

Centenary United Methodist Church

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world; one person at a time.

Traditional Service

Sunday, December 9, 2018

PRELUDE	<i>Watchman Tell Us of the Night One Night in Bethlehem</i>	Bell Choir
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ANNOUNCEMENTS/+GREETINGS

+OPENING HYMN	<i>Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates</i>	UMH No. 213
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LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let There Be Christmas

A cantata by Joseph Martin

Narrator ~ Deanna Holland

Accompanist ~ Edna Schmidt

In one great crescendo of purpose, the season of Christmas sweeps us into its arms with an unfettered flourish of festivity. The glare of this explosion of activity often overshadows the fragile light that is the spiritual center of this sacred time.

Simply, and with unexpected gentleness, Bethlehem's star flickers to life like a candle in the winter wind just when the night is longest. It kindles in the open heart a deep hope that warms and illuminates. It is by this dancing light of promise we discover the miracle of the season. Emboldened, we are drawn close to the manger. By this candle of faith we see the Child of God, wrapped in the simple, Creator embraced and held by His own creation. It is this glorious impossible that proclaims,

Let there be SONG...as a young mother's lullaby becomes a symphony of praise that wakes the nations.

Let there be FAITH...as ancient scrolls unfurl to reveal the living Word of God.

Let there be HOPE...as the promise of a Redeemer opens like a sacred rose in the soul of the believer.

Let there be PEACE...as the Spirit descends like a Dove with healing in its wings.

Let there be LOVE...as the world feels the embrace of God's perfect light.

Let there be JOY...as our cup of worship overflows with thanksgiving.

Let there be WONDER...as each seeker's eyes reflect a glory that melts away doubt and reveals the treasure of belief.

Let there be GRACE...and discover the heart of God.

Let there be CHRISTMAS...and let the music of life begin and never end!

+BENEDICTION

+MUSICAL RESPONSE	<i>Alleluia</i>	UMH No. 186
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+POSTLUDE	<i>First Noel</i>	Bell Choir
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+If you are able, please stand.

Bold – join in unison



Contact the church office if you want to provide chancel flowers or sponsor a worship telecast.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Nickels for Nigeria Goal: \$2,000 TO DATE: \$734.03
2018 Budget Goal: \$371,794 TO DATE: \$312,834

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Telephone is 402-223-3424
Website is www.beatricemethodist.org

Rev. Mark Schutt.....mschutt@greatplainsumc.org
Kelly Meyer (Music Director).....kmeyer@bpsnebr.org
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Julie Homolka (Youth).....beatriceumcyouth@gmail.com
Pastor's Phone.....402-230-3340 or cell 402-367-8008

- Thanks for being in worship! Refreshments are served in the parlor after each service.
- The 11:00 AM service is broadcast live on Spectrum channel 181 and re-broadcast Sunday evening at 7:00 PM on the same channel. It is also available on YouTube and via live streaming on your computer. See the church website.
- The nursery is located in the lower level at the south end of the building for both services.
- Children's activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.
- Sunday school is offered for pre-school thru senior high during the school year at 10:00 AM. The Adult class meets year round.

Centenary United Methodist Church
608 Elk Street Beatrice, Nebraska 68310
Welcome to Worship!

*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.*



REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”
Isaiah 9:2