

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MAPLE LEAF PARISH
NOVEMBER 27, 2011
9:00 A.M.**

The asterisk () indicates those times in the worship when those who are able are invited to stand, if you choose to do so.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please pass the attendance registration pads. We ask all members, as well as our guests, to fill out the information.)

THE LIGHTING of the ADVENT CANDLE

THE SCRIPTURE *Mark 13:24-26, 32, 33, 35, 37*

THE ADVENT REFLECTION

...And even if the sun should grow dark
...even if the moon refuses to shine
...even if the stars should fall from the sky

...we will have Jesus, the Light of the World, to shine brightly in our hearts, lighting our way.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

***ADVENT HYMN** “*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*” UMH 196

***UNISON PRAYER of CONFESSION**

It’s starting already, Lord. It is only the first Sunday in Advent, and we are caught up in the pressures and stresses of the holiday season. Pursued by the temptation to spend our funds, our energy, our spirits, we feel that there is no peace or rest in the world. Lord of light and peace, shine on us this day. Forgive us when we have so easily succumbed to the anxieties and fears and temptations of the season. Slow us down. Calm our spirits. Give us an awareness that this is the season of waiting and of preparation. Pour peace into our lives and help us to be bearers of peace to others. For we ask this in Jesus’ precious Name. AMEN.

***ASSURANCE of PARDON**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

THE MESSAGE “*Christmas Is Not Your Birthday*”

***HYMN** “*Nothing Between*” UMH 373

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE RECEIVING of our TITHES and OFFERING

Offertory Music

Presentation of our Offering

***Doxology (No. 95 UMH)**

***Prayer (Unison)**

God of Peace, you have blessed us in so many ways. Today we return blessings and thankfulness to you. Bless these gifts and all gathered here that we may be bearers of peace to your world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** “*Standing on the Promises*” UMH 374

***THE BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

UMW CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Put December 7th on your calendar to attend the Christmas potluck at church at 11:30a.m. You do not need to bring your own dishes, we will use the churches. Bring a dish to share or just come and enjoy a meal and fellowship. This is open to all church members and yes that means men, also. Hope to see you December 7th!

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- 9:00 A.M. Worship
10:00 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 A.M. Church School for all ages

THIS WEEK

- Monday, November 28, 6:00 p.m. Adult Bell Choir.
Tuesday, November 29, 6:00 p.m. SPRC to meet with District Superintendent.
Tuesday, November 29, 7:00 pm. Charge Conference.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 5:00 Worship Service at Faith.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 7:45 A.M. Choir Rehearsal
9:00 A.M. Worship
10:00 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 A.M. Church School for all ages.
6:00 P.M. Cowboy Church Service in Cherry Grove.

Christmas on Broadway-ALS Christmas Bake Sale!

Our 5th fundraising event for ALS (Lou Gehrigs Disease) will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011 from 1:00 – 5:00 PM at the Spring Valley Community Center. We would love to have everyone's participation in this event by: providing baked goods for us to sell, visit the Bake Sale to make a purchase, or make a cash/check donation. Checks should be made out to the ALS Association and please put "Blakeslee Fundraiser" in the memo. We will be at the community center that day from 8:30 AM on to receive any donations. We always feel blessed and thankful for everyone's support in this event!

Sam & Gloria Blakeslee

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

"The Greatest Christmas Present Ever!" by Rachel Carson will be held on December 11th at 10:30 am following a brief fellowship hour. A very special message with special music given to you this Christmas Season!

DISHES

Thank you for providing for the church coffee hour, funerals, Mini Market, etc. There are many dishes in the kitchen for you to pick up. Thank you.

*I give
thanks
to my God always
for you because of
the grace of God that
has been given you
in Christ
Jesus.*

1 Corinthians 1:4

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Mark Rader and Pastor Beth Perez

617 Maple Lane

Spring Valley, MN 55975

Phone: 1-507-346-2830

E-mail: faithunited@centurytel.net

Web: www.faithsv.net

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 – 4:00 PM