



North Madison Congregational Church

Second Sunday in Advent ✦ December 4, 2022

10:00am Hybrid Worship

License number: #738900-A

Welcome!

*Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are safe and welcome here.*

10:01 Welcome

Rev. Dr. Heather Arcovitch, *pastor*
Melissa Blundon, *deacon*

Mission Moment Linda Juliani, *Minister of Music*: Called to Care, Uganda

Advent Gathering Litany

Ethan F., Junior Deacon

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Megan and Brian Lee

The second candle is lit.

An Introduction to Sophia Wisdom

Proverbs 8:22-31

Centering Time

We shift into simply being with God, silently

As we root ourselves in prayer.

Rest in God's loving presence, take a deep breath, let it out, and reflect...

Centering Anthem

"May Your Roots Go Deep"

David Kantz, III

Chancel Choir

Ann Clemmons, *Violin*

Carol Luckenbach, *Finger Cymbals*

Children's Story

Sue Timony Hall, *Minister of Faith Formation*

Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 11:1-10, *excerpted*

Anthem “A Shoot Shall Come Forth” Chancel Choir
Richard Horn

Gospel Reading Matthew 3:1-12, *excerpted*

Reflection Heather

Offering Our Tithes & Gifts

Offertory Anthem “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” Chancel Choir
arr. John Helgen Ann Clemmons, *Tenor Recorder*
Roberta Hanlon, *Chimes*
Carlisle Wildeman, *Rain Stick*

Introduction to Communion

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

*This version of the Lord’s Prayer is adapted from Parker J. Palmer
and inspired by Matthew 6: 9-13 and Luke 11: 2-4.*

**Heavenly Mothering God,
Holy and blessed is your sacred name.
We pray for your time of peace to come,
we pray that your good will be done;
heaven and earth becoming one.
Give us this day the nourishment we need;
give bread to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
from each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
beyond the disconnect of our days.
Come swiftly; come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
forever your name is *All in One*.**

*~ Adapted from **Spirituality and Practice**.*

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/practices/wartime.php?id=15807>

Sharing the Meal

Communion Prayer “Mary’s Magnificat” Luke 1:46-55

Let us pray now with Mary,

“With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

⁴⁷ **In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior.**

⁴⁸ **God has looked with favor on this humble servant.**

Look! From now on, everyone will consider me blessed
49 because the eternal one has done great things for me.
Holy is God's name.
50 God shows mercy to everyone,
from one generation to the next,
who honors God as God.
51 God has shown strength with God's arm.
And scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations.
52 God has pulled the powerful down from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly.
53 God has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty-handed.
54 God has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
remembering mercy,
55 just as God promised to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to Abraham's descendants forever."
Today, I claim my part in this inheritance, and I am grateful and renewed. Amen.

*Hymn "Mary, Woman Of The Promise"

New Century Hymnal #123

Mary, woman of the promise
Vessel of your people's dreams:
Through your open, willing spirit
Waters of God's goodness streamed.
Mary, song of holy wisdom;
sung before the world began!
Faithful to the Word within you
as you bore God's wondrous plan.

Mary, morning star of justice;
mirror of the Radiant Light;
in the shadows of life's journey
be a beacon for our sight.

Mary, model of compassion;
wounded by your offspring's pain:
when our hearts are torn by sorrow,
teach us how to love again.

Mary, woman of the Gospel;
humble home for treasured seed:
help us to be true disciples,
bearing fruit in word and deed.

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Announcements

Please read your weekly email. We will highlight just a few.

Benediction

Blessings of Shalom *All Who are Masked May Sing*

*We sing Shalom twice: once in prayer for the world;
once to bless one another.*

Shalom to you, now, shalom, my friends.

May God's full mercies be with you, my friends.

In all your living, through all your loving,

Christ be your shalom! Christ be your shalom!

Words Elise S. Eslinger, © 1983; Music Traditional Spanish melody;

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***Sending**

One: Our worship has ended.

Many: **Now our service begins!**

Postlude

Announcements

Advent Worship

December 11 – Christmas Pageant – Come and be a part of retelling the sacred story of Jesus' birth...and let your inner thespian shine! Willing worshippers are invited to choose a paper bag containing a role and a costume and act out the part as it comes up in the pageant-telling. All ham-bones welcome!

December 18 – Choir Sunday—beautiful offerings by our choir

Christmas Eve 4:30 pm – Family Christmas service

Christmas Eve 10:00 pm – Candlelight Lessons & Carols

Christmas Day – 10:00 am – a festive virtual-only service – with carols and Christmas magic you can join from wherever you are.

Longest Night – December 21 at 7:00 pm – a quiet service of readings & candles. Also called Blue Christmas, on this winter solstice night, we hold space for grief and those experiencing sadness or loneliness in this holiday season.

A Christmas Carol with Jennie Munro: December 18 at 3pm Jennie is a wonderful, sought-after storyteller and this production is sure to delight! Enjoy carolers during intermission over mulled cider and Christmas cookies. Suggested donation for this NMCC holiday fundraiser is \$20. \$10 for children.

Flowers for Sunday Worship: See the signup sheet in the hallway or contact Jackie to sponsor flowers.

Host Goodies for Coffee Hour: See signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall hallway or contact Jackie.

Grocery Cards: are available for purchase during coffee hour from Big Y, Roberts, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop. This is an NMCC fundraiser.

Called to Care Uganda Well Project. We continue our journey to raise \$7500 needed to bring clean water to the 896 people of Amidakan Village in Kalaki, Uganda. As of 11/27 we raised \$2230! Join us in Fellowship Hall today! Linda Juliani

Columbus House – We will be collecting new, wrapped hats, gloves, socks and \$10 Dunkin gift cards. We will also be making breakfast, singing and distributing gifts Christmas Eve morning. Roberta Hanlon

Food Pantry Offering: Cereal and pasta for Clinton and canned tuna, tomatoes, and chili for Madison are especially welcome. Holly Francis

Book Club - The NMCC Book Club is reading a new book: *God and the Gay Christian* by Matthew Vine and will meet to discuss it December 6th at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Peter Meier.

Pancake Breakfast with Santa - Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa sponsored by our own Circle Nursery School will take place on Saturday December 10 from 8:00 – 10:30 am. This fun event is open to the entire community.

Ahavah: The Story of Christmas: Dancing to End Hunger with our own Mary-Amma B. at Middletown High School December 3 & 4. www.theahavahstory.com/tickets. Profits benefit St. Vincent de Paul.

KidzConnection Presents *Les Misérables* – with our own Grace McMillian Young Eponine at the Academy School in Clinton December 3, 9 and 10 at 7:00 pm and December 10 at 12:00 pm. See December newsletter for link to purchase tickets or Erica McMillian.

ABC Concert: Our own Lucy Alletzhauser is in SYSO and will be performing at this Sunday's ABC Concert at 4pm at FCC Madison.