

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" | Words and Music by Marty Haugen
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9am Worship - First Advent Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

+ PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

"The waiting of Advent teaches us to live in increments, in small pieces rather than large chunks. Waiting also teaches us to measure our progress slowly. Alcoholics and addicts know this more than most of us. They measure their recovery in single days.

They know their waiting and recovery takes place one day at a time."

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~ Holly Whitcomb

"In other words, the prophets are weirdos. More than anyone else in Scripture, they remind us that those odd ducks shouting from the margins of society may see things more clearly than the political and religious leaders with the inside track. We ignore them at our own peril."

~ Rachel Held Evans

"Politicians compete for the highest offices. Business tycoons scramble for a bigger and bigger piece of the pie. Armies march and scientists study and philosophers philosophize and preachers preach and laborers sweat. But in that silent baby, lying in that humble manger, there pulses more potential power and wisdom and grace and aliveness than all the rest of us can imagine."

~ Brian D. McLaren

PRELUDE "Believe"

arr. by Sandra Eithun

Alleluia Ringers

with Nan Rausch on sleigh bells and Denise Kerr on windchime

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Edwin Childs

+OPENING WORDS

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator, the source of love from before time and forever. **God is with us. here we find new life.**

Watch, wait, hope! Even now, the tender leaves of peace may be growing on the trees of life. Even now, the wonder of new love may be moving towards its birthing.

Christ is coming. The Word of God will not fail us.

Keep awake! For the shadows of our doubt will be lifted and singing sounds in the distance. Loving Spirit, search our hearts and meet us in this place.

+OPENING HYMN "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" See back page

The Messages of Advent: The Message of the Prophets

Pastor Bill Eaves

No. 216

No. 228

UNISON PRAYER

God of all time, bless this season of Advent. May we recognize your presence, rather than merely rushing from one thing to another or fretting over plans to be made and work to be done. For this season is precious time — of waiting, of hoping. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jean Werner, Carrie Sinclair Werner, Devon Sinclair

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After this message, children and youth through 9th grade are invited to leave for Sunday school.

MORNING PRAYER

THE 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.

ANTHEM "Love Came Down at Christmas" Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus Chamber Choir Christina Rossetti **Howard Helvey**

SCRIPTURE Micah 1:2-4, 5:2-5a, 6:6-8

Reader: Randy LaFoy Hear, you peoples, all of you; listen, O earth, and all that is in it; and let the Lord God be a witness

against you, the Lord from his holy temple. For lo, the Lord is coming out of his place, and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth. Then the mountains will melt under him and the valleys will burst open, like wax near the fire, like waters poured down a steep place.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Leader: For the word of God in Scripture,

for the word of God among us,

for the word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God.

+HYMN "Lo, How a Rose"

CONNECTION CARDS

SERMON

Please take time now to fill out your green connection cards to help us track attendance. After the prayer of dedication, you may place them in the offering plates as they are passed to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING "Prepare the Royal Highway"

arr. Cathy Moklebust Alleluia Ringers with Steve Schellenberg, oboe

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

We remember Jesus, whose coming was promised by prophets who shared God's dream of peace.

And by John the Baptist, who prepared the way with words of fire.

And by Mary and Joseph, who accepted his coming with tenderness and faith.

Now we take up the song of hope, that we might awaken to his coming among us and be touched by the presence of his glory.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

We will receive communion by intinction — dipping the bread into the cup so as to take them together. Individual and gluten-free servings are available at the table. We serve communion at an open table — you are welcome to participate as you choose.

"Gabriel's Oboe" COMMUNION MUSIC Music by Ennion Morricone Steve Schellenberg, oboe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CLOSING HYMN "He is Born"

*BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE "People Look East" Setting, Anne Krentz Organ

SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP TODAY

Phil and Kathy Siegle invite you to help them celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary today with coffee and cake between services. Tea, doughnuts and treats will also be served. Congratulations to the Siegles! Cake will also be provided today by Staff-Parish Relations Committee to welcome Missie Aberle as our Next Generation Minister.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Thanks to all who bought poinsettias to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas, starting next Sunday. The list of donors will be in the 9am bulletin on Dec. 23. You may pick up your plant after the 10pm worship on Christmas Eve.



Meet our new Next Generation Minister

Please welcome Missie Aberle, who starts today as our Next Generation Minister. Since 2012, Missie has worked as Youth and Family Minister at Faith Lutheran Church in Balsam Lake, Wis. Before that, she was a design service engineer in the telecommunications industry and a small business owner. She has an master's degree in youth and family ministry from Luther Seminary. A native of Colorado, she is also a wife and mom. Stop to say hi during Fellowship time between services.

Sunday, Dec. 2: Bread pickup after both services

9-10am—Worship; Sunday School & nursery 10-10:45am—Coffee, tea, and treats, Fellowship Hall; prayer room is open

10:45-11:30am—Worship; Children's Church & nursery 2-6pm—Holiday Breads class, kitchen & Fellowship Hall

Monday, Dec. 3

10am—Hang Loose Women's Al-Anon, room 206 2-8pm—Church directory photo session, rooms 200/206

Tuesday, Dec. 4

10:30am-noon—Staff meeting, church office 2-8pm—Church directory photo session, rooms 200/206 6pm—YogaDevotion class, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Dec. 5

6-7:15pm—Alleluia Ringers, sanctuary 6:30pm—Children's & Youth Activities

5:30pm—Youth Mentor night & Solid Ground shopping

6:30pm—BreadX Talk, Fellowship Hall

7:30-9pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal, music room

Thursday, Dec .6

7:10am—Men's Breakfast Group, library 10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107 11:30am-1pm—Up All Night meeting, room 200

Friday, Dec. 7

OFFICE CLOSED; no activities scheduled

Saturday, Dec. 8

7:30am—Men's Prayer Group, room 200 9:30am-noon—UMW Winter Program, Fellowship Hall 10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women's Group, 200/206

Sunday, Dec. 9

9-10am—Worship; Sunday School & nursery 10-10:45am—Coffee, tea, and treats, Fellowship Hall; prayer room is open

10:45-11:30am—Worship; Children's Church & nursery

Welcome

WHITE BEAR LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to provide nourishment for the hungers of life.

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday: 9am to 12pm Monday-Thursday 9am to 3pm Friday and Saturday CLOSED

SUNDAY BULLETIN/WEEKLY E-BLAST

Have a church-related event you'd like to appear in the Sunday bulletin or the weekly e-blast? Please email all pertinent information, including contact information, to office@wblumc.org no later than 1pm Tuesday for the bulletin and 10am Wednesday for the e-blast.

All information is subject to staff approval. Thank you!

To receive the weekly email update — sent every Thursday — call the office at 651-429-9026, email your request to office@wblumc.org or indicate it on a connection card.

Visit **wblumc.org** for sermon podcasts, PDFs of the 9am bulletins, the church calendar and programming info.

WBLUMC STAFF

Bill Eaves, Senior Pastor bill.eaves@wblumc.org, 763-355-7825 mobile

John McBride, Associate Pastor **Missie Aberle,** Next Generation Minister

Lori McBride, Missions & Faith Development Minister **Joan Hartman**, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Peteria Cochran Routt, Director of Traditional Music

John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music Gerald Gurss, Chancel Choir Director

Patricia Kytola, Director of Operations

Lauri Hopple, Administrative Assistant

Lori Hughes, Website & Social Media

Carol Houghtby, Treasurer **Carolyn Keith,** Financial Secretary **Ron Houde,** Housekeeper



Join us for music focused on Advent, Solstice, and New Year

Dec. 16 @ 9am: Chancel Choir

Dec. 16 @ 1045am: Joe Cruz & Jennifer Grimm All are welcome, bring a guest!



Christmas Eve worship

Please join us Monday, Dec. 24, 2018, at any of our three services

3pm: Family worship will be a shorter service of carols and more for our most wiggly and energetic friends.

5pm: A contemporary service of carols led by the music team.

10pm: A traditional service of carols and candle-lighting featuring the Chancel Choir.



Today: Baking with a Purpose

Pick up loaves of Challah and Craisin Walnut **today** after both services. Your generous donations will go to Second Harvest Heartland. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped prep, bake and clean up! Next BWAP will be Saturday, Jan. 5.

"It's a Wonderful Life" tickets

Because we had to change our group reservation for *It's a Wonderful Life* to 7:30pm **Thursday, Dec. 13**, more tickets are now available. To join, sign up in the narthex **today** or email Lori McBride at lori.mcbride@wblumc.org.

BreadX talks: The Extraordinary Experience of Hearing God's Voice

Featuring Glenn Oliphant, who will share the many life experiences when he felt that God saved him, inspiring him to share his story so people will understand God's grace. Glenn, a 30-year member of WBLUMC, grew up in a small town in southern Minnesota, graduated from community college and served four years in the U.S. Navy. Join us **Wednesday**, **Dec. 5**, 6:30-7:30pm for Glenn's talk and a light supper in Fellowship Hall. This is a free community event, bring a guest!

Stewardship Committee update

Thank you! As of last Sunday, we've received 130 pledges. Highlights include:

- 18 pledges were from new giving units, totaling \$29,120;
- 56 giving units increased planned giving an average of 13 percent, totaling \$332,344;
- 37 pledges remained at 2018 levels, totaling \$95,704;
- 19 giving units reduced pledge levels an average of 28 percent, totaling \$66,920.

Total planned giving for those 130 pledges is \$524,088, making significant progress toward our \$880,000 goal. There were about 200 pledges for 2018, so we can hope for many additional pledges for 2019.

Thank you to everyone who has already shared their planned giving. If you have not yet submitted a pledge card, we encourage you to do so ASAP so that the 2019 budget can be finalized and we can continue supporting our many church programs while also supporting our incredible staff. Watch for future updates over the next few weeks.

Children & Youth updates

Youth Solid Ground shopping

Come for dinner at 5:30pm this **Wednesday, Dec. 5**, then shopping as a group at Target for Solid Ground families. Youth, their mentors and volunteers are invited to help deliver gifts on Sunday, Dec. 9. Contact Linnea to sign up.

Children's Voices at Christmas

The United Methodist Women will welcome the Joyful Noise Children's Choir to their annual Winter Program on **Saturday, Dec. 8**, 9:30am-noon in Fellowship Hall. The choir will sing Christmas songs, followed by a sing-along of your favorite and most cherished Christmas tunes. All church members are welcome. Please bring new socks and underwear (men, women, children, all sizes) for the Giving Rack (formerly God's Closet). Sign up in the narthex or email Eva Shipley at shipley.41@comcast.net for information.

Sunday, Dec. 2, in the narthex

The Faith in Action team will sell handmade paper Christmas Trees to raise funds for the purchase of books for the kids of Willow Lane Elementary School in White Bear Lake. More than 65 percent of the Willow Lane students are on free or reduced lunch, the highest in the district. Your free-will donation for a tree goes directly toward the purchase of new books. Contact Eva Shipley at shipley.41@comcast.net for information.

Today: Trees for Books



Hearts & Hands

Our knitting and crochet group will meet a week early this month, at 7pm **Monday, Dec. 10**, in the church library. All are welcome!

December book club

Book club will meet at 7pm on **Monday, Dec. 17,** in the church library to discuss *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. All are welcome, even if you haven't attended before. Here's a synopsis of *Hatchet*: Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother's infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father for the first time since his parents' divorce. When the plane crashes, killing the pilot, the sole survivor is Brian. He is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a gift.

Adult Santa Shop helpers

We need 10 adults to help on Saturday, Dec. 15, 9:30am-1pm. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall, plus a description of what volunteers will do. If you're interested in donating new items for the Santa Shop, get information sheets at the bulletin board. Donations should be taken directly to Solid Ground.