

Order of Worship
December 18, 2022 – 4th 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 – Luke 1:46-49, Mary’s Song of Praise to God

My soul magnifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for He has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.
*From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me –
holy is His name.*

His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
*He has performed mighty deeds with His arm;
He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.*

Hymn *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* #240

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle – see insert

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Scripture Reading – Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Gloria Patri – #70

Nicene Creed – #880

Offering & Doxology – #95

Sermon

Pastor Paul

“Fear Not!” Advent Preaching Series:
Fear and Failure

*... an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,
“Joseph son of David,
do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife...”
Matthew 1:20*

Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230

Benediction

2022 Advent Preaching Series

“Fear Not!”

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

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

5:00 p.m. Saturday, December 24 at Cherry Valley

Christmas Day – One Combined Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday, December 25 at Cherry Valley

New Year’s Day – One Combined Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday, January 1 at Poplar Valley

Pastor Paul & Janet will be away on vacation Dec. 26 – Jan. 7.

Ralph Chubbuck will be the guest preacher on Sunday, January 1.

Pastoral emergencies during this time can be referred to:

* Pastor Jeff Weber, Reeders UMC

* Pastor Dottie Stem, Analomink UMC

* Pastor Zim Khan, Faith UMC

December 18, 2022

4th Sunday of Advent



**Fourth Sunday
of Advent**

Poplar Valley United Methodist Church

www.poplarvalleyumc.info

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

www.cherryvalleyumc.info