

*The Hymns of Christmas*



# Advent: A Season for Worship



## Sermon Series: “The Hymns of Christmas”

The opportunity to sing Christmas hymns in Sunday morning services during the season of Advent? Unheard of!

The purpose of Advent is to prepare ourselves and our lives for the Christ for whom we seem to not quite be ready. Christmas hymns sing of a Christ who has already come. In order to sing the latter, we have to do the former.

During this Advent season, we will learn the stories behind, the reasons for, and the messages that lie within these beloved seasonal hymns. See them in a new light: as prophets telling of the One who will come at Christmas.

Each week, the pastors will share the settings and the purpose of four hymns, which will be the hymns for the worship service: a new or unfamiliar Christmas hymn, an Advent hymn, and two classics or standards.

## **November 27** (The First Sunday of Advent.)

- Preaching: Scott & Melissa. Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
- Hymns: The First Noel ❄️ Star Child ❄️ Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus ❄️ What Child is This

## **December 4** (The Second Sunday of Advent)

- Preaching: Scott, Melissa & Jim. Scriptures: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8
- Hymns: There's a Song in the Air ❄️ He Is Born ❄️ Toda la Tierra (All Earth is Waiting) ❄️ O Come, All Ye Faithful

## **December 11** (The Third Sunday of Advent)

- Preaching: Melissa & Jim. Scriptures: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28
- Hymns: O Little Town of Bethlehem ❄️ Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine ❄️ Like a Child ❄️ In the Bleak Midwinter

## **December 18** (The Fourth Sunday of Advent)

- Preaching: Jim & Scott. Scriptures: 2 Samuel 1:1-11, 16; Luke 1:47-55; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38
- Hymns: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! ❄️ Twas in the Moon of Wintertime ❄️ My Soul Gives Glory to My God ❄️ It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



## Advent: A Season for Giving

### Ames Alternative Gift Market (AAGM)

Nov. 27, Dec. 4 ❄ Gathering Space ❄ 9:15-11:00 AM  
Dec. 11 ❄ Gathering Space ❄ 9:15-12:30 PM

Get an early start on your Christmas shopping by selecting "alternative" gifts from a unique shopping list. Given in honor of your family and friends, these gifts will assist those people most in need locally, in the U.S. and around the world.

### Worldly Goods Night: A Fundraiser for Good Neighbor

Wednesday, Nov. 30 ❄ 5-8 p.m. ❄ Worldly Goods, 223 Main Street in Ames

Items purchased on that night will effectively give twice—both to the individuals and communities that benefit from the fair trade policies of stores like Worldly Goods, and to Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, which will receive a portion of the proceeds from sales.

### *faithspring (5:30 p.m. in the Annex Worship Space)*

We'll prepare for this Christmas by looking at the attitudes, insights, and emotions of three very different, often ignored, yet central characters as they prepared for the first Christmas.

Nov. 27 - Herod (Jim preaching) ❄ Dec. 4 - Elizabeth (Melissa preaching) ❄ Dec. 11 - Joseph (Jim preaching)

### Christmas Eve Services (Saturday, December 24)

#### *A Christmas Family Celebration*

4:30 p.m. ❄ Annex Worship Space (130 South Sheldon)  
Rev. Jim Shirbroun, officiating

#### *A Service of Carols & Candlelight*

7:00 p.m. ❄ CUMC/WF Sanctuary  
Rev. Scott Grotewold, officiating  
Special Music: The Kaizer Family

#### *Candlelight Communion Service*

11:00 p.m. ❄ CUMC/WF Sanctuary  
Rev. Melissa Warren, officiating  
Special Music: Alumni Bells, Collegiate Brass

### **December 25** (Christmas Day—one service only at 9:30 AM)

- Preaching: Scott, Melissa & Jim. Scriptures: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4; John 1:1-14
- Hymns: Joy to the World ❄ That Boy Child of Mary ❄ Angels From the Realms of Glory ❄ Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

## Christmas Cookie Bake Sale

Sunday, Dec. 11 ✨ 8:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ✨ Gathering Space

Take a break from your holiday baking! The Senior High and Middle School youth will be selling boxed homemade Christmas Cookies and other bake sale items to raise money for their Summer 2011 Mission Trips.

We are hoping to have many eager buyers...and donors of goodies, too. Contact Kathye Harrington-Taber at 292.6936 x28 or [kathye@cwames.org](mailto:kathye@cwames.org) if you would like to help out.

## MICA Adopt-A-Family

The UMW Saturday Circle will decorate the Christmas Tree in the Gathering Space with “gift suggestions” for MICA (Mid-Iowa Community Action) families. When you put an ornament on the tree, take the card with the suggestion and then bring back the gift to put under the tree by Monday, Dec. 12. Contact Amanda Heeren at [aheeren26@gmail.com](mailto:aheeren26@gmail.com) with questions.

## Gift Cards for ERP (Emergency Residence Project)

Anytime in December, you and your family can participate by purchasing gift cards, in increments of \$25 or less, for families in need. Grocery (particularly Aldi), telephone, gas, Cy-Ride, Target, WalMart, etc., are particularly needed.

Please bring your gift card to the church office, or drop it in the offering plate by Sunday, Dec. 25.

## Christmas Special Offering

This year's Christmas Special Offering will support the Emergency Residence Project ([www.amesshelter.org](http://www.amesshelter.org)). This offering will be held both on Christmas Eve and Sunday, December 25.



## Advent Decorating

Monday, November 21 ✨ 6:30 p.m. ✨ Sanctuary.

Join us as we decorate the Sanctuary and building for the Advent season. We have a big space, so the more the merrier! Those who have taken part in the past have said it's among their favorite things to do at church. It's fun to see the transformation for Christmas happen! For more info, contact Amanda Heeren, 451-8330 or [aheeren26@gmail.com](mailto:aheeren26@gmail.com).

## Children's Sunday School in Advent

Our children will learn about Jesus' birth and will sing Christmas songs. Here are a few highlights.

- In December, the Two Year-old and Preschool Classes will get copies of *On the Way to Bethlehem: A Child's Storybook for Christmas* by Daphna Flegal.
- Our Rotation Workshop Lesson for our Elementary children will be "The Journey : Walking the Road to Bethlehem." The children will have "Passport Folders" for collecting mementos of their journey.
- Much of Sunday School on December 4th will be a rehearsal for the Manger Gifts Service that evening, but the children will be able to get their Passport Folders stamped by a special messenger.
- Please note: No Sunday School on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

## Middle School Advent Activities

- Dec. 3-4 – Students are encouraged to participate in the Advent Festival and the Manger Gifts Service.
- Dec. 7 – Middle School Youth Group will be preparing soup and serving at Soup Supper.
- Dec. 9-10 – we are having a lock-in at the church. Our service project during the lock-in will be making treats for the dogs and cats at the Story County Animal Shelter.

- Dec. 10 – Packing cookies for the cookie fundraiser. 3-6 p.m., Wesley Hall
- Dec. 14 – we will be having our regular meeting.
- Dec. 21 & 28 – no youth group

## High School Advent Activities

- Dec. 3-4 – Students are encouraged to participate in the Advent Celebration Workshop and the Manger Gifts Service. High School Youth won't meet on Dec. 4th.
- Dec. 10 – Packing cookies for the cookie fundraiser. 3-6 p.m., Wesley Hall
- Dec. 11 – Christmas party/get-together at 7 p.m. in the Annex Youth Room. Please bring a snack to share and a new toothbrush, comb, shampoo, or small toothpaste. We will be preparing a meal for the ERP shelter and assembling some toiletries for the residents there.
- Dec. 18, Dec. 25, Jan. 1 – No Senior High youth group



## The Advent Celebration Workshop

Saturday, Dec. 3 ❄️ 2-4 p.m. ❄️ Wesley Hall  
Theme: "Making Memories at Christmas"

Come and enjoy an afternoon making memories together and to keep for years to come. There will be many craft activities for the young or the young at heart. Refreshments will also be available.

All ages are welcome. (Parents, please plan to come and help your children create "masterpieces" that will truly be treasured for a lifetime!)



## Book Study for Adults: *Christmas is Not Your Birthday: Experience the Joy of Living and Giving Like Jesus*

Tired of the rush and bustle that turns Christmas from a religious holy-day into the Consumerism 101 holiday? Mike Slaughter, a United Methodist pastor, leads us to approach Christmas differently, without wallowing in guilt or adding more craziness to our lives. Experience the peace of knowing that God is truly with us.



We will be offering this study twice each week:

- Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45 a.m.) in the Library. Dec. 4, 11, and 18.
- Thursdays, Dec. 1, 8 and 15 from 12-1 p.m. On Dec. 1, the group will meet at church in Room 123. Bring a lunch, and we'll decide whether to keep meeting at church or to have the remaining sessions at a restaurant.

Study books are available from Kathye Harrington-Taber for \$12 or can be purchased in various ebook formats for about \$9 from Cokesbury.com, Amazon.com, etc.

# Advent: A Season for Music



## Christmas Caroling

Saturday, Dec. 3 ❄️ 5 p.m. ❄️ Wesley Hall

Add your voice and join the fun as we go Christmas Caroling together! We will start with pizza for those that are caroling at 5 p.m. in Wesley Hall. We will leave the church at 5:30 p.m. to carpool to various locations in Ames.

If you are planning on coming for the pizza, please RSVP to Lisa by 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2nd at [lisa@cwames.org](mailto:lisa@cwames.org) or 515.292.6936 x25 and let her know what kind of one topping pizza you prefer. Please join us!

## Manger Gifts Service

Sunday, Dec. 4 ❄️ 7 p.m. ❄️ Sanctuary

The Manger Gifts Service is Collegiate/Wesley's own version



of a Christmas Pageant. This year's script is entitled, "Matt & Lucy's Version Births" from the Living the Questions organization. And of course, there will be plenty of music, too!

As part of the service, we will be collecting various food items, toiletries, and household items for people in need around us. Most of the gifts will help families in need through ERP (Emergency Residence Project) and MICA (Mid-Iowa Community Action.)

A list of suggested items is on our website, [www.cwames.org](http://www.cwames.org) and in the Sunday bulletin insert. Please wrap the gifts in recycled or white paper. Contact Rev. Scott Grotewold at [scott@cwames.org](mailto:scott@cwames.org) if you would like to take part in the service or with any questions.

## Bells & Brass Concert

Friday, Dec. 9th ❄️  
7:30 p.m. ❄️ Sanctuary

The Chancel Bell Choir and Collegiate Brass will present a selection of Christmas music for your holiday enjoyment.



# Advent Calendar

Some events not listed below. Please see page 5 for more events for children/youth.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>See page...</u>
Mon., Nov. 21, 6:30 PM	Advent Decorating	Sanctuary	3
Sun., Nov. 27, 8:30 & 11 AM	"Hymns of Christmas" week 1	Sanctuary	2
Sun., Nov. 27, 9:15 AM	Alternative Gift Market	Gathering Space	3
Wed., Nov. 30, 5 PM	Good Neighbor Night at Worldly Goods	Worldly Goods	3
Thurs., Dec. 1, 12 PM	"Christmas is Not Your Birthday" study begins	123	6
Sat., Dec. 3, 2 PM	Advent Celebration Workshop	Wesley Hall	6
Sat., Dec. 3, 5 PM	Christmas Caroling	Wesley Hall	7
Sun., Dec. 4, 8:30 & 11 AM	"Hymns of Christmas" week 2	Sanctuary	2
Sun., Dec. 4, 9:15 AM	Alternative Gift Market	Gathering Space	3
Sun., Dec. 4, 9:45 AM	"Christmas is Not Your Birthday" study begins	Library	3
Sun., Dec. 4, 7 PM	Manger Gifts Service	Sanctuary	7
Fri., Dec. 9, 7:30 PM	Bells & Brass Concert	Sanctuary	7
Sun., Dec. 11, 8:30 & 11 AM	"Hymns of Christmas" week 3	Sanctuary	2
Sun., Dec. 11, 8:15 AM - 12:30 PM	Cookie Sale	Gathering Space	4
Sun., Dec. 11, 9:15 AM - 12:30 PM	Alternative Gift Market	Gathering Space	3
Mon., Dec. 12	Last day to bring your "Adopt-a-Family" gift	Office	8
Sun., Dec. 18, 8:30 & 11 AM	"Hymns of Christmas" week 4	Sanctuary	2
Sat., Dec. 24, 4:30, 7, & 11 PM	Christmas Eve Services	Annex Aud. (4:30) Sanctuary (7 & 11)	3
Sun., Dec. 25, 9:30 AM	Christmas worship - 1 service only; no Sunday school	Sanctuary	3
Sun., Jan. 1, 9:30 AM	Worship - 1 service only; no Sunday school	Sanctuary	