

The Community Gathers

PRELUDE, CHIMES AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN Here I Am. Lord #593

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Stop. Listen. Pay attention. Love is coming near.

PEOPLE: We wait in the love of the coming Messiah that transforms us. LEADER: With Mary, we long for the coming of the Child who will transform the world, bringing justice where injustice reigns, fullness where hunger persists, and favor to the ones the world calls lowly.

PEOPLE: We wait in the love of the coming Messiah that transforms us.

LEADER: So let us join our voices and our lives in magnifying God, our Savior!

PEOPLE: We come to wait excited to declare the coming of the Love that transforms us!

SONG OF PRAISE Come. Thou Lond

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus #196

OPENING PRAYER

In the Advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked, away, and there is nothing left to do but wait, God, shelter us. Be our surrounding darkness; be the fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time. In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on, in faith awaiting your purpose, waiting to be born in time. Amen

JOYS, CONCERNS AND GOD SIGHTINGS

PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

ADVENT SONG Light the Advent Candle Song (fourth stanza only) #2090

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Thanksgiving

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

"Nothing is impossible for God." ~ Luke 1:37



TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY #94

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and Generous God: We offer our gifts to you, knowing that the energy exerted in our giving is tiny compared to what we've expended finding the gifts for our families and friends. You have given us a glimpse of the gift you truly seek in the angel's conversation with Mary: when told that she would give birth to our savior, she simply said, "Yes, let it be according to your word." May that affirmation of faith and obedience be the gift we offer this day. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hearing and Responding to the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 16:25-27

HYMN Away in a Manger (vs.1 only) #217

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:26-38

AFFIRMATION

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Great Things" Pastor Mark Crist

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Going into the World to Serve

*SENDING SONG It Came Upon a Midnight Clear #218

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Let there Be Peace on Earth #431

POSTLUDE AND TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD



24~Marylu Fellows
24~Eudora Petersen
24~Carol Ruud
28~Katie Thompson
29~Jessica Blochlinger
30~Stacy Johnson





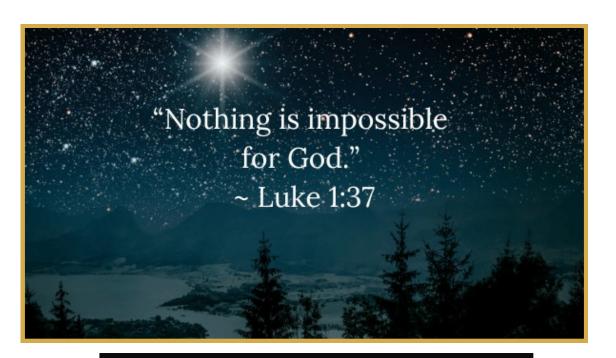


Welcome to our guests! We are glad you are here. We hope you were blessed by your experience at First United Methodist Church this morning and will tell a friend.

SERMON SERIES: "GOING A DIFFERENT WAY"

- January 7th ~ After Visiting the Child, the Wise Men go a different way.
- January 14 ~ My Story: Going a Different Way.
- January 21 ~ Moving Forward; Discovering your way.
- January 28 ~ The Accountability of Your Way.
- February 4 ~ Following your way.
- February 11 ~ Seeing God Guide Your Way.





December 24, 2023

First United Methodist Church
740 West 11th St, Concordia, KS 66901
Church (785) 243-4560

Office Hours:
Monday —Thursday
9:00-4:00pm
Friday
Closed

Pastor E-mail: rev.mark.crist74@gmail.com

E-mail: concordia1umc@gmail.com
Website: www.concordiafumc.com

Rev. Mark Crist, Pastor

Do No Harm ~ Do Good ~ Stay in Love With God.

John Wesley