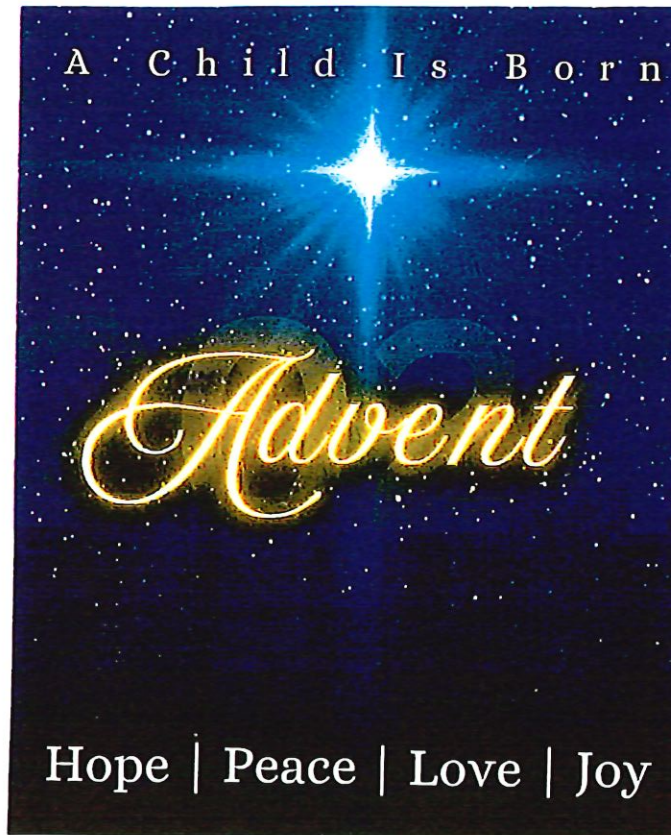


# *Bethel Church of Nebraska City*



*Pastor Jacob Colligan*

*Lay Reader Jason Holman*

*Acolytes Morgan Barrett & Braellen Wieckhorst*

*Advent Candle: Larry & Tracy Wieckhorst Family*

*December 22, 2024 10 AM*

*2400 Central Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410*

# Advent Season— LOVE

2 Sam 7:1-11, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

## CALL TO WORSHIP

PROCESSIONAL

TOLLING OF THE BELL

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*WELCOME EACH OTHER IN PEACE

\*RESPONSIVE READING      "1 CORINTHIANS 13:8-13"      HANDOUT  
\*HYMN:                      "JOY TO THE WORLD!"      BLUE (#270)

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

Pastoral PRAYER AND PRAYER FOR MEMBERS

GLORIA PATRI

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Together)

\*Hymn:                      "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"      Blue (#648)

SERMON MESSAGE

BENEDICTION PRAYER

\*HYMN:                      "JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE YOU"      Blue (#271)

OFFERING

INVITATION FOR TITHE

\*HYMN:                      "DOXOLOGY"      BLUE (#815)

\*HYMN:                      "Family Prayer Song"      Blue (#454)

# SERMON NOTES

### **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, December 22nd:** Julia Francis  
**Tuesday, December 24th:** Dale Wurtele  
**Wednesday, December 25th:** Virginia Miller  
**Thursday, December 26th:** Blake Bando  
**Friday, December 27th:** Michelle Francis  
**Saturday, December 28th,** Brett Adams

### **ANNIVERSARIES - none**

### **CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, December 22nd:** 10 AM Service  
**Monday, December 23rd:** AA Meeting @ Noon,  
**Tuesday, December 24th:** AA Meeting @ Noon, Christmas Eve Services 6 PM & 10 PM  
**Thursday, December 26th:** AA Meeting @ noon,  
**Sunday, December 29th:** 10 AM Service

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Bible Study resumes, January 8, 6 PM**  
**Confirmation resumes, January 12, 8:30 to 9:30 AM**  
**Sunday School kick off 1st through 12th grade January 12, 10 AM**

### **Thank you to the following Volunteers**

**Lay Reader:** today Jason Holman next week Kassi Holman  
**Ushers:** today Dale & Michelle Francis next week Spiritual Council  
**Sound System:** today Dennis Marshall next week Jason Holman  
**Acolytes:** today Morgan Barrett & Braellen Wieckhorst next week Bryson & Braxton  
Wieckhorst  
**Refreshments:** December Carrie & Landon Ferguson  
**Flower Attendants:** December Nancy Brown  
**Advent Candle Lighters:** Larry Wieckhorst Family, December 22nd  
Stukenholtz Family, December 24 6 PM service  
Sarah Bando Family, December 24, 10 PM service

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Living Nativity on December 20 and 21. It takes a Village to make this event a success.

## Responsive Reading

### 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Leader: Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

**Everyone: For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.**

Leader: When I was a child, I spoke like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

**Everyone: For now, we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know fully, even as I have been fully known.**

Leader: So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

## Fourth Week – Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Leader:** Hear the good news. God is about to do something new. A new King is coming. He will establish a new Kingdom. He will rule over his people and establish justice. He will be great to the ends of the earth.

**All:** We long for His coming. We are Anxious about the future. We are threatened by enemies. We are uncertain about leaders. We need strength and power to change the world.

**Leader:** This King does not come from the centers of power. He comes from an insignificant place. He does not come with conquering armies. He comes as a shepherd to care for His people. He does not come with riches and influence. He comes as one who became poor.

**All:** We wait upon the Lord. We wait for Him to crush our enemies. We wait for a future secured by strength. We welcome a conquering King.

**Leader:** The powers of this world are not the powers that matter most. This Kind is not that kind of King. He subverts the power structures of the world. He brings justice, unity, and peace. The world will never be the same after He comes.

**All:** O Lord, forgive us for wanting you to work in the ways we think best. We long for your newness. But it cannot be on our terms. We trust and hope in You. Bring your newness into our midst. Reorient us to your priorities. Help us to respond faithfully.

**Leader:** A new future is being born. It is God's way, the way of God's kingdom that leads to life. The old has passed away. All things have become new.

**All:** We rejoice in the Coming One who casts aside the old ways that lead to death. The old ways cannot save us. God's way and His Kingdom lead to life and peace. O Lord, transform our hearts that we may live fully in this New Kingdom.

**Leader:** He will stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God. And we will live secure, for He shall be the one of peace.

**All:** O Lord, help us live as if this New Kingdom is a present reality. May we not just long for justice, unity, and peace. May we practice them each day as you give of your strength. We rejoice for the Lord is near. Surely He is coming soon. Come, Lord Jesus!