

Wesley Park United Methodist Church

First Sunday of Advent

9:30 am - December 3, 2017

We Gather Together

Welcome

*Call To Worship

One: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,

All: Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

*Singing #196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Children's Blessing

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

Chancel Choir

An Advent Invitation

We Receive the Word

Scripture

Matthew 13:54-56

When he came to his hometown, he taught the people in their synagogue. They were surprised and said, "Where did he get this wisdom? Where did he get the power to work miracles? Isn't he the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother named Mary? Aren't James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas his brothers? And his sisters, aren't they here with us? Where did this man get all this?"

A Carpenter Named Joseph

Rev. Dean N. Prentiss

We Respond to the Word

Singing

A Strange Way to Save the World

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving for Advent

Receiving the Bread and Cup

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion! Communion servers will bring to each pew a basket of bread, and a tray of communion cups. Take a piece of bread and a cup and hold onto them until all are ready to receive together. If you need gluten-free bread, raise your hand and an acolyte will come to you.

Prayer After Receiving

Offering Our Selves and Gifts to God

Stewardship Invitation

Offertory

*Doxology #64

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

In the advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked, away and there is nothing left to do but wait, God, shelter us. Be our surrounding darkness; be the fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time. In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love one, in faith awaiting your purpose hid in you waiting to be born in due time. Amen.

We Go Forth Into the World

*Singing

Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Benediction

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able or comfortable.*

Our Advent series is based on the book Faithful: Christmas through the eyes of Joseph by Adam Hamilton.

Our Mission is to build a Christian community with all people.

Our vision: by 2018, Wesley Park will strive to inspire from the youngest to the oldest and everybody in between to live out the greatest commandment: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.

Wesley Park United Methodist Church

1150 32nd Street SW Wyoming, Michigan 49509

616-988-6738 info@wesleypark.org, www.wesleypark.org

9:30 am Worship Servants:

- ☀ **Greeters:** Heinz Herzog, John and Kathy Challa
- ☀ **Ushers:** Lynda Edsall, Charlie Swanson, Max and Gail Gibbard
- ☀ **Communion Servers:** Max and Gail Gibbard, Charlie Swanson, Lynda Edsall, Joanne Gustafson, Vicky Van Dalsen, Ken and Linda McKenney
- ☀ **Acolytes:** Marlow Jeltema and Allison Kinney
- ☀ **Computer Tech:** Paula Hartley
- ☀ **Nursery:** Skyler Maitner, Sheryl Jones, Alex Fischer
- ☀ **Sound Board:** Pat Carruthers
- ☀ **Video Tech:** Aaron Carruthers
- ☀ **Welcome Desk:** Deb Hodges and Jim Gustafson
- ☀ **Musicians:** Sara Kropp, Adrienne Prentiss, Dave Strumfeld

- ⊠ **Rev. Dean N. Prentiss**, Pastor, dprentiss@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Tabi Fischer**, Office Manager, tabi@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Al Pittenger**, Treasurer, apittenger@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Anna Spencer**, Faith Formation Director, aspencer@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Eric Terry**, Youth Director, eterry@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Sara Kropp**, Music Director, sara@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Skyler Maitner**, Child Advocate, skyler@wesleypark.org
- ⊠ **Rostyn Properties**, Custodial Services
- ⊠ **CCLI**, #860995