



# CENTENNIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT IVY

9150 East University Avenue. Altoona, IA 50009

Pastor Dani Musselman

Sunday, December 6, 2020



## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CENTERING MOMENT:

*“But setting aside one’s tiny tendency toward cynicism, in the meantime– in Advent–we wait; and hope appears if we truly desire to see it. Maybe it’s in tiny little packets here and there, hiding in the dying grass like winter wildflowers, but we find it where we can, and exactly as it comes to us, while the days grow dark. We remind ourselves that you can only see the stars when it is dark, and the darker it is, the brighter the light breaking through.” -Anne Lamott*

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

We come to prepare the way;

**The way for Christ.**

We anticipate the hope and peace of Christ,  
**to enter our world & to enter our hearts.**

We cry out in the wilderness:

**The kingdom of heaven is near!**

God will feed us like a shepherd and gather us in  
gentle arms,

**We are welcomed by God’s steadfast love.**

We gather to be part of the light:

**And we prepare the way for the One who is  
coming.**

### HYMN: #220 “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Angels from the realms of glory,

Wing your flight o’er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation’s story

Now proclaim Messiah’s birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
watching o’er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;

yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;

Seek the great Desire of nations;

Ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear;

Suddenly the Lord, descending,

In his temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

One: As we light the second Advent candle, we imagine a tiny jewel of light dancing on the edge of the horizon: a solitary star before sunrise glimmering a promise of dawn at the end of the world’s blight. Christ is the light of the World.

Come to us, O “Emmanuel” (God-with-us), the Promised One, the Savior of the World. We have seen your light and gather here in this time and place, awaiting the day of your coming.

**All: Dear God, help us prepare not only our homes, but also our hearts and lives for Christ’s coming. Enable us to open our hearts that we might have Christ in us. Amen.**

### HYMN #2090 “LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE” V.2

Light the Advent candle, two:

Think of humble shepherds, who

Filled with wonder at the sight

Of the child of Christmas night.

Candle, candle, burning bright,

shining in the cold winter night;

candle, candle burning bright,

fill our hearts with Christmas light.

## PRAYER CONCERNS/LORD'S PRAYER:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.

## SPECIAL MUSIC: Evan Fischer

## SCRIPTURE READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-11

### HYMN: #211 "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,  
O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her way to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,  
O Israel.

O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,  
O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;  
Before thee rulers silent fall; all people on thy mercy call.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,  
O Israel.

## MESSAGE: Where the Wild Things Are

## OFFERING:

### HYMN #209 "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,  
Who visits and redeems us and grants us liberty.  
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;

God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;  
A Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.  
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way  
The prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,  
The dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,  
To guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;  
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

## BENEDICTION

### FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE SONG

#204 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called  
Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name  
is called Emmanuel."

*With Love, Pastor Dani*