

Prelude Pam Campbell

Welcome & Announcements Worship Leader: Charity Brown

Christ's Light Enters

Lighting Advent Candles

In the Gospel of Luke, John the Baptizer points to Jesus: As the people were filled with expectation, questioning whether John might be the Messiah, John answered them by saying,

“I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”
(Luke 3:15-16)

If we follow Jesus Christ, we will get everything we hope for, and more than we bargained for. So, we praise God and celebrate God's love for us and the world.

We light our first candle, the candle of Faith.
(The first candle is lit.)

We light our second candle, the candle of Hope *(The second candle is lit.)*

We light our third candle, the candle of Love.
(The third candle is lit.)

Living Christ, give us Faith to trust you and Hope to follow you and Love to live for you.

We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.

***Opening Hymn** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” #224

Opening Prayer

Living Christ, Jesus of Nazareth, Teacher and Friend, Savior and Lord, we love you and long for your presence. As we follow the story of your coming, touch us by your Spirit, that through people we know and through people we have yet to meet, we may hear your voice and heed your call. In your name we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20
Liturgist: Sydney Conner

Christmas Program: “K-BETH Live: An Advent Drama
Congregation joins in the following hymns:

“Hark the Harold Angels Sing” #240 verses 1 & 3

“We Three Kings” #254 verses 1 & 4

“Joy to the World” #246 verses 1 & 4

Sharing of Prayers: Celebrations and Concerns

Silent Meditation & Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer #895

Offertory

Advent Doxology

***Offertory Prayer [Unison]**

Loving God, with Faith and Hope and Love, we bring these offerings to you. Use us and these gifts to bring a renewed sense of faith, hope and love to our world. Amen.

***Closing Song** “People, Look East” #202

Our Purpose

What is our purpose? **To provide a place for all to BELONG to our community, BELIEVE in and experience the transforming love of Jesus Christ, and BECOME his disciples. BELONG! BELIEVE! BECOME!**

Benediction

Benediction Response “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #211
refrain only

Postlude

UPDATED 740 Prayer Initiative

(Thank you for stepping up your prayers for our congregation! Set your phones to remind yourself to stop at 7:40 am and/or 7:40 pm each day to pray for our church and the mission and ministry we are called to do. Where did we come up with the number 740? It is our street address number. If you can't pray at 7:40, choose another time. The important thing is that we are praying!)

Scriptures for prayer: “So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up” Galatians 6:9.

“Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us” Ephesians 3:20.

Please pray that God continues to work in our hearts and through the work of our hands so that others may also come to experience Christ's love. Pray that God would lead us and equip us for the living out of our purpose (what we repeat at the end of each service). And pray that God help each of us to be a follower of Christ committed to living a life of worship & hospitality, a life of opening our heart to the Holy Spirit, and a life of service & generosity. Pray for those who are seated around you in worship, whether you know them by name or not. Remember to lift up the need of our community and world. Pray the news: as you listen to the news of each day pray about each situation.

Give thanks to God! “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

PRAYERS

Please see the Prayer Board outside the office for ongoing prayer requests.

Pray for our congregation: For the ministry of making, nurturing, and sending out of disciples; because we believe that God's Love is the answer for the most difficult questions of our world today.

Jesus changes lives!

Gerald Campbell

Nita Lambert Culley

Family of Sherrie Radcliffe

Emily Sporer

Bill Valcoure

Jean Wilcox



Events this week in church:

Sunday, December 16th

Christmas Program Sunday
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
11:30 am Fellowship
12:00-6:00 pm Salvation Army
Bell Ringing @ Walmart

Wednesday, December 12th

5:00 pm Sittin' With Jesus
5:45 pm Table Talk Meal
6:30 pm Table Talk Classes

Sunday, December 23rd

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
11:30 am Fellowship



December 16, 2018

First United Methodist Church

740 West 11th St, Concordia, KS 66901

Church (785) 243-4560

Office Hours:

MONDAY: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

TUESDAY: 9:30 AM-3:30 PM

WEDNESDAY: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

THURSDAY: 8:00 AM-3:00 PM

FRIDAY: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Pastor's Cell Phone (308) 920-0917

E-mail: concordialumc@gmail.com

E-mail: madams@greatplainsumc.org

Website: www.concordiafumc.com

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Rev. Melanie Adams, Pastor



December 24th

Office Closes at Noon

December 25th

Office Closed

December 26th

Regular Hours