Welcome to Worship

PRELUDE......"Low How a Rose Ever Blooming" G. Young

WELCOME AND SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Awaken to a season of anticipation.

All: God is offering peace within and among us.

Pastor: How good it is to gather in God's House.

All: God draws us together for this time of worship.

Pastor: Let us seek the highest and best for each other.

All: We will follow in the paths where God leads.

OPENING SONG......."O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
Hymn #245 (red)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES.....

Christina Breen (she/her) and Kelly Pelon (she/her) and the Bendert Family

CHILDREN'S MOMENT......Ruth Lee (she/her)

PASSING THE PEACE

UNISON PRAYER

You have wakened us from sleep and led us to this place, wondrous God. Now let us feel your presence as we encounter your Word. We give you thanks for giving us an identity as relatives and friends of Christ. In this season, we remember your unexpected appearance among us in the birth of a child. You make yourself known to us again and again. May we know you now. Amen.

Janet Overbeek (she/her)

SERMON....."In the Days to Come"
Pastor Dan Furman (he/him)

UCC STATMENT OF FAITH

PRAYER SONG......"Watcher, Tell Us of the Night"
Hymn #103 (black)

OFFERTORY....."The King Shall Come"

Beck

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG......"Now Bless the God of Israel"
Hymn #110 (black)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE....."How Brightly Beams the Morning Star"
Bach-Schreiner



THANK YOU

Our musician this morning is Pat Menkveld (she/her). Thank you for sharing your music ministry with us!

DO-OVER

Due to the cancellation of worship last week we are going to try to incorporate last week's events into today's events as well. This means that we have several events today:

- Noisy Sunday we will invite you to donate loose change for missions to be collected just prior to our children's moment
- Birthday dinner potluck after worship today for our November and December birthdays
- Elf Workshop where children of all ages are invited to create Christmas crafts.

ICOMMUNION

We will be celebrating communion today. You do not need to be a member of the church to participate. <u>Everyone</u> is welcome to the table.

PONSETTIA ORDERS

It's time to order poinsettia plants for our Christmas celebrations to come in December. The cost for each plant is \$20. Color options are red, white, pink, marble, or jingle bell (white flecks on red) colors. You may order them in honor or memory of a loved one - or just because. Orders are due by December 14.

EVENTS FOR ADVENT

Our Advent season includes the following events:

- Christmas Pageant on December 14
- Christmas Eve celebration at 7pm on December 24

HAND2HAND

For December we are requesting the following food items for Hand2Hand: small jars of peanut butter, rice or noodle mixes, small cans of chicken, ramen noodles, chicken noodle soup, applesauce cups, instant oatmeal packets, hot chocolate, and pop tarts/toaster pastries.

PRAYERS

Remember our elderly and home bound, anyone facing illness this morning, the families of Palestine, and all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Ruth Broderick, Carol Sovereign, Sydney VanWingen, Al Wooton, Paul Lidgard, Kendra Simon, Ken Haynes, Don and Bobbi Thompson, and Lakeview UCC.

Land Acknowledgement

We, the members of Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ, acknowledge that our church resides on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabek, the People of the Three Fires: Odawa, Bodewadomi, and Ojibwe for which they were not duly compensated. We honor their historic and current sacred commitment to the land of our Creator.

Open & Affirming Statement

Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming church. We celebrate our human family's diversity of race, age, cultural background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, family structure, education, faith history, economic status, marital status, spiritual journey, and life circumstances. Aided by this God-given gift of diversity, we strive to reflect God's unconditional love to all creation, and we affirm that all people are created in God's image. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ. We believe that God is still speaking and as Jesus prayed, one day we will all be one.

We recognize that the universal church has at times rejected difference and denied God's promises for itself and others. We believe we can love alike, even though we may not think alike. So, we boldly proclaim, "Welcome, ALL who seek God's lifegiving grace. Come as you are, so together, we will make a world of difference.



December 7, 2025



Rev. Dr. Daniel Furman, Senior Pastor (he, him)



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No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!