

May grace meet you here . . .

WELCOME

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
Ferguson, Held, Callahan

Greeting and Welcome

Passing of the Peace

+Call to Worship

All creation holds its breath.

The time is almost here.

The heavenly choir of angels waits for its cue to sing.

Excitement is all around us.

Prepare your hearts—the grace of God takes on human form.

Good news! Emmanuel, God-with-Us, comes to us.

We gather to make ready our hearts for the coming of Christ, our hope, our peace, our joy, our love.

+Hymn *Angels from the Realms of Glory*
UMH #220 vs. 1-3

Lighting of the Advent Candles

One: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of love.

Two: It reminds us that God's love was revealed in Jesus Christ, who came to dwell among us.

One: Scripture says: "*The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth*" (John 1:14).

Light the candle of love, and also the candles of hope, peace, and joy.

Two: Loving God, fill our hearts with your love and help us share it in our lives.

All: Prepare us to welcome Christ anew this Christmas. Amen.

Song Response

Come Now, O Prince of Peace
TFWS #2232 vs. 1-2

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Children's Message

Choir Anthem *Mary, Mary*
Avery and March, arr. Carolyn Jennings

THE WORD

Scripture Luke 2:1-7
Micah 5:2-5

+Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*
UMH #206

Reading The Servant at the Inn

Message *Eyelight* Ted Loder, adapted

THANKSGIVING

Offertory Music

Lo! He Comes arr. Gerald Bales
From East to West, From Shore to Shore
arr. Richard Proulx

Offertory Liturgy

Loving God, the countdown to Christmas generates a variety of emotional responses: excitement, joy, relief, sadness and maybe even panic. Provide us with a sense of calm. May the rhythm of worship and this offering moment center us so that we are prepared to receive anew the birth of Jesus, the Christ Child. Amen.

+Hymn *People Look East* UMH #202

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

+Benediction

Postlude *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*
Paul Manz

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Pastor Donna Dempewolf
Richard Waters, Reader
Donna Paulsen, Organist
Deborah Rae Miller, Choir Director
David Miller, Piano
Philip Spensley, Special Reading
Advent Candle Lighting:
Kristen Twitchell
Charley Handlang
Stephanie Basemera
Mary Twitchell

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
- ✧ 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.

Our pastor is:

Donna Dempewolf

For more information visit our website at 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

10:00 am – Children's Church (5th grade and under)

10:30 am – Coffee in Fellowship Hall

No Children's Church December 29th due to school breaks

Wednesdays

3:30-5:30 pm – KC3 (K-5th grade)

5:30-6:30 pm – Super Wednesday meal

6:15 pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal

6:30 pm – Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:30-8:00 pm – Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grade)

No Super Wednesday December 25th and January 1st

Upcoming Events

Friday, December 27, 8:00 am Men's Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 31, 9:00 am Women's Bible Study in room #120

Beginning January 2nd each Tuesday and Thursday through March 27th, 1:30-3:30 pm, Methodist Mile indoor walking

Beginning January 7th each Tuesday through March 18th, 10:00-11:30 am, Playtime for Toddlers

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Tuesday, December 24th

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship (nursery available, service livestreamed) musical prelude 4:00 pm.

10:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship with Communion

Church office hours:

Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

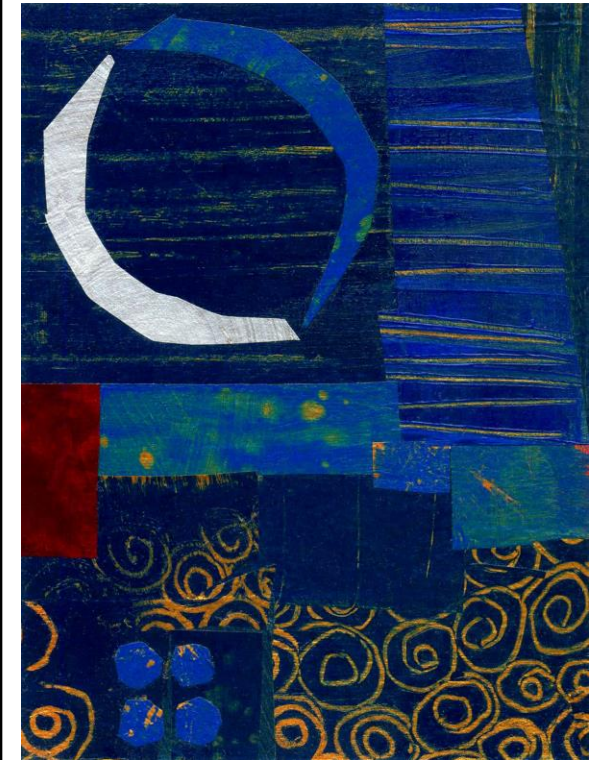
Friday, 8:00 am – noon

The Church office will be closed December 24- January 1

Worship.
Devotion.



Compassion.
Justice.



The Cast of Christmas: The Stable Hand

December 22, 2024
9:30 am

Northfield United Methodist Church

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