nonperishable food donations to fill the shopping cart in the foyer until Sunday. Cash donations are always welcomed.

Poinsettias: Flowers may be brought to decorate the sanctuary any time from now until Christmas.

UMW is looking for volunteers to help with Bingo at the nursing home, 1st Wednesday of the every month at 2:00pm.

Please pray for those battling cancer: Jeff and Jamie Griebel (Jacque Gothier's brothers), Tracy Lewis, Steve Diamond.

Please pray for: our service men and women, our church, Bishop Laurie Haller, our community leaders, our president, our farmers, Bobby Lewis, Cal & Joyce Gothier, Lyle Schram, Kenny Anderson, Joe Harbaugh, Barb Madsen, Keith & Fran Determann, Bettina Perkins, Brian Ashley, Wally Duncan, Ralph Diamond, Jeanette Heinse (Roger's sister), to the family of Gary Anfinson (Nina Osborne's son in law) and to the family of Les Heuser (Connie's brother in law).

Those in care facilities: Anita Cooch, Nina Osborne, Beulah Sand, Scott Mastny, Ruth Cook, Betty Ashley, Ernestine Steinhoff, Keith Miller (A).

Birthdays: 26-Adam Mitchell, 27-Beulah Sand

Anniversaries: 30-Phil & Deanna Adler

Tuesday, Dec. 24th, lighting of the Christ candle by Adler Family

Saturday, Dec. 28st at 5pm: Reader: Andrea Mitchell
Children Message: Pastor Ushers: Roger & Marilyn Hladik
Greeters: Marvin Hanson & Barb Wood
Dec. Cleaning: PPRC

Advent Reading – week 4

L: Holy God, we await again the arrival of Your son, the Prince of Peace.

P: Let truth and grace rule our hearts this day.

L: We long for the peaceful waters of joy that run deep and wide underneath all of life.

P: Let truth and grace rule our church this day.

L: When we feel the chaos of life bearing down on us, help us to remember that it doesn't have to be this way.

P: Let truth and grace rule the world this day.

L: Help us to step into a slower rhythm that is your Peaceful Joy.

P: Let truth and grace rule the world in the name of Peace. Amen.

Light three purple and one pink candles if not already done.

L: Let us expand our hearts as we gather. Let us receive God's word as we proclaim. Let us transform our lives as we pray. Let us be compassion for the world as we greet one another.

P: Amen.

Let's join in singing four verses of hymn number 2090, "The Advent Song" found in The Faith We Sing hymnal.