

Order of Worship
December 4, 2022 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Announcements and Prelude

The word **Advent**, from the Latin *Adventus*, means **Coming**. During the Season of Advent, encompassing the four Sundays before Christmas, we prepare our hearts for the Coming of Christ – not only celebrating **His PAST Coming** as a baby in Bethlehem, but also anticipating **His FUTURE Coming** as Judge of the world.

Call to Worship – Isaiah 49:5-6

And now the LORD says—
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD
and my God has been my strength — he says:
***“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”***

Hymn *Angels, From the Realms of Glory* #220

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle – see insert

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading – Luke 1:5-17

⁵In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. ⁶Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. ⁷But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.

⁸**Once** when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

¹¹**Then** an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. ¹⁴He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. ¹⁶He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Gloria Patri – #70

Nicene Creed – #880

Offering & Doxology – #95

Sermon

Pastor Paul

**“Fear Not!” Advent Preaching Series:
Fear and the Unexpected**

*Zechariah was startled and was gripped with fear.
But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah ...”
Luke 1:12-13*

Hymn *What Child is This?* #219

Benediction

2022 Advent Preaching Series

“Fear Not!”

November 27

Fear and Prophecy

“...lift it up, do not be afraid ...”
Isaiah 40:9

December 4

Fear and the Unexpected

“Do not be afraid, Zechariah ...”
Luke 1:13

December 11

Fear and Intervention

“Do not be afraid, Mary ...”
Luke 1:30

December 18

Fear and Failure

“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid ...”
Matthew 1:20

Christmas Eve

Fear and Joy

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news ...”
Luke 2:10

Christmas Day

Fear and Fulfillment

“... Joseph was afraid to go there ...”
Matthew 2:2

January 8, 2023

Fear and the New Year

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you ...”
Isaiah 43:1

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Advent Sunday



Poplar Valley United Methodist Church
www.poplarvalleyumc.info

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
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