

Today's Scripture Reading



Luke 1³⁹⁻⁵⁶

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;

indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.



Welcome to Worship!

December 24, 2023

The people of Colby United Methodist Church are
called to reflect Christ in Colby and beyond.



STAY CONNECTED



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DIGITAL CONNECTIONS



Colby United Methodist Church



Colby United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

4th Sunday of Advent

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Prelude | “Carols of Christmas” | Pianist |
| Welcome & Announcements | | Liturgist |
| Opening Song | “The Little Drummer Boy” | Shelby, Justice, Jensen Barnett Laken Lindberg, drummer |
| ✝Lighting the Advent Wreath | | |
| Opening Hymn | “Once in Royal David’s City” | UMH #250 |
| ✝Opening Prayer | | Liturgist |
| ✝Lifting Joys & Concerns in Prayer | | Pastor Rodgers |
| Prayer Song | “What Child Is This” (vs. 1,3) | UMH #219 |
| Lord’s Prayer | | UMH# 895 |
| Scripture Reading | Luke 1 ³⁹⁻⁵⁶ | Liturgist |
| Children’s Message | | Pastor Rodgers |
| ✝Special Music | “Noel” | Chancel Choir |
| Message | | Pastor Rodgers |
| Doxology & Offertory Prayer | | #94/Liturgist |
| ✝Closing Hymn | “Joy to the World” | UMH #246 |
| ✝Closing Prayer & Benediction | | Pastor Rodgers |
| Postlude | “God Rest Ye Merry, Christian Friends” | Pianist |

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|-------------------|--|
| Liturgist: | Melany Wilks |
| Organist/Pianist: | Pat Ziegelmeier |
| Special Music: | Shelby, Jensen & Justice Barnett, Laken Lindberg, Chancel Choir directed by Dr. Philip Shuman |

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Reader 1: When the angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing God’s plan for her to conceive and give birth to the Messiah, “Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’” (Luke 1:34) And yet, only a few months later, Mary sings to Elizabeth, My soul glorifies 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 (Luke 1⁴⁶⁻⁴⁹).

Reader 2: We, like Mary, hear God’s call to be part of making God’s dream for our salvation and flourishing a reality, and we question, “How can this be? I am only...” Yet, like Mary, the “onlys” that make us hesitate are gifts God can and will use as God’s love transforms us into bearers of good news.

Congregation: We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, our just peace, our fierce joy, and the love that transforms us. May Love grow within us, transforming us into bold witnesses of God’s salvation with our voices and our lives. Amen.

Light the four outer candles of the Advent wreath.

Weekly Colby UMC Activities

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|------------------|--------------------------|
| Sun @ 9:00 am | Sunday School |
| Sun @ 9:15 am | Choir Practice |
| Tues @ 7:00 pm | Advent Study |
| Wed @ 11:30 & 4 | Helping Paws |
| Thurs @ 8:00 am | Men’s Breakfast (Moka’s) |
| Thurs @ 12:00 pm | SOAP study (zoom) |
| Thurs @ 1:00 pm | SOAP Bible Study |
| Thurs @ 9:00 am | Quilting Group |

Pastor’s Schedule

Day Off: Monday
Office Hrs.: Tues–Fri: 9–12pm
Afternoons – Pastoral Visitation
Saturday: Requested Visitation

Last Sunday

Attendance last week: 89
General Offering: \$5,041
Weekly need: \$6,501

Capital Campaign Funds

Raised to date: \$192,800
Funds available: \$14,789
Goal: \$300,000

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