***The Fourth Sunday in Advent***

***December 23, 2018***

***Ten O'clock in the Morning***

Ringing the Bell and Words of Welcome *(Please sign the fellowship pad.)*

 ***We Gather for Worship***

Prelude

The Choral Call to Worship

The Lighting of the Advent Candles (1=First Reader*, 2=Second Reader*, **A=All**)

1: Why do we light four candles?

*2*: *We light four candles to remember God’s promise to send a Son to be our Savior. The first candle reminds us to prepare for God. The second candle reminds us to wait for Jesus. The third candle reminds us that Christ’s coming will soon be fulfilled. The fourth candle reminds us of Mary’s faith.*

1: Why do we not light the white candle?

 *2*: *We wait to light the white candle on Christmas Eve, because it will remind us of the night of Jesus’ birth, when the stars shown bright and the angels told shepherds our Savior has come. Let us pray;*

 **A: O Lord, bring showers from heaven, and let the skies rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation may spring up, and grant us the light of our Lord Jesus, the key from David, who taught us to pray: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

 A Time for Caroling

***Directions for Lighting Advent Candles on Sunday Mornings in Advent and on Christmas Eve***

**Prior to Sunday Morning or Christmas Eve:**

1. Review reading parts on Bulletin Draft (above) and assign parts.
2. Practice reading parts aloud several times before Sunday morning.
3. Decide who will light the candle(s).

**Before Worship Begins:**

1. Let me know you are here when you arrive at least by 9:45 (15 minutes before start).
2. Find a place to sit as close to the front as possible.
3. Find the lighter and become familiar with how it works. The lighter should be on the wreath and stand between the candles or under the Bible at the rear of the pulpit.

**During the Worship Service:**

1. I will call you forward following the Choral Call to Worship. Gather behind the wreath and stand facing the congregation.
2. Speaking up in order for the microphone to amplify you, read the first part.
3. As the second part is read a second person lights the purple candle(s), beginning with the candle closest to the congregation.

1st Sunday in Advent- one purple

2nd Sunday in Advent- two purple

3rd Sunday in Advent- three purple

4th Sunday in Advent- three purple and one pink

Christmas Eve- three purple and one pink and then the white center candle is lit last.

1. Finish reading the remaining parts including the response with the congregation.
2. While the choir (or congregation) sings the “...Response” you may be seated. Thank you for your assistance.

Any questions give me a call. 526-4800 or 763-0186