

**Prayers of the People**

**Communion** (see insert)

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Silent Night, Holy Night" (black hymnal #134)

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

\* Please stand, in body or spirit  
CCLI number: 7117726; CCLI license number:  
22384815, Size A; 22384822, Size A



Thank you for attending Ripley United Church of Christ.  
We're glad you came.

- Reader today was Lindsey Coppoc
- CE helper was
- Advent Candle lit by the Hubbard/Bedwell Family

Find us online at [www.ripleyucc.org](http://www.ripleyucc.org), or by searching "Ripley United Church of Christ" on Facebook. Or join us for refreshments downstairs after the service. An elevator is available by the south door for those who need it.

Pr. Jim is available to the community at 515-708-4343 (text is best) or [jimatripley@gmail.com](mailto:jimatripley@gmail.com)

*"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."*



# Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

December 7th, 2025  
Second Sunday of Advent - Hope/Prophecy



## Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

### Invocation (excerpted from Psalm 72)

One: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

**Many: May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.**

One: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Many: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.**

### Call to Worship

One: Let us worship in the presence of a just and powerful God.

**Many: Amen**

**\*Opening Hymn:** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" (black hymnal #131)

**"Peace" Candle:** John 14:27

### Confession:

One: Our Gospel calls us to work toward unity, "that they may all be one"

**Many: Instead we build divisions. We separate ourselves from our neighbor.**

One: Our faith is one of love, grace, justice and inclusion.

**Many: We fail to see the worth and dignity in each other.**

One: Forgive us, Lord, our failings.

**Many: Teach us to see, serve and love as we are called.**

### Silent Prayer

#### Assurance:

One: Hear the Gospel! Our God is a gracious and loving God.

**Many: By His grace, we are forgiven**

One: By His love, we are set free

**All: Amen**

### Passing the Peace/ Children's Procession

Our scripture teaches that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who enter it like a child. As our children come forward, it is our custom to greet each other from our places, then sing the children to the front with the traditional song "This Little Light of Mine." If you are worshiping with us online, please feel free to say hello in the comments, so we know you are here.

### Children's Celebration: "Peace Like a River"

**Reading:** Romans 15:4-13

**Homily:** "...With One Voice"

**\*Response:** "Now Is The Time Approaching" (black hymnal #609)

### Offertory:

**\*Presentation of our Offerings:** Doxology (black hymnal #780)

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## Announcements



### Ripley Church Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sunday - Dec. 14th @ 10 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Tuesday - Jan. 11th @ 5:30 pm - Office

### Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting - Thursday Dec. 11th @ 9:00 am
  - Saturday Soul Stitching - Saturday Dec. 13th @ 9:00 am
- Adopt-A-Family / Giving Tree:
  - Return to Ripley on or before Dec. 7th
- Noisy Offering - Dec. 28th: "PS" - Project Share - TMU

### Advent 2025 - Nov. 30-Dec 24 - Theme: Angels

- **Sponsor a Poinsettia** in honor or memory of a loved one to adorn our altar.
  - \$16.00 each - contact Patty - 319-269-7288/pattycalderwood@gmail.com
- Dec 7th Cookie Swap - see below for details
- Dec 14th - 2:45 pm - Ecumenical Christmas Caroling - Meet @ UPC for community stops, then gather at Sunrise Hill @ 4:00.
  - Return to UPC for Snacks and Fellowship - bring a snack to share
- Dec. 21st - Christmas Tea provided by the Deacons
- Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Services @ 7:00 pm

### Cookie Swap! - Sunday, 12/7 @ 2:30 - The Parsonage

- Bring a plate with cookies, and a spare. Fill the second plate with all the flavors of the season.
- Be sure to sign up for fabulous door prizes!

## Communion



### Invitation

One: Our faith is one of extravagant welcome. We honor God's table, open to all.

**Many: We gather with all Creation.**

### Prayer

One: God be with you

**Many: And also with you**

One: Lift up your hearts

**Many: We lift them up to God**

One: Let us give thanks to God

**Many: It is right to give thanks and praise**

One: God of all creation, we give thanks for your continuous care. We praise the living, mortal example of your son, Jesus Christ, who offers a path to salvation. We honor the Holy Spirit, who reminds us of your truth, your presence and your promise.

**Many: God of Love and Grace, the whole Universe speaks to your Glory. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. Hosanna!**

### Setting the Table

One: We remember that on the night of his betrayal and desertion, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "this is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "Drink this, all of you. This is the blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**Many: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

One: This table is God's table, open to all creation. These elements are the body and blood of Christ, broken and poured for you. This faith we share is the Spirit, which unites us in Holy Communion. For this, we give thanks.

**Many: We proclaim our continuing faith in the Good News of Jesus Christ, and offer our lives in service.**

One: Let us pray the words Jesus taught us:

### **Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)**

#### **Call to the Supper**

One: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

One: The cup is the communion of the blood of Christ.

One: Jesus, Lamb of God

**Many: have mercy on us.**

One: Jesus, bearer of our sins

**Many: have mercy on us**

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world

**Many: give us your peace**

One: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

### **Sharing the Elements**

One: Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, broken for you.

**Many: Amen!**

One: Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you.

**Many: Amen!**