

**\* We invite you to stand as you are able**

**INTROIT\*** “Come, Come, Everybody Worship” The Faith We Sing #2271

**STATEMENT OF WELCOME TO ALL AND FOR ALL**

**All: No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey you are welcome here.**

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We invite members, friends, visitors to record visit by signing the attendance pad.

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE** (church bell tolls)

**CALL TO WORSHIP\***

One: In the midst of darkness, God brings a new light.

**All: Thanks be to the God of light.**

One: In the midst of confusion and fear, God brings hope and peace.

**All: Thanks be to the God of peace.**

One: In the midst of strife and stress, God comforts and soothes us.

**All: Let us praise God who truly loves us and brings us new life.  
Amen.**

**OPENING PRAYER\***

**All: Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN** “People, Look East” Red Hymnal #202

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: LOVE**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**FIRST READING** Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (CEB)

Shepherd of Israel, listen! You, the one who leads Joseph as if he were a sheep. You, who are enthroned upon the winged heavenly creatures. Show yourself before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh! Wake up your power! Come to save us! Restore us, God! Make your face shine so that we can be saved! Lord God of heavenly forces, how long will you fume against your people’s prayer? You’ve fed them bread made of tears; you’ve given them tears to drink three times over! You’ve put us at odds with our neighbors; our enemies make fun of us. Restore us, God of heavenly forces! Make your face shine so that we can be saved! Let your hand be with the one on your right side - with the one whom you secured as your own - then we will not turn away from you! Revive us so that we can call on your name. Restore us, Lord God of heavenly forces! Make your face shine so

that we can be saved!

**HYMN** “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” Red Hymnal 24

**GOSPEL READING** Matthew 1:18-25 (CEV)

This is how Jesus Christ was born. A young woman named Mary was engaged to Joseph from King David's family. But before they were married, she learned that she was going to have a baby by God's Holy Spirit. Joseph was a good man and did not want to embarrass Mary in front of everyone. So he decided to quietly call off the wedding. While Joseph was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream. The angel said, “Joseph, the baby that Mary will have is from the Holy Spirit. Go ahead and marry her. Then after her baby is born, name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet had said, “A virgin will have a baby boy, and he will be called Immanuel,” which means “God is with us.” After Joseph woke up, he and Mary were soon married, just as the Lord's angel had told him to do. But they did not sleep together before her baby was born. Then Joseph named him Jesus.

**MESSAGE** “A Good Man” Pastor Anne Kadue

**CHOIR ANTHEM** “How Quietly” Words & Music by Joel Raney

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our God, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

One: Holy God of hope and promise: when your children were in deep despair, you promised them a sign, the indication of a Savior coming into their midst. As we bring you our offerings this day, so many of us are discouraged, trying to find our way. We need your sign, we need your Son, not only as a reminder of history, but as a new direction, a revolution of love that starts in our hearts, a resurrection of compassion that looks beyond self and the accumulation of more and more things that don’t satisfy. We need what only a Savior can give us. In the name of Emmanuel “God with us”, Amen.

**OFFERING & HYMN\*** “What Child Is This” Black Hymnal #148

**CIRCLE OF BENEDICTION\***

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**SENDING**

We welcome all persons of every age, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, and physical or mental ability into full participation in the life of this faith community. We are committed to the reconciliation of all persons as children of God and declare ourselves to be a Reconciling Congregation.

Large Print bulletins are available from the ushers.

**CHURCH STAFF & WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Anne Kadue	Lead Pastor
Donald Birttnen	Worship Tech Assistant
Donna Zilge	Office Assistant
James Prince	Custodian
Judy Lieffring	Pianist & Organist
Mike Nelson	Bell Choir Director

*You are loved.* 

1596 11th Ave, Newport, MN 55055  
Newport UMC (651) 459-2747 & Community UCC (651) 459-2543

[newportumc.org](http://newportumc.org)

[stpaulparkucc.org](http://stpaulparkucc.org)



**Welcome to  
Newport United Methodist Church &  
Community United Church of Christ**

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 18, 2022