

*"Raise your voice... do not be afraid." — The Messenger*

**Advent Week 4, Dec 20, 2020**  
**"I Believe in the Light: Illuminating Peace"**

**I Believe Intro**

**Welcome**

**Prelude** Alexander Seman

**Crossing the Threshold**

**Advent Candle Lighting and Prayer**

**Missionary:**

Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch of your gift of peace on earth. Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle—even when we aren't sure that goodwill among us can be found, ignite the flame of peace within us,

**People:** ... **that we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out.**

**Pastor:** You are invited to light the first two blue candles and pink candle from last Sunday, and the last blue candle, the candle of Peace, at this time.

**Children's Time to Shine:** "This Little Light of Mine" Heather Shoop

**Celebration in Music** "Light of the World" Hovey Corbin

**Scripture Reading** *Isaiah 9: 2-7 John 1:1-18*

**Message** "I Believe in the Light: Illuminating Peace" Pastor Mills

**Missionary Moment/Offertory**

**Litany of Belief**

*Leader:* I believe that humans seem to have a penchant for conflict AND

**People** **I believe that we are capable of learning non-violent ways to negotiate difference.**

*Leader:* I believe that we have perpetrated deep suffering upon each other AND

**People** **I believe that we can face up to the facts of privilege and work for equity.**

*Leader:* I believe that our fear has told us that we must "win" in order to survive AND

**People** **I believe that "winning" at the cost of others can be called out and changed.**

*Leader:* We believe, even when we are discouraged.

**People** **We believe, that when we are discouraged, raising our voices for justice will offer us peace!**

**Doxology** [to the tune of "Give Thanks"]

**Believe, with a peaceful heart!**

**Believe, and shine your light!**

**Believe, because the song we sing is sung for all!**

And now let the weak say, "I am strong;"  
let the poor say, "I am rich  
because of what our God has done for us."  
Believe!

## Joys and Concerns

## Pastoral and Lord's Prayer

Carol of Unity and Hope "For the Trouble and the Sufferings" David Edmonds

## Break-Outs

## Benediction/Dismissal

...

And so, my friends, like bells ringing out the news  
that the light has dawned and shines on all people,  
fill the night left by sadness with messages of peace.  
Go into your lives humming the tunes that keep that peace alive in you  
and that spur you on in your work of justice and reconciliation.  
Raise your voices and repeat after me...  
"do not be afraid!"  
**"do not be afraid!"**  
Amen!

## Announcements

Our congregation will again join with the United Methodist congregations of Moriarity, Estancia, and Mountainair for **Advent Evening Prayer this Wednesdays at 6:00 PM**. The pastoral leadership of the four churches has taken turns designing and leading the services. This will be relatively short and will provide an opportunity for everyone to voice prayer concerns and joys. Join the service using this link: [Advent Evening Prayer](#).

You are invited to the live streaming **Blue Christmas worship service on December 21st, at 6:00pm**. Use this link to join: [Blue Christmas worship](#).

**As part of our Blue Christmas service**, we will be lighting luminarias for each of the losses that have been felt by our congregation this year. If you've lost a loved one this year or felt the loss of something important in your life, you can recognize these losses during the service. Through Monday morning the 21st, there will be a table set up in the Welcome Center at the church with paper bags and pens that you can write down whatever loss you've felt this year. Or you can stay safely at home and email what you would like to have written on a bag to Claudia Broadwater at [ceejay8700@gmail.com](mailto:ceejay8700@gmail.com).

## Christmas Eve Journey to the Manger Experience, December 24th 4:30- 6:00

Mountainside United Methodist church invites you to join us in experiencing a "Journey to the Manger" located outside of the church building. A self-guided outdoor path lit with glowing luminarias will lead you to several displays which encourage you to reflect on the love, joy, peace and hope found in God's perfect gift. Your journey ends at the humble

scene of the manger where Jesus' mission began. Take time to come with us and celebrate the true reason for the season! COVID safe practices will be enforced with social distancing and masks required. There will be refreshments available and parking assistance. Come to the manger!



# **Links and Schedule of Activities**

[click the title for the link]

## **Sunday, December 20**

*MUMC Sunday worship*

09:00 AM - 11:15 AM

## **Monday, December 21**

*Tea with Christy*

03:00 PM - 04:00 PM

*Blue Christmas Worship Service*

6:00 PM

## **Wednesday, December 23**

*Keep it real*

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Meeting ID: 816 0938 5497

*Fellowship Sunday School class*

04:00 PM - 05:00 PM

Meeting ID: 688 353 316

*Advent Evening Prayer*

06:00 PM - 06:30 PM

Meeting ID: 892 2820 1386

**Thursday, December 24th**

**Journey to the Manger**

**4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

**on-site, outside, parking lot**

***Christmas Eve live-stream service***

**7:00 pm**

**Meeting ID 825 0490 7245**



