



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Waterloo IA 50702

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Second Sunday of Advent

Advent 
WEEK TWO
Peace

December 8, 2024

Worship Leader
Cliff Highnam

Mini Message
Brandyn Miller

Director of Music
Luke Overton

Senior Pastor
Brandyn Miller

Organist
Hudson Lourenço-Feld

Office Manager
Michelle Wolfe

Custodian
Kyle Lindaman

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

Prelude		Hudson Lourenço-Feld
Welcome and Announcements		Cliff Highnam
Advent Candle Lighting		Brock-Medhus Family
<p>Reader One: The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness" (Malachi 3:2b-3).</p> <p>Congregation: In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.</p> <p>Reader Two: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.</p>		
*Advent Song of Response	<i>Come, O Long Expected Jesus</i> (v. 2)	#122 (NCH - Black)
*Prayer of Invocation (responsive)		Cliff Highnam
<p>Holy and loving God, As we gather in this season of Advent, we long for the peace of Your Kingdom to break into our world. Teach us to pray as Jesus taught, with hearts trusting in Your will and seeking Your Kingdom above all.</p> <p>Let Your name be hallowed in this place and in our lives. May Your peace reign in us as we worship You, and may Your Spirit guide us to be peacemakers in the world around us. Come, Lord, and fill us with the hope and peace of Your promised Kingdom. Amen.</p>		
*Opening Hymn	<i>Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates</i>	#117 (NCH - Black)
Children's Message		Brandyn Miller
Choral Anthem		Chancel Choir
Invitation to Offertory		Cliff Highnam
Offertory		Hudson Lourenço-Feld
*Doxology		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
*Prayer of Dedication		Cliff Highnam

Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:5-13

Cliff Highnam

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Message

“Living in God’s Kingdom”

Brandyn Miller

***Hymn of Response**

Comfort, Comfort O My People

#101 (NCH - Black)

Joys & Concerns

Cliff Highnam

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer (unison)

Brandyn Miller

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Parting Hymn**

Keep Awake, Be Always Ready

#112 (NCH - Black)

***Benediction**

Brandyn Miller

Postlude

Hudson Lourenço-Feld

* Please Rise in Body or Spirit

*Sunday School for students up to 6th grade is provided after the Children’s Message.
We welcome your child(ren) to follow our Sunday School leaders to the
youth director’s office at the conclusion of the Children’s Message.*