2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

PREPARING FOR CHRIST: *Preparing our Minds*

December 4, 2022

– Online greet time 9:15 a.m., worship begins at 9:30 –

Faith United Methodist Church
1530 Oakdale Avenue
West St. Paul, Minnesota 55118
651-457-5686 - Website: www.faithumcmn.com

Gathering and Praise

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Music

Lighting the Advent Candle *Desarae Gallegos, Nicholas Sielski*

One: *A voice calls out from the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord"*

Many: **We come to prepare for the coming of Christ.**

One: *Scripture calls us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength."*

Many: **Just as we prepare our homes for the celebration of Christmas, we also prepare ourselves to love Christ anew.**

One: *Out of the generations, Christ comes, born of a virgin and called Emmanuel: GOD WITH US.*
As we relive and retell the story, we learn more and see you more fully.

Many: **O God, help us to prepare our minds for your coming.**

One: *Let the candle we light today shine in the darkness and help us to prepare our minds for Christ.*

Many: **Amen.**

Opening Hymn **"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"** UMH 211- *vv.* 1 & 3

Opening Prayer *Ellen Hiniker*

Many: **Eternal God of power and grace,**
who comes to us in surprising ways—
in angel appearances, in defeat of enemies,
and in resurrection from the dead—
show us the face of Immanuel in our time.

Bring us from fear to awe, we pray;
in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise **"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"** *Baby Bells*

Creating Connections *Charles Scopatz*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer of Illumination *John Scopatz*

Scripture Reading **Matthew 1**
John Scopatz, with Alexander Sielski, Jazzlyn Gallegos, Jacob Kranz and Nicholas Sielski

Hymn of Preparation **"Silent Night, Holy Night"** UMH #239

Sermon Preparing for Christ: *Preparing our Minds* *Charles Scopatz*

Responding to the Word

Kahoot: How well do you know the Christmas Story?

Special Music *Sunday School*

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Gathering of our Tithes and our Offerings *Johnny Gallegos and Josie Kranz, ushers*

The Doxology UMH 94

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving FWS 2257

The Lord's Prayer

Many: **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Distribution

Nicholas Sielski and Jacob Kranz serving with mentors Sheri Lucas and Judy Turk

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Hymn **"O Come, All Ye Faithful"** UMH 234

Benediction *Charles Scopatz*

Postlude

— Worship is over. The service begins. —

Liturgy citations:

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