

# *May grace meet you here . . .*

## WELCOME

Prelude *Star-Child* S. Murray & C. Young

Greeting and Welcome

Passing of the Peace

+Call to Worship

In the dry places, a blossom appears.

**We come trusting that joy can bloom even in the wilderness.**

When doubt grows heavy and hope feels delayed—

**Christ draws near with courage and compassion.**

**All: Come, Emmanuel. Awaken in us the joy of Your coming.**

+Hymn *He Came Down* TFWS #2085

Lighting of the Advent Candles

**One:** Today we light the third candle—the candle of **Joy**.

**Two:** Joy reminds us that God is with us in the happy times and the hard times.

**One:** Isaiah says the desert will bloom, and Jesus brings good news to the weary.

**Two:** As we light this candle, may God fill our hearts with joy that shines.

*(Light Hope, Peace, and Joy candles.)*

**All: Come, Emmanuel. Bring us Your joy!**

Sung Response

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

UMH #196 vs. 1

Unison Prayer

**Holy God, as the Savior draws near, come to us, we pray. In darkness beside us, through trials to guide us, come to us today. Amen.**

Special Music Choir Anthem

*Hodie Veni Christe* Carl J. Nygard, Jr.

Children's Message

Special Music Handbell Anthem

*Coventry Carol* arr. Cathy Moglebust

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Hymn Sing

## THE WORD

Scripture Isaiah 35:1-2, Matthew 11:2-6,  
Luke 1:47-55

+Hymn *Joy in the Morning* TFWS #2284

Message

The Road to Emmanuel | Awaken to Joy

## THANKSGIVING

Offertory Music *Do You Hear What I Hear?*  
Regney & Shayne, arr. D. Miller

Offertory Liturgy

**God of Love, awaken us to joy. Receive these gifts and receive our hearts. Use what we offer to bring hope, wholeness, and Your light to the world. Amen.**

+Hymn *Wonderful Child* (lyrics on screen)

Trad. African-American hymn

## DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Benediction

Postlude *Wonderful Child*

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Donna Dempewolf, Pastor

Charely Handlang, Reader

Kathy Szydlo, Handbell Choir Director

Deborah Rae Miller, Adult Choir Director

David Miller, Piano

NUMC Band:

Kristen Twitchell, Vocals

Ava Podracky, Vocals

Jeff Wood, Vocals and Trombone

Elaine Boda, Cello

Wendy Smith, Flute and Guitar

Tim Goodwin, Guitar

David Miller, Piano

Mike Legvold, Bass Guitar

Dave Drentlaw, Drums

## If you are new here . . .

- ✧ We are so glad you joined us!
- ✧ **If you would benefit from a large print bulletin or a hearing assistance device, please ask an usher.**
- ✧ +Please stand as able when you see this symbol as we move through the order of worship.
- ✧ Words for congregational liturgy and song are listed in the bulletin or projected on the screen at the front of the sanctuary. Most hymns can be found in the hardcover *United Methodist Hymnal* (2-3 digit) or soft cover *The Faith We Sing* (4 digit) located in the pews. We also have Bibles for following along with Scripture.
- ✧ Check our website for more information.

### For Parents

- ✧ Want to learn more about NUMC's ministry with children, youth, and families? Join our email list! [info@northfieldumc.org](mailto:info@northfieldumc.org)
- ✧ Staffed nursery available for children during worship.

### Northfield United Methodist Church Mission

We are companions in Christ, called, nurtured, and sent out for this purpose: to glorify God by acts of worship, devotion, compassion, and justice.

Donna Dempewolf, Pastor

Kristen Twitchell, Interim Youth Director

Izel Thoele, Youth & Children's Intern

Ruth Kruse, Parish Nurse

For more information visit our website at [www.northfieldumc.org](http://www.northfieldumc.org).

Miss a week?

Watch our worship service online on our website!

*Jesus Christ calls us to offer welcome, hospitality and God's gracious love to all.*

## Upcoming Events

### Sundays

9:30 am – Worship  
9:40 am – Children's Church  
10:30 am – Coffee in Fellowship Hall  
10:30 am – Adult Faith Formation  
**No Children's Church December 28th**

### Wednesdays

3:30 – 5:30 pm, (K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade) Fun, Faith & Food Snack  
5:30-6:15 pm – Community Meal  
6:15 pm – Adult Choir  
6:30 pm – Handbell Choir  
6:30 pm – Youth Fellowship  
**No Super Wednesday December 24 and 31**

### Upcoming Events

**Women's Bible Study**, Tuesday, December 16, 9:00 am, room #120

**Men's Breakfast**, Friday, December 19, 8:00 am, Fellowship Hall

### December Christmas Events

**Children's Christmas Pageant**, Wednesday, December 17, 6:30 pm

**Service of Longest Night**, Sunday, December 21, 4:00 pm, music prelude 3:45 pm, NUMC

**Christmas Eve Worship**, Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm and 10:00 pm

### Adult Faith Formation

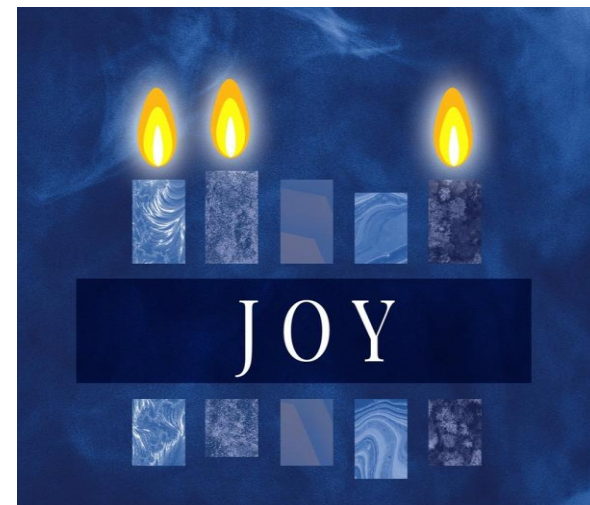
10:30 am, Reception Room  
12/14: Place-Based Discipleship: Finding our Place  
12/21: Cosmic Spirituality: Doing Hopeful Things, but mostly Caroling Together

**The Church office will be closed Dec. 24- Jan. 1**

Worship.  
Devotion.



Compassion.  
Justice.



## The Road to Emmanuel

**December 14, 2025**  
**9:30 am**

**Northfield United Methodist Church**

1401 S. Maple Street  
Northfield, MN 55057

Phone: 507-645-5689

Email: [info@northfieldumc.org](mailto:info@northfieldumc.org)

Website: [www.northfieldumc.org](http://www.northfieldumc.org)