

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

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January 7, 2024

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 7, 2024 – 10:00am

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR B

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

Good King Wenceslas
Traditional Carol

INTROIT:

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

You are God's beloved child. God is pleased with you.

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

God of power and majesty, you call forth creation, acting with strength and power. We praise you, as we stand in awe of your glory. You are mighty and powerful, and yet you care for us, pouring your Spirit of love upon us, recreating us for your work in the world. You are at work in our midst, offering a new day of hope and possibility. Open our hearts to the sound of your voice. Send the power of your Spirit among us, that we might become agents of your love and peace. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Listen for God's word . . .

calling forth creation.

Listen for God's word . . .

working with power and majesty.

Listen for God's word . . .

speaking blessings.

Listen for God's word . . .

in this moment.

*OPENING HYMN:

Spirit of God

TFWS 2117 (vss. 1,3,5)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

God, we are so tired. The holidays were a wonderful, busy time, as we celebrated the birth of Jesus. As we return to life without festive celebrations, we long to avoid feeling let down or discouraged. Teach us to listen for your gentle voice. Help us awaken to the quiet stirrings of new life in our hearts and in our communities. As your children, called into being by your word, remake and renew us, that we may follow you with joy. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You are God's child, God's beloved creation. Receive God's offer of new life and new beginnings.

HYMN OF WORSHIP

When Jesus Came to Jordan

UMH 252

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Over and over, God's creating Spirit blows through our lives. In our giving, we respond to this Spirit.

OFFERTORY:

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

CHIMES TRIO

Erica Kessler

Jan Rungren

Janie Kellermann

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

God of strength and glory, you created all that is. You continue to sustain the world with the power of your love. You give us life and hope, and with grateful hearts, we bring these gifts to you. May they bring forth your realm of peace for all peoples. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")

*GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 1:4-11

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter, beginning with the 4th verse...

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with[a] water, but he will baptize you with[b] the Holy Spirit." ⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ

SERMON:

"Becoming the People of God"
Pastor Audrey Rochet

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, UMH 13-15

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING IN UNISON

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN:

Shall We Gather at the River

UMH 723 (vss. 1,3,4)

*BENEDICTION:

May the God of love strengthen you to serve creation with joy. May God bless you with deep peace. Named as God's beloved, go forth, building new communities of blessing for others.

GOING FORTH:

Gentle Shepherd
by Bill and Gloria Gaither

Erica Kessler

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Pastor: Rev. Auderine Rochet

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Social Media: Dulce Maciel

Power Point: Janie Kellermann

Announcements

January 7, 2024

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Wednesdays Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.

For information about the **Spanish Bible Study** day and time call Pastor Audrey at (630) 670-3580

Good Samaritan Fund. Our Good Samaritan Fund is low. Money in this fund is used to help church members with financial assistance for housing, food and medical bills. If you would like to donate to boost this fund, please put your check in the collection plate. Make sure you put Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line. Your consideration to contribute to this fund is very much appreciated.

If you are able, please consider donating to our Good Samaritan Fund this Christmas.

Saturday Kids Club. Every Saturday from 10:30am to 12:45 pm.

The Centennial United Methodist Church Hispanic Ministry will be meeting in homes instead of having the Sunday services. If you know of anyone that is interested in having a Pastor visit, a service or bible study in their home in the Spanish language please let Pastor Audrey know.

Please join us after our Sunday worship service for **Coffee time**. If you would like to volunteer to help setup for coffee time or donate cookies you can sign up at the office reception desk.

The Chimes information for January 2024 is due by the 1st of January or as soon as possible.

Prairie North Leadership Training. We will gather to worship, connect and learn! **SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, at 9 a.m. 12 p.m. It will take place at Freeport: Harmony UMC (2600 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport).** Registration Fee: \$10/person \$25/church. For details see flyer in the church office board or go to <https://www.umcnic.org/calendar/prairie-north-leadership-training-2024>.

Order your free Covid test kits at <https://special.usps.com/testkits>.

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: *Art Huenkemeier.*

At Home: *Carol Risenhoover, Carol Waxler, Pat Nelson, Aida DeJesus.*

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Pat Nelson, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Jeff Palmer, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera.*

BIRTHDAYS

1/13 Ryan LeBeau

1/9 Carl Dean
1/9 Gabriel Mankarious
1/10 Tara Arencibia
1/12 Audrey Rochet
1/13 Max Garcia

Joys and Concerns

Dave Holland requests prayers for his sister Bev who had an MRI done. She's worried that she has signs of dementia. She is waiting on the results.

Marlene Wibom has asked for prayers for her step daughters' mother who fell and broke her hip and will be having surgery on Tuesday.

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

Pastor.audrey@ymail.com



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