

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

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February 2, 2025

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2, 2025 – 10:00am
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY - YEAR C

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

'Tis A Gift To Be Simple
Shaker Melody
arr. by Anna Laura Page

INTROIT:

Open the Eyes of my Heart, Lord

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

Love guides the way through every season, in every situation, and in every life.

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

God of love and life, speak to our hearts this day. Speak words of wisdom and faith. Open our hearts and minds to perceive your message of love, even when it's hard to hear. Strengthen our faith to answer your call, even when we don't feel confident or capable. Be our wisdom, our strength, and our love, that we may bring your wisdom, strength, and love to the world. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let us gather to listen deeply.

Word of God, speak.

Let us gather with childlike faith.

Ageless wisdom, reveal.

Word of God, speak.

Your servants are listening.

*OPENING HYMN:

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

UMH 110 (vss 1,2,3)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

Gracious, loving God, pour your love into our hearts and lives. Bless us with such overflowing grace that your love might flow within us and through us. Be patient with our impatience. Calm us with your patient love in all of our encounters. Forgive us and fill us with your grace, that we might extend loving forgiveness to others. In your loving name, we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Faith, hope, and love remain. But it is through the greatest of these, love, that we forgive and are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

As a sign of our love for God, God's church, and God's creation, let us share our gifts and offerings.

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

Mary, Did You Know? (sing-a-long)
by Lowry and Greene

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

Bless these gifts, O God, with your love, your strength, and your presence. May the ministries this offering supports be a sign of your love, strength, and presence in the world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

A reading from Corinthians...

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Leader: The Word of God

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON:

"Building Bridges: We Are Better Together"

Rev. 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:**

This is My Father's World

UMH 144

***BENEDICTION:**

Go with the courage of Christ. Go with the Spirit of love. Go to answer God's call, wherever and however God leads.

GOING FORTH:

Erica Kessler

When I Can Read My Title Clear

by Watts and Lowry

arr. by Anna Laura Page

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Pastor: Rev. Auderine Rochet

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Worship Assistant: Jose Gustavo Lopez Rodriguez

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Social Media: Dulce Maciel

Power Point: Janie Kellermann

Announcements

February 2, 2025

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.

Ash Wednesday service March 5, 2025 at 12:15PM.

Holy Week 2025 service dates and times: **Palm Sunday**, April 13, 2025 @ 10AM; **Maundy Thursday Service**, April 17, 2025 @ 12:15PM; **Good Friday Service**, April 18, 2025 @ 12:115PM; **Easter Sunday** April 20, 2025 @10AM.

Lent Soup Lunch Sundays will be March 9 and April 13 (second Sunday of each month). The Lent Soup Lunch will be right after service.

Staff, Nurture & Outreach Committee meeting on February 5, 2025, to plan the Lent Soup Lunch Sundays.

Prairie North Leadership Training 2025 Saturday, January 25, 8:30 a.m. to Noon. Harmony UMC in Freeport, 2600 W Pearl City Road.

Clergy and Laity Zoom Meetings with DS Hwa-Young. Clergy Zoom Gathering, Tuesday, January 28, 10 a.m. Laity Zoom Gathering, Tuesday, January 28, 7 p.m.

Under the theme "Grace is Sufficient," clergy and elected lay members will gather for **Northern Illinois Conference's 186th session**, June 9-11, at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center, 1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, IL.

PRAIRIE NORTH MISSION TRIP TO TANZANIA, DATES: AUGUST 11-25 Cost: \$2000 plus airfare (airfare will be about \$2000) Location: Global Mission Secondary School (Rev. Young-Seon Kim's site) in Tanzania. Activities: One week at the school leading a weeklong summer school (VBS style). Several days of travel (potentially including a safari trip). Ages: Those entering high school in 2025 and up (for youth, a parent must register together) Group size: 25 people. Team Leaders: District Lay Leader Kris Aves, Rev. T.K. Lee, and Rev. Dr. Hwa-Young Chong. Orientation meeting: Thursday, January 30, 7 p.m., via Zoom. Register for the Orientation meeting.

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: *Art Huenkemeier.*

At Cherryvale Place: *Carol Waxler.*

At Home: *Aida DeJesus.*

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Jennifer Martin, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera, Connie Kim.*

BIRTHDAYS

2/2 Brian Gomez
2/7 Jonathan Garcia
2/5 Jill Vails
2/8 Jesus 'Beto' Garza
2/8 Julio Garza

Joys and Concerns

1/26/2025

Connie Kim's stillborn granddaughter was delivered Friday, Jan 24 and she is now safe in God's loving arms. She was named Chloe Elizabeth. Please keep Connie, Jong, David, Stephanie, and their family in your prayers during their time of sadness. Please surround Connie with your love and prayers as she will be having a CAT scan this Tuesday to determine the progress of her cancer.

Ken Dahlgren (Bev's husband) is in the hospital due to severe dizziness and nausea. Tests have been run and he has three blockages: one 100%, one 99%, and one 70%. The doctors cannot do surgery on the blockages due to Ken's lung problems. They are hoping to find out more information this coming Monday. Please keep Ken and Bev in your prayers.

Pastor Judith Kelsey-Powell is supposed to travel to Arizona on Monday to spend time with her sister. Pray her vertigo does not keep her from going on her trip.

Jeff Schimetz, a gentleman who has been joining us at our church service for the past few weeks was unable to attend in person today as he was not feeling well. He joined us on Zoom. Pray he will be feeling better soon and will be able to be with us in person again.

Joseline John requested prayers for the friend of a friend who tragically lost her 2-year-old daughter due to choking. Please pray for her and the family during this difficult time.

Grace Palmer requested prayers for her home country, Sudan, where there is ongoing fighting and violence. Please pray for peace

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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