

Morning Worship and Celebration

Please see an usher for large print bulletins & hymnals or hearing devices.

Arvada United Methodist Church

Third Sunday in Advent

December 14, 2008

Prelude 7:45 *Carols* Morning Bells, Marion Burnham, director
9:30 *Prelude on "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"* arr. Barr

***Call to Worship** (In Unison)

Gracious God, we hear the promise of the coming of Jesus into a manger and into our hearts and homes. Bless our Advent waiting; fill our worship with anticipation. Dedicate us to prepare the Way by lifting up the valleys in our lives and making smooth the rough places of others. Let us worship this morning with deep and joyful faith.

***Hymn of Praise** *O Come All Ye Faithful* vss.1, 3 & 6 #234

Welcome and Community Focus

During Community Focus please sign the fellowship book in the pew, pass it down your row and back so we can then greet people by name.

Lighting the Third Advent Candle – The Candle of Joy

Hymn *Like a Child* verse 1 TFWS #2092

Morning Prayer (unison)

O God, again and again in the scriptures, the prophets, the psalmists, and writers call the people to rejoice. The call to joy weaves its way through the history of our ancestors. We are people who come from joy. And yet, when we look into the eyes of those around us we often fail to see each others joy. Lift us, O God, from the joy-numbing stories that surround us. Lift us, O God, through the places of pain and sorrow and fear. Lift us, O God, to the great story of joy that we claim. Lift us, O God to a new path. Lift us, O God. Amen.

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, Lord's Prayer

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.

***Hymn** *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* #218

Offertory Invitation

Whether our life circumstance is rising or falling, we recognize that stewardship, like prayer, is a way of life.

Offertory Music 7:45 *Pat-a-pan* Thompson
Morning Bells

***Doxology:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* #94
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Offertory Prayer**

***Ritual of Friendship**

Special Music 7:45 *Joy to the World* McChesney
Morning Bells, Marion Burnham, director

Scripture 1st Thessalonians 5:16-24

7:45 Sermon *Rejoice Always?*

9:30 Children's Christmas Pageant

***Hymn** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230

***Benediction** *Joy in the Morning* TFWS #2284

Postlude *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Mansfield

*Please stand as you choose.

Assisting in Worship: Marsha Clark, Dave Maxwell, Sydney Vogel, Carolyn Cline, Clara Klein, Marion Burnham, Rev. Rusty Butler, Rev Valerie Oden

Acolytes: Caleb Christen

Welcome Center: Shirley Simons

If you are new to the community or this church, **WELCOME**. Please sign the fellowship book so we can send you a copy of our newsletter, *The Circuit Rider*. Stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex to pick up brochures describing the programs and activities AUMC offers and a copy of our newsletter.

Next Sunday's Special Music:

7:45 Good Morning Choir
9:30 Bronze Ringers
Carolyn Cline and Dianne Cuadrado – piano duets
Sing Joy to the World
Chancel Choir, Trumpets, and Bronze Ringers
Sydney Vogel, director

Sian Up In The Center

Purchase **King Soopers & Safeway certificates.**

Greeters are needed for January.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The poinsettias that grace our sanctuary will be delivered to those needing our care and concern. Thank you to those who donated the plants and those who deliver them. Your generosity makes this meaningful ministry possible.

Greeters:

7:45 & 9:30 - Allen and Sandy Campbell

Youth Activities

Sunday School

Nursery 7:45 & 9:30 room 300

Preschool room 304

Kindergarten room 305

1st-2nd Grades room 205

3rd Grade room 203

4th-6th Grades room 306

Junior High (7th-8th) room 209

Senior High (9th-12th) room 206

UMYF 7th-12th

Today: Christmas Traditions, 6:30-8 pm

Next Sunday: Attend the Candlelight Service and support fellow youth in the Orchestra, 7 pm

Our Sunday Morning Worship times have changed to 7:45 and 9:30 am.

Coffee Fellowship in the Center is from 8:45-9:30 am and 10:30-11:00 am.

Children & Youth Church School is during the 9:30 hour.

Nursery provided at both 7:45 and 9:30.

TODAY, December 14

Christmas Pageant, during 9:30 am service

Holiday Orchestra Rehearsal, 5 pm

This Week: Dec. 15-Dec. 20

Meals on Wheels: Mon-Fri, 10 am

Lite Fitness: Tues & Thurs, 8:30-9:30 am

Yoga: Mon & Thurs, 6:00-7:00 pm

KDD: Mon-Fri, 9:00-11:30 am

Mon: **Visitation Team, 10 am**
Bronze Ringers, 6:15 pm

Tues: **Morning Bells, 8 am**
Hannah Circle, 9:15 am
Care Team, 1 pm

Toastmasters, 6:30 pm

Mary Martha Circle, 7 pm

Wed: ESL, 9 am & 6 pm

Brown Bag Bible Study, noon

Worship Committee, 6:30 pm

Financial Peace University, 7 pm

Chancel Choir, 7 pm

NA, 7 pm

Thurs: Esther Circle, 9:15 am

Elizabeth Circle, 9:15 am

Arvada Voices, 5:30 pm

Fri: **Friday Morning Study, 7am**
Caregiver Support, 9 am

Sat: **Holiday Basket sorting, 9 am**
Senior Game Day, 1 pm

NEXT SUNDAY, December 21

Hunger Sunday

Candlelighting Service, 7 pm

AUMC Opportunities

Alternative Gift Mini-Market: Has Christmas shopping gotten you down? Why not finish up your gift list by visiting the Alternative Gift Mini-Market table in the Center? Buy a share of any of the featured global or local charities and receive an insert describing your gift. When you describe your gift to the recipient, you honor both that individual and the needs of the world. The Mini-Market also will be available next Sunday.

Jeffco Action Center is experiencing an increase in the number of people needing help in our community. Right now, their much needed items are: blankets and food, especially soup, tuna, canned protein and boxed mac & cheese. Bring food to the church for our monthly donation on the first Sunday of the month or deliver directly to Jeffco Action Center at 8755 W 14th Ave in Lakewood. Thank you in advance for sharing with these families in our own community.

Poinsettia Plants: We now need people willing to share a little time & deliver poinsettias through Dec 28. Either note this in the fellowship book on Sunday, sign up on a sheet in the Center, or call Sherry Marti, 303-431-6005 ext 227.

CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY: Help a family from Foster, Lawrence, and Russell Elementary Schools. A family can be adopted by an AUMC family, a UMW Circle or other church activity group, or even your neighbors. We ask that an article of clothing and a toy be provided to each child, and a present (often a gift card) given to each parent. The schools will provide lists of wanted/needed items and sizes. Please contact Melinda Reed (303-421-9414/mkhreed@comcast.net) to volunteer. If you cannot take an entire family (usually 3-6 people), we will pair you with others who wish to help.

Christmas Baskets: Did you miss your opportunity to help out with our Thanksgiving Baskets? Never fear Christmas is almost here. We need your help to provide Christmas meals to families in need from local schools. Please pick up food tags in the Center or Narthex and bring your generous contribution to Room 209 by Thursday, December 18. We also need help assembling boxes on Saturday, December 20 at 9:00 am. Please contact Rebekah Fisher, rbuttles@hotmail.com, or 303-420-8102, for more information.

NEED A CHRISTMAS GIFT? UMW has several cookbooks available. Cost is \$10.00 and may be purchased in the Center or from a UMW Board Member.

Plan Ahead! Contributions for the calendar year 2008 must be postmarked by December 31, 2008 to be claimed on your 2008 tax return. We will post all receipts postmarked by that date to your 2008 statement unless otherwise indicated. Any contributions received with a later postmark but dated Dec. 31, 2008 will be posted to the 2009 calendar year.

Arvada Voices will be moving! After Christmas break, we will begin practicing on Sunday mornings at 10:45 - 11:45 in the choir room. This change will begin January 11. If you have any questions, please call Heidi 303-421-5135 ext. 230 or email giggles_ha@hotmail.com

Wreaths and Garland: Fresh wreaths and garland are for sale this morning outside the narthex. There are extras for purchase this morning if you didn't preorder. Your purchases support Kids' Discovery Days Preschool serving families in our church and community.

Singles Workshop Sat., Jan. 17, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm: Letting Go Workshop - An interactive, Christian-based class that helps singles heal from the past and move forward with more confidence and valuable information that will positively affect future dating experiences. All singles, never-married, divorced or widowed welcome. Interactive format: small groups, visual aids, music, humor & scripture. Cost: \$59 (includes snacks, lunch & materials). Register: Melody Ellenberger, Facilitator, at 303-750-2208, or visit www.SinglesWorkshops.com.

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