

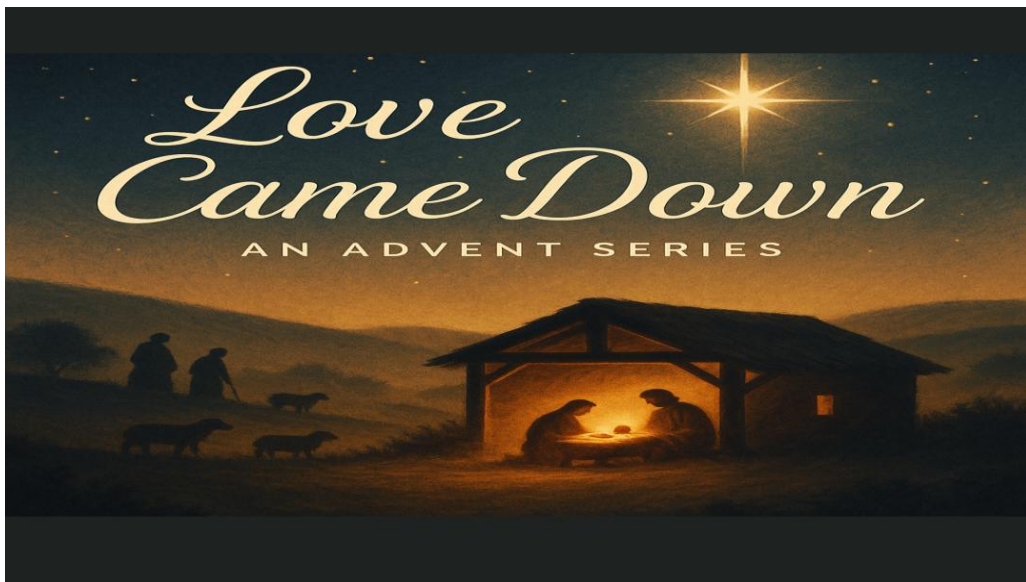
Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Luke 1:26-38

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with

you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God." Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." Then the angel left her.



November 30, 2025 9:00 am

**Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

*GATHERING SONG

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

WELCOME & GREETING

KEEP OUR STORY GROWING UPDATE

*SONG

Come Emmanuel

LIGHTING OUR FIRST ADVENT CANDLE – HOPE

Romans 5:1-5

Unison Prayer: When shall it be, O God, that the wilderness shall blossom as the rose and the rough places be made plain? When shall your glory arise among your people? When shall strife and warfare cease and your love reign? Renew our hope and quiet our fears. Revive us in this time of worship. O God of promise, visit us and lighten our darkness, we pray. Amen

SUNG RESPONSE *In This Time of Waiting* Words on
the Screens

In this time of waiting we will sing of hope. Hope in Jesus who alone makes whole. In our expectation we will sing of hope; hearts of longing. We will sing of hope.

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN

Children Pre-K through 5th grade may go to Children's Church. Pre-K through 2nd grade go to the Nursery and 3rd through 5th grade go to classroom E-8.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God of Advent hope, how hard it is to wait for you. We long for the stillness of a holy night and eagerly want to feel again the hope that the birth of the Christ child brings. We look forward to your coming, yet dread it at the same time for there is much that is revealed in the light of your presence. We have harbored resentments, cherished possessions, ignored others and defended our errors. Loving God, may your coming in Jesus bring a lasting hope and a restored life. Teach us to wait hopefully and expectantly as we make our silent confessions (silent confession).

SUNG RESPONSE

Isn't He

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

In the Bleak Midwinter

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

Hope in an Unlikely Place

*SONG

Hope Was Born this Night

A TIME OF PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND OUR BLESSINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Song of Thanksgiving

Mary did you know

*CLOSING BLESSING

*CLOSING SONG

Do You Hear What I Hear

POSTLUDE

Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Pastor
Lisa Wink, Treasurer, Worship Assistant
Jason & Lindsay Pothof Family, Advent Readers
Daniel Taylor, Dir. of Family Ministry, Children's Time
RiversEdge Praise Team, Music

INVITATIONS TO ACTION

If you are not already receiving our Monday Devotional Word of the Week or our weekly Thursday email that outlines what is happening in the life of this faith community please reach out to the church office so we can get you on this email list at office@sunprairieumc.org or 837-5554.

Advent Study--Down to Earth

This Advent study by United Methodist pastors Mike Slaughter and Rachel Billups will focus on the love, humility, lifestyle and obedience of Jesus that came down to earth at Christmas. The study will challenge us to explore what the Christmas miracle means to each of us.

Join us on Wednesdays from noon to 1 pm in the Chapel: December 3, 10 and 17, or on Sundays from 10:15-11 am in the Chapel: Today, December 7, 14 and 21. Pastor Jenny will teach the Wednesday class and Pastor Brad and Amanda Hinthorn will teach the Sunday class. The Friday Grace Cafe small group will also be offering this Advent study from 9:30-11 am. Contact the church office to sign up for a class and reserve a book 608/837-5554 or office@sunprairieumc.org.

Spirit of Giving

SPUMC is again partnering with Sunshine Place in purchasing 130 Christmas gifts for children from underprivileged families. The value of each gift is to be between \$40-50 each. We will have a tag on the tree for each child and on each tag will be the child's age, gender, gift wish and a number.

The tags are available on the Christmas tree in the Narthex. You may choose a tag (or 2 or 3) and then you MUST sign it out with the volunteers at the table next to the tree. All gifts are due back, no later, by Sunday, December 7.

When you return the gift, you MUST again record it with the volunteers at the table next to the tree. Each returned gift must be in a bag with the child's tag securely attached. Do not wrap the gift.

The youth are looking forward to being "personal shoppers" for those who wish to participate, but are unable to shop themselves. Daniel and the youth will do the shopping for you. You may choose a tag(s) or have someone choose a tag(s) for you. You may give cash or check (made payable to SPUMC with Spirit of Giving written in the memo line) along with the child's tag to Chris in the church office or give to the volunteers at the table on Sunday mornings. If you MAIL your check and tag to the church, please make sure it arrives no later than Wednesday, December 3. Thank you for your generosity. We are truly an amazing church.

Food Pantry Concert

Join the Sun Prairie Area Chorus and other choirs from the area to raise money for the Sun Prairie Emergency Food Pantry on Friday, December 5th at 7pm at Our Saviors Lutheran Church. This event is one of the pantry's biggest fundraisers of the year. Feel the joy of the holidays by experiencing uplifting music while supporting an amazing cause!

Live Nativity December 13th from 5:30-7 pm

Journey with Mary and Joseph to the stable in Bethlehem and witness the miracle of The First Christmas. Drive through with a cup of hot chocolate and look at scenes vividly brought to life with live animals and members of the Sun Prairie United Methodist Church.