

Order of Service for  
CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELCOME

*Expecting*

ADVENT  
SERMON  
SERIES



NARRATIVE  
AS TOLD BY *Isaiah*

1st Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2017



# 9:00 a.m. Service

## Welcome to worship at Centenary United Methodist Church

▲ *All that are able, please stand.*

*Children of all ages are welcome in worship. Childcare is also available.  
Ask an usher for assistance with hearing devices and large print hymnals.  
Hymns No. 57-734 are in the red hymnal, 2000's are in the black hymnal.*

**Prelude** "Emmanuel Comes" (arr. Hayes)

### Welcome & Announcements

▲ **Passing the Peace of Christ**

▲ **Lighting of the Advent Candles**

L: We are expecting

**P: We are expecting God**

L: We are expecting God to work in history

**P: We are expecting God to break through**

L: When we are lost or in despair

**P: We are expecting God to lead us home**

▲ **Hymn, No. 211 vs. 1-4** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**Unison Prayer** (*Bruce Sanguin, adapted*)

**Spirit of the Living God, we have squandered our planet in pursuit of our own glory: the glory of wealth, the glory of status, and the glorious triumph of the human species. May we glimpse the other glory of which the ancient prophet speaks: Wisdom's presence, luminous in all of creation, and souls radiant with infinite grace. Crown us, then, with diadems of the glory of the everlasting, freely given to nongrasping hands. Fill in the valleys, make low the mountains, make a straight and level path in the wilderness of our souls for the unending procession of divine Glory, making its way, of all places, to the throne of our hearts. Amen.**

### Moments With Children

**Sanctuary Choir Anthem** "Ale Pun" (*Schram*)

**Prayers of the People, Silent Prayer**

**Prayer Chorus, No. 204** "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

**Pastoral Prayer**



# 9:00 a.m. Service

## 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.

## Ministry in the Hands of the People

▲ Hymn, No. 209

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

## A Reading from Isaiah 40:1-11

## Sermon

**Expecting: Isaiah**

*(Written by Michelle Hargrave, presented by Rev. Walt Flesner)*

## Service of Holy Communion

*All are invited; we serve unfermented grape juice, and gluten free bread is available.  
Please come at the direction of the ushers.*

**Congregational Response Hymn, No. 242**

“Love Came Down at Christmas”

**Music During Communion** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

*(Prichard)*

▲ Hymn, No. 3047

“God Almighty, We Are Waiting”

## Benediction

▲ Postlude

“The First Noel”

*(arr. Thygerson)*

# 10:45 a.m. Service

## Gathering Music

“How Great Is Our God” *(words & music: Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash)*  
“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *(All Sing)* *(words: C. Wesley, music: R.H. Prichard)*

## Passing the Peace of Christ

## Welcome & Announcements

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

## Opening Song of Praise *(All Sing)*

“Come, O Redeemer, Come” *(words & music: Fernando Ortega)*

## Unison Prayer

## Moments With Children

## Prayers of the People, Silent Prayer

## Call to Prayer *(All Sing)*

“Until Jesus Comes” *(words & music: Graham Kendrick)*

## Pastoral Prayer, Lord’s Prayer

## Ministry in the Hands of the People

## Special Music and Offering

“A Light Into the Darkness” *(words & music: Peter L. Steiner)*

## A Reading from Isaiah 40:1-11

## Sermon

**Expecting: Isaiah**  
*(Written by Michelle Hargrave, presented by Rev. Walt Flesner)*

## Song for Communion *(All Sing)*

“Come Share the Lord” *(words & music: Bryan J. Leech)*

## Communion

“Shine On Us” *(words & music: Michael W. Smith & Deborah D. Smith)*

## Benediction

## Closing & Dismissal *(All Sing)*

“Shine Jesus, Shine” *(words: Graham Kendrick, music: Argentine folk melody)*



# Scripture

## Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

# Calendar of Events

## Sunday, December 3

9:00 a.m.

Sundays at Centenary (see below)

## Monday, December 4

8:15 a.m.

Holy Grounds

7:00 p.m.

Eve Circle

## Tuesday, December 5

8:15 a.m.

Holy Grounds

7:00 p.m.

SPRC

## Wednesday, December 6

8:15 a.m.

Holy Grounds

5:00 p.m.

Open Circle (see below)

## Thursday, December 7

8:15 a.m.

Holy Grounds

9:00 a.m.

Women's Book Study

## Friday, December 8

7:30 a.m.

UM Men

8:15 a.m.

Holy Grounds

## Saturday, December 9

8:15 a.m.

Holy Grounds

### Sundays at Centenary

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Fellowship

10:10 a.m. Faith Formation

10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

### Wednesdays at Centenary

5:00 p.m. Supper

5:45 p.m. Faith Formation

6:00 p.m. Adult/Youth Education

6:15 p.m. Carol Choir

6:30 p.m. Grace & Power Handbell Choir

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

7:00 p.m. Theater Workshop



## Announcements

**Welcome To Centenary** We are glad that you are here and invite you to fill out the Connect Card that is in your bulletin. If you are a first time guest and you fill out the card we will be glad to make a donation in your honor - you can select your choice on the card. Please note the prayer requests and connections opportunities on the back of the card. Completed Connect Cards may be placed in the offering plate later in the service.

**Open Circle Supper: December 6** Supper this week will be hot pork sandwiches and a vegetarian option. The supper cost is \$3/person with a cap of \$12/family. The meal runs from 5:00 to 6:15 p.m. All are welcome.

**Interested in learning more about Centenary?** You are invited to the Discover Centenary class at noon Sunday, December 10. A free pizza lunch and childcare will be available. This is an opportunity to learn more about Centenary and its ministries and how you can take part. Meet in the Commons for a brief tour of the building before we settle in for a meal and conversation. Please RSVP if you are interested in attending: [michellehargrave@mankatocentenary.org](mailto:michellehargrave@mankatocentenary.org) or 507.225.6373.

### Save the Dates, Advent Activities:

- December 3-20: Holy Grounds Caring Tree - take a tag, purchase a gift, spread Christmas love
- December 13: Christmas Caroling
- December 18: Volunteer to work the Kiwanis Holiday Lights
- December 20: Christmas Pageant
- December 24-30: Volunteer to provide hospitality for the Connections Shelter

**Flower Sign-Up** You can help us beautify the sanctuary Sunday mornings by donating flowers. The cost is \$25 and you get to take the flowers home after the second service. Please see Cindy Carpenter at the sign-up table between services for more information and to reserve your date.

## Faith Formation

### Sunday

All children ages preschool - 5th grade are invited to attend Sunday Faith Formation at 10:10 a.m. in room 200. Parents please pick children up by 10:40.

### Wednesday

Holy Moly: Jesus is Born  
Connect: Caring Tree  
Youth: Holy Grounds Caring Tree  
Theatre: Christmas Party (costume party, games)

# Centenary United Methodist Church

## THANK YOU

We are delighted to have you with us this morning.  
Please join us for coffee and doughnuts from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

### SERVING IN WORSHIP

- Senior Pastor ..... Rev. Michelle Hargrave
- Pastor of Discipleship & Justice Ministries ..... Rev. Erica Koser
- Organist ..... Kristy Gilberts
- Sanctuary Choir Director ..... Jerusha Zimmerman
- Accompanist ..... Craig Timmerman
- Friends & Family Band ..... Doug Faust, Lori Faust, Craig Timmerman  
..... Mark Braun, Nate Beran, Kelly Coyle, Pam Soper
- 9:00 a.m. Candle Lighters ..... Patrick, Brynn, & Ian Anderson
- 10:45 a.m. Candle Lighters ..... Bob & Trudi Gaarder
- Greeters ..... Wayne & Alice Johansen
- Hosts ..... Jim & Kathy Malcolm
- Server ..... Jevne Clobes
- Fair Trade ..... Phyllis Senska
- 9:00 Ushers ..... Mark Ehlers, Brian Frederick, John Just Jr.
- 10:45 Ushers ..... Dwayne Dugan, Jim Rueda
- Tech Booth ..... Eric Koser, Gale Bigbee

*Cover image by Kylie Beran*



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[www.mankatocentenary.org](http://www.mankatocentenary.org)



#### 501 Prayer

To be prayed daily at 5:01

O God of our ancestors, you planted Centenary  
In the heart of Mankato for a purpose.  
You led each of us to this time and place.  
Now, God, guide our hearts to live your plan for us.  
Break through the barriers in us and in our church  
So your Spirit may flow through us like the river.  
As we do your work to change lives  
May your will thunder forth in our church.  
In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.



Network: united  
Password: testament