

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Indicates, please stand if able.

Christmas Day December 25, 2022. 9 am.
Liturgist: Katrina McGillivray

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS LIGHT David & Rita Casper
Reader: In our own lives We are seeking light. In our neighborhoods We are seeking light. In our families
We are seeking light. In our work We are seeking light. In Grace We are seeking light. In our
nation We are seeking light. In our world We are seeking light. Seek and you shall find Knock
and the door will be opened Ask and it will be given to you
**People: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world. May we have eyes to see you and ears to hear
you. Come into our world today. Amen.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP
L: Welcome to this Celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ.
P: We are happy to be here today.
L: We have traveled far to get to this point.
P: And all the way God has guided us.
L: Praise be to God who has given us the true Light.
P: May that Light shine on us, in us and through us now and forever. AMEN.

*OPENING PRAYER
**The celebration of Christmas has just begun. Even though many of us have gone through the gift
giving and receiving, have feasted with family and friends, there is yet another gift which has been
given. You, O Loving God, have wrapped the gift of your Son Jesus Christ around our lives. The
light of your love through him is shining brightly. It is not a harsh light, but a multitude of bright
colors that remind us of the wondrous ways you love us. Open our hearts and spirits as we hear the
words of your holy scriptures, and the beautiful music. Bring us to you with such joy that it will
seem as though our feet aren’t even touching ground. AMEN.**

*OPENING HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful #234

CHILDREN'S TIME

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Gracious God, you have sent your Son to us to show us the way. Even when we have turned our

**backs, followed our own paths, you offer us Light. Forgive us when we are so willful and stubborn.
Forgive us when we think more about ourselves and our comforts than we think of reaching out to
others. Remind us again that Jesus witnessed to us the Light of Love that serves, guides and heals.
Thank you for loving us so much that you would give us this most precious gift. And when we again
falter and fail, lift us again with your gentle touch. Pour the Light into our lives once more, that
finally, we will fully understand the power and depth of your love for us. AMEN.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE
People of God, feel the presence of God right now, in this place, warming your hearts, forgiving your
fears and strife; preparing you for joyful service. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are beloved and forgiven.
AMEN.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Shon

THE LORD’S PRAYER (In Unison)
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS

SPECIAL MUSIC Peace Carol Matt, Amanda, & Greg Lang

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” #95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-15

*HYMN OF PRAISE Away in a Manger #217

MESSAGE Trust God Rev. Shon

HOLY COMMUNION #12-15

CLOSING HYMN Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #240

*BENEDICTION Rev. Shon

POSTLUDE Matt Schluntz

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:8-15 (NIV)

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Large Poinsettia on the altar is in loving memory of Carl & Muriel Lind, from Mike & Betty Lind.

PRAYER FAMILIES: Pray for all those who need healing, or have health issues. Specifically, pray for Clarine Nelson who is struggling with Cancer, Karen Dolsey and others. Also continue to pray for those in Ukraine and other areas of the world where people are suffering.

MISSION OUTREACH: Has learned that the Friends' Food Shelf needs canned vegetables, canned fruit and peanut butter. There is a box in the Gathering Area for your donations. The box will remain in the Gathering Area through December 4. This is a good season to share with those who need food items. Please be sure that your donations are not out-of-date.

UMC of WISCONSIN’S VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION: Is putting together a group to go to Marion Alabama, February 4-12, 2023 to partner with a Marion group to do home repair. More information available on the mission outreach bulletin board. If interested contact Charlene Galston, 715-896-9055.

SCRIP CARDS: When you are thinking of ideas for gift giving or personal use, consider Scrip cards. Stop at the gathering area on Sundays or call Marcia at 715-284-3346

USHERS/GREETERS:

THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:

Saturday: New Year’s Eve Come & Go Communion Service 4-6 pm

**Black River Falls
United Methodist Church**

MC Mission Statement:

"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

PASTOR	Rev. Inwha Shon
ORGANIST	Matthew Schluntz
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Amanda Lang

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