

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

**Advent 2 December 6, 2020**  
**“I Believe in Love: Daring Right Relationship”**

**Prelude** "Of the Parent's Heart Begotten" Wilbur Held  
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**Welcome**

**Crossing the Threshold**

**Advent Candle lighting**

**Opening Hymn** "Love Has Come" Tune: Bring A Torch Jenette Isabella

**Children's Time to Shine** *“This Little Light of Mine”*

**The Witness of Music** Rob Hartmann  
"When Love Was Born" Stephanie Lewis, Bernie Herms, and Mark Schultz  
Copyright 2009 Stephanitely Hit Music

**Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 1: 16-25 (CEB)*

Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary—of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Christ. So there were fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen generations from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen generations from the exile to Babylon to the Christ.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Holy One appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Holy One had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

*Look! Young woman will become pregnant and give birth to a son,  
And they will call him, Emmanuel.*  
(*Emmanuel* means "God with us.")

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

**Sermon – Rev. Wendy Bruner**

## **Litany of Belief**

### **Prayers in the Stillness**

**How shall we join God's work in the world?**

**Doxology** "Believe" Henry Smith

**Communion** Michelle L. Torigian

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

For the nourishment of spirit, mind, and body,  
For hope that we begin to see,  
And for comfort from the Prince of Peace,  
We share our gratitude, Gracious God.  
Encourage us in these shortened days.  
Through the long nights of this season,  
May your hope carry us until dawn arrives again.  
Amen.

**Carol of Resistance** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Tune: Carol

**Benediction: Wendy**

**Postlude** "I Believe" Mark A. Miller

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### **Worship Notes**

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