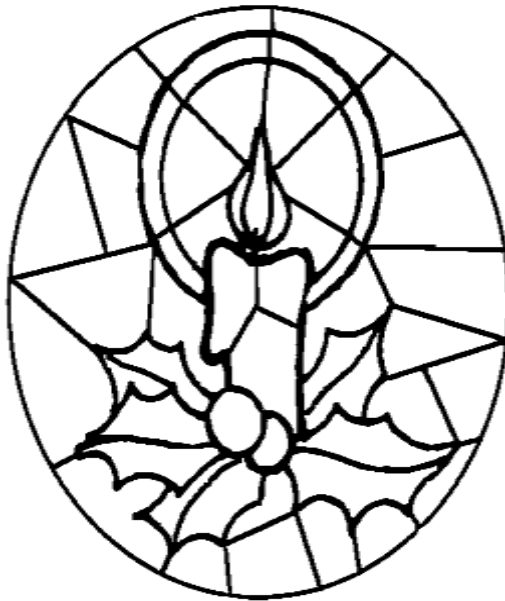


Wesley United Methodist Church

Grand Forks, ND

December 24, 2017



The Candle of Peace

*Our purpose is to make new disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

Welcome to Worship at Wesley

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Wesley! If you have questions or special needs, please speak to an usher.
Worship activity bags for children are hanging on a rack at the back of the church.
Our ushers have large-print hymnals available.
Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers in Room 202.
Please remember to silence your cell phone during worship.

Gathering for Praise

Gathering Music

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine
by Mark Hayes

Marge Myrold

Greetings of Christian Fellowship

(Please register your attendance on the pads found in each pew.)

***Call to Worship:**

Blessed be the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Opening Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful (vv. 1-3)

Red Hymnal 234

***Opening Prayer:**

Loving God,
your church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior,
who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness
of ignorance and sin.

Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we gather as your faithful disciples.

May your light shine unto others through our lives and love,
as your love remains steadfast for us.

Amen.

Lighting Advent candles

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v. 7)

Red Hymnal 211

If able, please stand where asterisks appear. CCLI License # 906361

Offering Ourselves to God in Prayer

Special Music *The Star* Marge Myrold
by Mark Hayes

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and *The Lord's Prayer*

Offering *The Snow Came Down from Heaven* Marge Myrold
by Lorie Line

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Gracious God,,
your servant Mary discovered new life growing within her
and knew it to be your promised presence.
In tender reverence for the holy mystery of your Incarnation,
may we be as a womb for your blessed presence,
ready to receive and nourish your Word in our lives,
open to the stirrings of your Spirit within us.
May we faithfully bear your love in the world,
that by your grace Christ may be born within us.
Amen.

Opening Ourselves to God's Word

Children's Conversation

Scripture Reading Matthew 1: 18-25 New Testament, pg. 1

Scripture Hymn *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* Red Hymnal 251

Sermon *Birth* Rev. Jerry Bass

Going Forth to Serve

***Closing Hymn** *Joy to the World* Red Hymnal 246

***Benediction**

***Musical Response** *Go Now in Peace (sing twice)*

***Closing Song** *Carols of the Star* Marge Myrold
by Lani Smith

Thanks to all who have helped with today's worship service!

Welcome Team: 9:00 Dave Kiefel, Ron Elliott, & Greg & Anne Bryson
Lay Reader: 9:00 Steve Schlasner



Wesley UMC Calendar for December 24 – December 31

Sunday, December 24	8:30 a.m.	Coffee fellowship
	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service
		No Sunday school
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Ignite</i> Praise Service
	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols
		No Youth Group
Monday, December 25	.	Christmas Day - Office Closed
Tuesday, December 26	3:00 p.m.	Wesley Coffee Club, Panera
Wednesday, December 27	1:30 p.m.	Worship in the Parkwood Place Chapel
		No Quilting
		No Music Rehearsals
		No Confirmation
Thursday, December 28	8:00 a.m.	Wesley Breakfast Club, Denny's
Sunday, December 31	8:30 a.m.	Coffee fellowship
	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship
		No Sunday school
		No <i>Ignite</i> Praise Service
	2:00 p.m.	Nepali Worship Service
		No Youth Group

Last week's attendance:	138	Last week's giving:	\$ 7,453.00
Offering to-date: \$235,884			
<i>We're glad you are here today! Thank you for your support!</i>			