



# Van Meter UMC

*Nurturing children, supporting families, creating community  
as we share our faith.*



## **Miracle at Midnight**

**Presented by our Children's Sunday School**

*Sunday School 9:30 AM*



Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors

*Worship 10:45 AM*

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent ☪☪ December 9, 2019

## GATHERING AS COMMUNITY

Assistive listening devices are available from ushers.

### PRELUDE

### PASTOR'S GREETING:

Jesus Christ, the one who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place. As we celebrate our children, we worship the One who first came as a child in a manger and who became our savior.

### \*OPENING HYMN AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES:

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

Hymnal 224

WORDS OF WELCOME (*please sign and pass the friendship register*)

### \*PASSING THE PEACE:

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us greet one another with signs of peace and love.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE (*please be seated*)

Russell Family

ADVENT HYMN:

***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

(vs. 7) Hymnal 211

One: Last Sunday we lit the candle of hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill God's promises to us.  
(*light the candle of hope*)

One: The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. God's love is a perfect love. It holds nothing back. For "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life." Jesus shows us God's perfect love.

\*Indicates stand, if you are able. **Bold** indicates all join in. FWS indicates black *The Faith We Sing* book.

**ALL: This is what love is like:**

**Love is patient, love is kind  
and envies no one.**

**Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish.**

**Love is not quick to take offense,  
it keeps no records of wrongs,  
it does not gloat over other's troubles,  
but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true.**

**There is nothing that love cannot face;  
there is no limit to its faith, its hope, its endurance.**

One: Love never ends. We light the candle of love to remind us that Jesus brings us God's love and shows us how to love others.

*(light the candle of love)*

One: Love is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the love we find in Jesus Christ.

ADVENT CANDLE SONG: (tune: *Away in a Manger*)

**A candle is burning, a candle of love  
A candle to point us to heaven above  
A baby for Christmas a wonderful birth  
For Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.**

UNISON PRAYER:

**Thank you God for the love you give us.  
Help us today, and everyday to worship you,  
to hear your word,  
and to do your will by sharing your love with each other.  
In the name of the One who was born in Bethlehem. AMEN.**

SHARING OUR TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS:

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Pastor Linda

WE HEAR THE WORD

***Miracle at Midnight***

Directed by Heidi Myers and Stacy Peterson

|              |                   |             |                      |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Snitley:     | Luke Steinfeldt   | Angel 4:    | Lilly McCombs        |
| Townspople:  | Jay Jaspers       | Shepherd 1: | Christopher Peterson |
|              | Jax Jaspers       |             |                      |
|              | Erik Redmond      | Shepherd 2: | Hayden Hayes         |
| Mayor Mayer: | Austin Strong     | Shepherd 3: | Jacob Steinfeldt     |
| Reporter:    | Brianna Redmond   | Shepherd 4: | Harrison Strong      |
| Joseph:      | Zach Wemer        | Shepherd 5: | Jamesen Jaspers      |
| Mary:        | Emma Dea          | Wise Man 1: | Jameson Herman       |
| Sergeant     |                   | Wise Man 2: | Tyson                |
| Seraphim:    | Chloe Adams       |             | Schoenleber          |
| Angel 1:     | Isabella Sorensen | Wise Man 3: | Emerick Carlson      |
| Angel 2:     | Annika Strong     | Flash       |                      |
| Angel 3:     | Harper Peyton     | the Camel:  | Noah Champion        |

*Good Morning, Bethlehem!*

*Count Your Many Taxes*

*O Bethlehem, O Bethlehem (solo by Emma Dea)*

*Heavenly Hallelujahs*

*Holy Light Tonight!*

*Bethlehem Bound (solo by Noah Champion)*

*Miracle at Midnight*

*Finale/Good Morning Bethlehem, Miracle at Midnight Reprise*

\*CLOSING HYMN:

Hymnal 251

***Go Tell It on the Mountain***

BLESSING THE FOOD FOR THE SOUP LUNCHEON

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Please be seated for a moment of reflection.)*

Please stay for Soups & Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.

**Ministers:**

All the Church Members

**Organist/Choir Director:**

Mike Cooper

**Pianist:**

Melody Laake

**Ushers/Greeters:**

Ryan & Lindsay Dea  
Mark & Kelly Hayes

**Acolytes:**

Dea family

**Visual Tech:**

Lisa Hess

**Advent Readers:**

Russell family

**Nursery:**

JoAnne Keltner  
Jamie Cockburn

**Janitorial:**

Hoppes family

**Administrative Assistant:**

Shirlee Cagle

**Christian Education Dir.:**

Stacy Peterson

**Kids' Care Director:**

Beth Keyt

**Pastor:**

Linda Stueve  
490-2534 (cell)  
linda.stueve@vmumc.com

**District Superintendent:**

Heecheon Jeon

**Bishop:**

Laurie Haller

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