



Good Samaritan welcomes and affirms all persons regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race or socioeconomic background. We seek to reconcile any differences that divide us.

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E-News

Email cindy@good.org to receive the weekly e-news.



Find us on:

Prayer Chain

Email jim@good.org for prayer requests or to receive the weekly prayer chain email.

Thank you...

Ushers: Jane Heimerl, Dean Kraus **AV Techs:** Beth Hutson, Noemi Dooley

Altar Flowers: from Mary Pryor, in celebration of family Advent birthdays.

Liturgist: Jane Heimerl

Special Music: Homeward Bound - Scott Card, Brad Carlin, Josh Carlin, Nate Carlin, Emma Hutson

Advent Wreath Lighting: The Ferrell/Schwartzbauer Family - Lynne Ferrell, Mark and Hudson Schwartzbauer

Nursery: Julie Kang, Shelly Kang **Fellowship Hosts:** Brian and Claudia Boysen

WORSHIP
10:00 AM

December 21, 2025
Advent 4

Our Vision

Inspiring
Joyful Faith

Building a
Loving
Community

Serving
Neighbors
Near and Far

Today's
Scripture

Isaiah 7:10-16
Matthew 1:18-25



Who we are. What we do.



Good Samaritan United Methodist Church
5730 Grove Street, Edina, Minnesota 55436
(952) 929-0049 ~ good.org

WELCOME !

Nursery care is available for ages 6 weeks-3 years.

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available from the ushers.

Hearing assist devices are available at the sound booth.

Thank you for supporting our ministries! Offering plates are available by the Sanctuary doors as you exit or scan this QR code to give securely online.



Please join us for refreshments in Fellowship Hall after worship.

*Standing or sitting.

PRELUDE "Let's Make a Baby King" WYNONNA

Once upon a Christmas morning, there was a pretty little baby boy,
It seems like I remember sadness mingling in the joy,
For Mary saw the future, and the sadness it would bring,
And that's when Mary started crying when she heard the angels sing:

Chorus: Let's make a baby king -- Let's make him Lord of all,
Let's give him everything - Let's make a baby king!

Now, you remember little King David; he's the little baby's kin,
He's cousin to the man named John, and I know you all remember him,
And John said, "Let's get ready - the herald angels sing,
'Cause this old world sure needs to know the good news that I bring!" **Chorus**

Now we could use a revolution -- the world is turned upside down,
We need a new direction -- we've got to turn this whole thing around,
And we need a Lord to guide us -- teach us wrong and right,
And we need a lamb to lead us into the land of light! **Chorus**

GREETING & WELCOME

*HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" UMH 240

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Across the universe creation waits
All: for the prophets to speak their words of expectation and their vision of renewal

May we gather round them today once more
and let their longing grip us and lead us into birth and blessing

So come now my friends this is the meeting place of
promise and prophecy
let us listen through the ancient words that we might be ready to hear a baby's cry

HYMN "Lead Me, Guide Me" TFWS 2214

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

One: Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary's womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy;

God's love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand;
God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.

All: With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world's judgment.

We light this candle of love as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.

CHILDREN'S TIME Jan Russell

After Children's Time, children are invited to Sunday School in 200.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" R. RISHER BOYCE, ARR. THE JUDDS

Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem, shining afar through shadows dim,
Giving the light for those who long have gone,
Guiding the wise men on their way, unto the place where Jesus lay,
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem, shine on

Oh beautiful star the hope of light, guiding the pilgrims through the night,
Over the mountains 'til the break of dawn,
Into the land of perfect day, it will give out a lovely ray,
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem, shine on

Chorus: Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem
Shine upon us until the glory dawns,
Give us the lamp to light the way, unto the land of perfect day,
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem, shine on

Oh beautiful star the hope of rest, for the redeemed, the good and blessed,
Yonder in glory when the crown is won,
Jesus is now the star divine, brighter and brighter He will shine,
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem, shine on **Chorus**

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSVUE) The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "God With Us" Rev. Max Richter

*HYMN "All Earth is Waiting" UMH 210

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God*, 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.

(*Mother, Father, Creator, etc. - use the word that is most meaningful for you.)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

*HYMN "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" UMH 251

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen/We Three Kings"
ARR. BARENAKED LADIES & SARAH MCLACHLAN

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Saviour was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray,
O tidings of comfort and joy - comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father this blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name,
O tidings of comfort and joy -- comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

Chorus: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts, we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star **Chorus**

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign **Chorus**

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and sacrifice
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, worshipping God most high **Chorus**

Call to Worship: written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on *Mucky Paws* <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>. Retrieved from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Advent%204%20A>

Advent Wreath Liturgy: From *All the Earth is Waiting* – UMC Discipleship Ministries <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/toda-la-tierra-espera/christmas-eve-year-a-lectionary-planning-notes/christmas-eve-year-a-candle-lighting-liturgy>

Blessing: from Daily Prayer for All Seasons, posted online at the *The Deacon's Bench* <http://deaconsbench.wordpress.com/files-and-forms/>. Retrieved from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Advent%204%20A>



Good Sam Happenings

You're in a GOOD place to ... connect, grow, worship ...



Christmas Eve at Good Samaritan



4:00 p.m. Family-Friendly Worship

Join the animals as they journey to meet a special baby with the book *Lullaby for the King* by Nikki Grimes and Michelle Carlos. Our Homeward Bound band will provide the music.

9:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship

Come welcome the joy and wonder of Christmas Eve with the beauty of candlelight, favorite Christmas hymns, the Chancel Choir, and a string quartet. We will celebrate Holy Communion as we gather in hope on this special night.



Unanimous Merger Vote!



With joy we announce a unanimous merger vote from both Aldersgate and Good Samaritan this past Sunday! We look forward to beginning as the new Good Samaritan UMC on January 4! A light continental breakfast of mini muffins and fruit will follow the service. We'll also have pancake breakfast to celebrate following worship on January 11.



2025 Christmas Flowers

*Thank you to all who contributed to
the beauty of the Sanctuary this season.*

Nancy & Ted Ahrenholtz
in memory of Bill and Dorothy Fredendall

Pastor Jim and Janet Beard
in honor of family


Dale, Jr., Katie, and Shirley Braddock
in memory of Dale Braddock

Adele Brellenthin
in memory of William Brellenthin



Caroline Carlin
in memory of my parents, Morrie and Amy Tuttle

Natalie Cramer
in memory of Bob and Jeanne Cramer

Lynne Ferrell
in memory of Lily Grace Schwartzbauer,
Nancy Sutherland and Barb Schwartzbauer



Carol Gottesman
in memory of Irving Gottesman,
Betty Boysen, and Gary Applen



Leigh Hamersten
in memory of Hub, Helen, and Ron Kron

Gerry Hartman

Judith Hillger

Mike and Beth Hutson
in honor of peace on earth

Sarah Kumagai

Mary and Mac Lewis
in memory of our son, Mckenzie, and our parents

Charisse and David Litteken
in memory of David's mother, Lea Litteken,
and Charisse's father and stepfather,
Marvin Edwards and Damon Benedict

Pat and Len Olson
in memory of our parents,
Robert and Fern Olson, and Leonard and Eileen Olson

Jennifer Roach
in memory of Joe Roach

Lynda and Richard Seitz
in memory of our daughter, Kara



Charlotte Snook
in memory of Robert (Bob) Snook

