

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**  
 "Canticle of the Turning"

My \_\_\_\_\_ soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 Though \_\_\_\_\_ I am small, my \_\_\_\_\_ God, my all, you \_\_\_\_\_  
 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 Though the na - tions rage from \_\_\_\_\_ age to age, we re -

God of my heart is great, and my spir - it \_\_\_\_\_ sings of the  
 work great \_\_\_\_\_ things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy \_\_\_\_\_ must de -

won - drous \_\_\_\_\_ things that you bring to the ones who wait. You  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your  
 jus - tice \_\_\_\_\_ tears ev - 'ry ty - rant \_\_\_\_\_ from his throne. The  
 liv - er \_\_\_\_\_ us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. This

fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 hun - gry poor shall \_\_\_\_\_ weep no more, for the  
 sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the

weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound till the spear and rod can be

name be \_\_\_\_\_ blest. Could the world be a - bout to \_\_\_\_\_ turn?  
 strong to \_\_\_\_\_ flight, for the world is a - bout to \_\_\_\_\_ turn.  
 mouth be \_\_\_\_\_ fed, for the world is a - bout to \_\_\_\_\_ turn.  
 crushed by \_\_\_\_\_ God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the  
 fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

dawn draws \_\_\_\_\_ near, and the world is a - bout to \_\_\_\_\_ turn!

Words: Rory Cooney; music: trad. Irish; adapt. Rory Cooney; words and adapt. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-719789.

**\*SENDING FORTH**

**POSTLUDE**  
 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" arr. David Willcocks

# Welcome

**Today is Sunday, December 24, 2017**

10:30 am Nursery Opens, room 205  
 10:50 am Worship Service, the Sanctuary  
 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service, the Sanctuary  
 6:30 pm Potluck, room 112  
 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service, the Sanctuary

**From Participants to Partners**

All are always welcome to participate in the life and ministries of FUMC Omaha. When you are ready to move from participant to partnership through your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, please contact Pastor Jane or Cynthia by e-mail or phone; we'd be delighted to answer your questions and get to know one another!

Jane.Florence@fumcomaha.org; 402-556-6262 x1002  
 Cynthia.Lindenmeyer@fumcomaha.org; 402-556-6262 x1006



**Please join us this evening!**  
**Sunday, December 24, 2017**

**5:30 pm**— This service is generally full and has lots of energetic children and an extra brass ensemble, so come early to get your seat!

**9:00 pm**— This service is more reflective in spirit, and it includes Holy Communion where all are welcome to the table.

There will be a Fellowship Potluck in room 112 between the two services. We invite all to bring a dish to share as we form community on this holy night.

## Church Staff Contact Information

**Clergy:**

1002...Senior Pastor ..... Jane.Florence@fumcomaha.org  
 1006...Associate Pastor..... Cynthia.Lindenmeyer@fumcomaha.org

**Music:**

1021...Music Ministries ..... Mark.Kurtz@fumcomaha.org  
 .....Music Associate/Organist ..... Marie.Meyers@fumcomaha.org  
 .....Music Associate/Youth Choir ..... Jill.Anderson@fumcomaha.org

**Staff:**

1008...Director of Religious Education ..... Kyle.Sorys@fumcomaha.org  
 1001...Administration & Communication ..... Candice.Nielsen@fumcomaha.org  
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**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-4:00 pm  
 Sunday, 8:30 am-12:00 pm; Closed Friday & Saturday



## Faith Studies @First

**Faith Studies Classes for children, youth, and adults will resume Sunday, January 7, 2018.**

**Children & Youth**

**Children Faith Studies/Kids Zone** – We offer fun, friendly, and up-beat faith learning for the youngest members of our faith community. We have classes year-round for children ages 3-year-old to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Children will be dropped off and picked up in their individual classrooms.

- 3-year-old/Pre-K **Room 210**
- Kindergarten (5 & 6-year-olds) **Room 205 & 206**
- 1st and 2nd graders **Room 207**
- 3rd and 4th graders **Room 209**

**Tween Scene** – Moving from Elementary into Jr. High is an exciting time in the life of our children! Our tween scene Faith Studies group is for our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and meets every Sunday, and will be dropped off and picked up in their individual classroom on Sunday mornings

- Tween Scene (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders) **Room 208**

**Youth Faith Studies** – Our youth, in 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, meet in Junior High and Senior High classes, and combine for service projects, fellowship events, and even special worship planning. Youth Faith Studies center around dynamic current events and motivating faith topics, and concentrate on faith formation, scripture literacy, interfaith dialogue, and all the stuff that matters.

- Junior High (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders) **Room 109**
- Senior High (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders) **Room 114**

**Adult Classes—Sunday morning**

**Boomers +/-** — Explore topics around the theme "Progressive Christian Living." **Room 112**

**Centering Prayer** — This prayer time begins with 10 minutes of fellowship, followed by a 20-minute sit in silence, closing with The Lord's Prayer. All are welcome! **Mead Chapel**

**Connections** — These Gen-Xers meet to discuss the place of faith in addressing current social challenges. **Room 203**

**Explorers** — Seekers who inquire in depth by reading and discussing a book. **Adult Education Library**

**Faithlinks** — This inter-generational class looks at a current issue through the lens of our Christian faith. **Room 111**

**Sunday Afternoon & Weekday Opportunities:**

- ◇ **Spiritual Practices**—All are welcome to explore a variety of ways to connect with the Holy and Journey in faith. **Wednesdays, 5:00 pm, the Parlor.**
- ◇ **ZUMBA**—Zumba is open to all skill levels. Join Pastor Cynthia move and groove! **Wednesday evenings, 6:30-7:30 pm, the Commons.**
- ◇ **Earth Vigil**—A small group gathering for silent meditation for the earth. **Third Wednesday monthly, 6:30-7:00 pm, Mead Chapel.**
- ◇ **Worship in the Tradition of Taizé** — A 45-minute spiritual service. **First Saturday monthly, 5:00 pm, Mead Chapel.**

**Sunday, December 24, 2017**

**10:50 am**



**PRELUDE**

"Magnificat"

Marcel Dupré

**WELCOME**

Personal listening devices and large print hymnals and worship guides are available from the ushers. Please silence your phones.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Dr. Jane Florence

God of faithfulness, before whom we stand exposed in our complacency and complicity, we thank you for this season in which we may make amendment of life. Give us resolve that we may not waste the season as the urgency of those in need comes crashing in on the tide of Advent.

**God of our forthcoming, give us wisdom to receive your future by living in the present differently**

God of liberating disruptions, grant us wisdom to identify the certitudes by which we live and the courage to notice the poor in our midst. Move us beyond our excessive commitment to present systems to one of Your Kingdom.

**God of our forthcoming, give us wisdom to receive your future by living in the present differently**

Gracious God who soon arrives, the wonder of Your holiness offers a derivative holiness for humanity. With this overwhelming act of transformation comes rigorous expectation. Let us be prepared for your future that undoes all our present tense.

**God of our forthcoming, give us wisdom to receive your future by living in the present differently**

We jour-ney in - to Ad - vent in love, hope, peace and joy. We light the Ad - vent can - dles, our wait - ing's al - most done. White marks a ho - ly - day for - us, Christ's birth is draw - ing near. Christ Child brings heav'n - ly har - mo - ny and peace through - out the earth.

**We light these trees, in the midst of our waiting. As we leave this place, may we see every Christmas tree as a symbol of love. May it illuminate the sacred in our waiting and open our eyes to the sacrament of our season.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"To a Maid Engaged to Joseph"

Red hymnal #215

**GATHERING OF CHILDREN**

"Star-Child"

(vs. 1) Black hymnal #2095

*The children are invited to gather at the front of the church.*

**CHILDREN'S WORD**

Dr. Jane Florence

Today is a gift from God.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**RESPONSE**

"Star-Child"

(vs. 5) Black hymnal #2095

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 1:28-31, 46-55

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** "Magnificat Prequel 2017"

Dr. Cynthia Lindenmeyer

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"Holy is Your Name"

My - soul is filled with joy - as I  
I am low - ly as a child, but I  
I pro - claim the power of God, you do  
To the hun - gry you give food, send the  
In your love you now fill - what you  
sing to God my Sav - ior: You have looked up - on your  
know from this day for - ward that my name will be re -  
mar - vels for your ser - vants: though you scat - ter the proud -  
rich a - way - emp - ty. In your mer - cy you are  
prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will praise you, Lord, my  
ser - vant, you have vis - i - ted your peo - ple.  
mem - bered, for - all will call me bless - ed.  
heart - ed, and de - stroy the might of princ - es.  
mind - ful of the peo - ple you have cho - sen.  
Sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.  
And - ho - ly is your name, through all gen - er -  
a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the  
peo - ple you have cho - sen, and - ho - ly is your name.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Hymn of Prayer**

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Red hymnal #204

**Prayers of Concern**

This we pray.

**Hymn of Prayer**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving**

This we pray.

**Hymn of Prayer**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

**\*SALAAM, SHALOM, PEACE** be with you.

**And also with you.**

**BECAUSE YOU GIVE**

Youth Choir

"Breath of Heaven/Mary Did You Know"

Amy Grant, Mark Lowry, and Buddy Greene

I have traveled many moonless nights, cold and weary with a babe inside. I am waiting in a silent prayer. I am frightened by the load I bear. Be with me now. Mary did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man? Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby, you will kiss the face of God? Do you wonder as you watch my face if a wiser one should have had my place? In a world as cold as stone, must I walk this path alone? Help me be strong. Mary did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation? Mary did you know that your baby boy will one day heal the nations? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby, you will kiss the face of God? The blind will see, the deaf will hear and the dead will live again. The lame will leap; the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.

**\*Doxology**

Tune: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**Praise Spirit-God, who comes with fire. Praise Jesus Christ, our heart's desire. Praise Love, who comes to seek us all, one God on whom our spirits call. God comes! God comes! Lift heart and voice, the Savior comes; let earth rejoice.**

**\*COMMUNITY IN ACTION**