

**\*RECESSIONAL HYM**

“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. Your  
 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!

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**\*SENDING FORTH**

**POSTLUDE**

“Toccata on ‘Veni Emmanuel’”

Andrew Carter

7020 Cass St Omaha, NE 68132

402-556-6262

[www.fumcomaha.org](http://www.fumcomaha.org)

**Office Hours:**

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



# Welcome

## Today is Sunday, December 2, 2017

- 8:00 am Poinsettia Pick-up, Gathering Place
- 8:15 am Nursery Opens, room 105
- 8:30 & 10:50 am **Worship Service, the Sanctuary**
- 9:15 am Hospitality and Social Time, the Commons
- 9:30 am Alternative Christmas Mall, the Gathering Place
- 9:35 am **Faith Studies @First**
- 9:35 am Children & Youth Visioning Meeting, room 209
- 10:15 am Chancel Choir, the Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm Youth Choir, Sanctuary
- 1:00 pm Holiday Home Tour, start in the Gathering Place
- 6:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship, the Commons

**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 Kent or Cynthia by e-mail or phone; we'd be delighted to answer your questions and get to know one another!

Kent.Little@fumcomaha.org; 402-556-6262 x1002

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



### Join us Monday, December 24, 2018

**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...Lead Pastor .....Kent.Little@fumcomaha.org

1006...Associate Pastor .....Cynthia.Lindenmeyer@fumcomaha.org

**Music:**

1021...Director of Music Ministries .....Mark.Kurtz@fumcomaha.org

.....Music Associate/Organist .....Marie.Meyers@fumcomaha.org

**Staff:**

1008 Dir. Children & Youth Ministries ..... Bogart.Nomad@fumcomaha.org.

1001...Dir. Membership & Communication .. Candice.Nielsen@fumcomaha.org

1003 Finance Manager ..... Noni.Cambridge@fumcomaha.org

1010...Building Manager .....Steve.Nehrig@fumcomaha.org

1009...Dir. Rainbow Factory Preschool.....Jamie.Pressnall@fumcomaha.org

## Faith Studies @First

**Children & Youth—Sunday morning, 9:35-10:35 am**

**Children Faith Studies/Kids Zone** – We offer fun, friendly, and up-beat faith learning for the youngest members of our faith community. Children meet with their age group, as well as spend time singing together in Hosanna Choir. **\*\*This Sunday, all children and youth will meet in room 208 for craft projects. We will meet in our individual classrooms next week\*\***

- 3-year-old/Pre-K, and Kindergarten
- 1st & 2nd grade
- 3rd, & 4th grade
- 5th & 6th grade

- Room 205/206**
- Room 207**
- Room 209**
- Room 208**

**Youth Faith Studies** – Our 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. **\*\*This Sunday, all children and youth will meet in room 208 for craft projects. We will meet in our individual classrooms next week\*\***

- Confirmation (7th-8th grade)
- Jr High & Sr High (8th-12th grade) -

- Room 108**
- Room 114**

**We invite all parents and caregivers of all children and youth to meet in room 209 from 9:35-10:35am for a Vision Meeting with Deacon Bogart Nomad, Director of Children and Youth Ministries.**

**Adult Classes—Sunday morning, 9:35 –10:35 am**

**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. This week we will begin studying *The 4th Gospel* by Bishop Spong. **Adult Education Library**

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

## Spiritual Practices @First

**All are welcome to join in at any time—no cost involved**

- ◆ Taizé Worship—1<sup>st</sup> Saturday monthly, 5:00 pm, Mead Chapel
- ◆ Morning Yoga—Mondays, 9:30 am, Mead Chapel
- ◆ Tai Chi For Balance— Is on a winter break. We will return in 2019!
- ◆ Meditation—Wednesdays, 12:00 pm, Mead Chapel
- ◆ Earth Vigil—Third Wednesday monthly, 6:30 pm, Mead Chapel
- ◆ Zumba— Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, the Commons
- ◆ Evening Yoga—Thursdays, 6:15 pm, Mead Chapel
- ◆ Centering Prayer—Sundays, 9:35 am, Mead Chapel
- ◆ Outdoor Labyrinth, Garden & Gazebo—24/7

**Sunday, December 2, 2018**

**10:50 am**



**PRELUDE**

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

John Leavitt

**WELCOME**

Rev. Kent H. Little

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

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Dr. Cynthia Lindenmeyer

God of all our beginnings, of all our expectations, of all our anticipations. We pause, and we wait. We wait for the birth of Christ, letting go of demands life puts on our path.

**We yearn for the gift of stillness, embracing the movement of hope.**

God of time, who comes in the fullness of our lives and confronts us with a deep shattering of the way we have settled into the paradigms of our day. May we open our hearts to receive.

**We yearn for the gift of stillness, embracing the movement of hope.**

God of eternities and immediacy, we wait not sentimentally but with an excitement to see history being made! May we be ready for the birth of the past, present, and future and experience the dimensional transformation of Christ-mas.

**We yearn for the gift of stillness, embracing the movement of hope.**

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;  
 if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet  
 what I can I give him: give my heart.

**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 hope. May it illuminate the sacred in our waiting and open our eyes to the sacrament of our season.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“People Look East”

Red hymnal #202

**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**

Today is a gift from God.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Dr. Cynthia Lindenmeyer

**RESPONSE**

“Star-Child”

(vs. 5) Black hymnal #2095

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**SCRIPTURE**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

May we be mindful of the Spirit who speaks here and now...

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Kent H. Little

Mr. Rogers' Christmas: The Gifts of the Season—Hope

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

**And also with you.**

**BECAUSE WE GIVE**

**An Offering of Music**

Chancel Choir

“Every Valley”

John Ness Beck

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain made low, and the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Amen.

**\*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.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Black hymnal #2257a-d

**Prayers of Concern**

To the family of Emogene Whitten, as her grandson, Tony Day, transitioned to new life. The white candle on the communion table celebrates his life.

Hospitalized this week: Deborah Mabry-Strong, Randy King

This we pray.

**Loving God, hear our prayers.**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving**

This we pray.

**Loving God, we give you thanks.**

**Blessing of Elements**

**Sung Lord's Prayer**

The Cantor will sing a phrase and the Congregation will repeat it.

**GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

All present, anyone and everyone, are invited to share in this holy sacrament.

Gluten-free bread is available by request at the front on the piano side.

During Communion, the congregation will sing “What Feast of Love”

What feast of love is of-fered here, what  
 What light of truth is of-fered here, what  
 What wine of love is of-fered here, what

ban-quet come from heav-en? What food of ev-er-  
 cov-e-nant from heav-en? What hope of ev-er-  
 crim-son drink from heav-en? What stream of ev-er-

last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?  
 last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv-en?  
 last-ing life, what pre-cious love is giv-en?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav-en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine from heav-en.

O taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!  
 O see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv-en!  
 O taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!

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**COMMUNITY IN ACTION**