

## "It's amazing how we can light tomorrow with today." ~~ Elizabeth Barrett Browning

## **GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD**

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME GREETING
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Pastor Karen Griswold
Kathy Etgen

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The vast expanse of sky stretches in praise. **People:** All the waters and streams cry out in longing.

Leader: The earth now hardened, incubates life.

**People:** The light shines in the darkness.

Leader: The glow is astounding.

All: And we your people awaken.

RINGING of the BELL

\*HYMN <u>"Shine, Jesus, Shine"</u> #431

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN Irene Crouch

SPECIAL MUSIC <u>"Why Me, Lord"</u> Gary Heath

PASTORAL PRAYER SILENT MEDITATION THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*RESPONSE & PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERING <u>"There's Something About That Name"</u> #83

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN <u>"Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart"</u> #390

SCRIPTURE Genesis 1:1-5 & Mark 1:4-11 (NRSV) Kathy Etgen
TODAY'S MESSAGE <u>"The Curtain is Closed – Light Shines in the Darkness"</u> Pastor Karen Griswold

INSTALLATION OF 2024 CHRUCH OFFICERS AND LEADERSHIP TEAMS

\*HYMN <u>"This is My Father's World"</u> #143

\*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE <u>"This is the Day"</u> #209

**POSTLUDE** 

\*Please stand if you are able.

A supervised nursery is provided for babies and toddlers in the basement.

## **CHURCH EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

TODAY		Congregational Meeting after Church
	3:30-6:00	<b>) pm</b> Scout meetings
	5:00 pm	United in Christ – youth 9 <sup>th</sup> thru 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Jan 17	6:00 pm	Consider This - Living Compass – "Adult Faith & Wellness Circle"
Jan 19		Newsletter deadline – please send information to Kathy Etgen
Jan 21		Guest Speaker Rev David Long-Higgins, conference minister
		Education Team meeting after Church
	3:00 pm	Unity – youth 3 <sup>rd</sup> thru 5 <sup>th</sup> grade
	5:00 pm	Middle school youth
Jan 28		Worship & Property Team meetings after Church

- The Deacons want to celebrate Valentines Day with a slide presentation of wedding/sweetheart pictures so . . . dig out those olde photo albums send or bring in a picture of your wedding and the date. Also, if you have your parents wedding pictures you can send them too! You can take a picture of a picture or bring in an original photo, whatever works best for you.
- February Missionary Aide Project is Valentine bags. The ladies will appreciate donations for wrapped items for the bags and need to know who we have in college or the military to send the bags to. Please help us with these things.
- Your continued support is appreciated and may be mailed to West Liberty UCC PO Box 427, West Liberty.

## PRAYER REQUESTS and JOYS (\*New addition to prayer list)

Peggy B Wirick Lucy Bill & Carole Barrett Donnie Kauffman Elmer Oldenburg

Diane Gault Miriam Grant Doug Bigler Debbie Hamilton

Our nursing home residents Our service men & women

Organist: Sue Hines
Song Leader: Lauren Flora
Ministers: The Entire Congregation

Serving Today
Nursery: Olivia Wilcox
Children's Message: Irene Crouch
Videotaping: Jim Hoffman

Organist: Sue Hines

Serving Next Week (Jan 21, 2024)

Sound: Elisa Lash

Sorg Leader: Judy Legge

Nursery: Michele Etgen

Screens: Ed Armentrout

Videotaping: Jim Hoffman