



MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

(* Indicates when people are invited to stand)

PRELUDE:

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Arr Cindy Berry

WORDS OF WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

People of God, Christ has invited us here!

We gather to praise God, who brings justice and righteousness to all.

We gather to give thanks to God for hope and peace.

Blessed be the Lord, who has done marvelous things.

Let us praise God together!

OPENING PRAYER

God of hope and peace, as we worship you this day, may we catch a glimpse of your peace; may we open ourselves to receive your grace; may we welcome one another, as you have welcomed us; may we prepare hearts and our lives, for Christ to be born in us once again. And when our worship is done, may we be renewed in body and spirit, prepared to bring your righteousness and justice to the world. In the name of Christ, we pray.

Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

We light these candles as we journey through Advent, a season of hopeful expectation and joyful anticipation. Each week, as we add another flame, we remember that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, coming to dispel the darkness. Let us prepare our hearts to receive Him anew. We light the **second candle**, the candle of **Peace**.

(Reader) "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

Lord Jesus, you are our peace. In a world of turmoil, your light calms our fears and brings serenity to our souls. Help us to be instruments of your peace to those around us. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, there are days when we lose our way. We forget, or simply don't trust, your vision of peace. We ignore the cries of those seeking justice. We fail to bear good fruit in our lives. Forgive us. Remind us that we are yours. Teach us how to make peace with ourselves and with our neighbors. Help us proclaim your message of hope and continue our journey to Bethlehem—a journey of faith to a cradle of love. In the name of Emmanuel, we pray.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (ROMANS 15)

Brothers and sisters, siblings in Christ, the God of steadfast love encourages us to continue in the faith. Rejoice, for God brings forgiveness and healing.

Thanks be to God!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 11:1-10 (NIV)

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 72:1-7, 18-19 (NIV)

Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.

May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.

May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness.

May he defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; may he crush the oppressor.

May he endure as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations.

May he be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.

In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more. Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel,

who alone does marvelous deeds.

Praise be to his glorious name forever;

may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen and Amen.

EPISTLE: Romans 15:4-13 (NIV)

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name."

Again, it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him."

And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12 (NIV)**

The gospel according to Matthew.

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON GOD’S WORD

Pastor Rob Odum

HYMN: 3045

“Down by the Jordan”

vs 1-4

OFFERING PRAYER

Abundant God, your blessings and righteousness are bountiful in our lives. May these gifts bear good fruit as they go forth, that peace may come, that creation may be healed, and that those who cry for justice may be heard.

Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice” David Ashley White

***DOXOLOGY: 94**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

PASTORAL 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

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

SERVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, as we have shared together of your body and your blood, remind us that we are called to share of ourselves with all who we might encounter. Help us to welcome the stranger, the outcast, the unloved and the forgotten. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN: 61

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

vs 1-4

*BENEDICTION

May the God of love fill you with joy and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you, now and forevermore. And may the Holy Spirit fill your days with hope.

Amen.

*POSTLUDE:

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Arr Smith and McDonald

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December	Communion Steward	
7th	Carol Brandenburg	
December	Liturgists	Ushers
7th	Carolyn Ettlie	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang
14th	Lynn Sirna	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang
21st	John Hurley	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang
24th	John Hurley	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang
28th	Connie Ziegler	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang



Not everyone has happy memories about Christmas. Some may be grieving about the loss of a loved one or some may be sad they cannot be with their family. We will have a Blue Christmas service at Blessed Hope UMC **December 13, 2025 at 10am.**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Sunday, 9:15am

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday, 10:30am

CERAMICS: Mondays, 1-9pm

CHANCEL CHOIR: Thursday, 6:30-7:25pm

JOYFUL BELLS: Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm

CHARGE CONFERENCE: December 7th at Noon

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

at Blessed Hope UMC 12/13 at 10am

DINING OUT GROUP: 12/13 at 5pm at the

Omega Restaurant - 3473 S 27th St, Milwaukee, WI

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Sunday 12/14 during the worship service.

AFTER CHURCH LUNCH: Sunday, 12/14 following the worship service.

SASSY SOWERS: 1st Tuesday & 3rd, Thursday, 10am-1pm

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST: 3rd Tuesday, 9am at Meyers

MEN'S BREAKFAST: 3rd Thursday, 8:30am at Meyers

BLOOD DRIVE: Thursday, December 18th from Noon-6pm

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP:

Wednesday, December 24th at 6pm

POINSETTIA PICK-UP: after the 6PM Christmas Eve service, Wednesday 12/24; or again on Sunday, 12/28 after service.

Buy your gift cards from



SCRIP ORDERS DUE DEC 14th!

If you wish to place an order please take a form from the display in the narthex, fill it out and return it along with your payment. *Remember to include SCRIP on the memo line of your check.*

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Sunday, December 7th @12:00PM

Memorial United Methodist Church

All church members are eligible to vote and encouraged to attend!

Memorial UMC

General Information & Staff

3450 South 52nd Street, Greenfield, WI 53219

Church Phone: 414-545-2440

Church Email: mumcgreenfield@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

Pastor's Email: robdodum@gmail.com

Director of Music: Sarah Brumm

Hymn Leaders: Sarah Brumm,

Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

Pianist & Organist: Karen Fetzer

Live Stream Production Team:

Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,

John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlie

Office Administrator: Peggy Leonhardt

Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm