

We are grateful to Pastor Sherrye Bailey for filling the pulpit this morning. All are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall following worship this morning for a time of refreshment and fellowship.

Pastor Sherrye Bailey is a member and deacon of the First Congregational Church of Wayne. She is the Teaching Pastor and leads Adult Bible class and Faith That Frees women's class and assists with church services. She was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri and was married to Daryl for over 37 ½ years until his passing. Sherrye is a life-long learner and credits her mother Bobbye for exemplifying God's love and providing her with a thirst for knowledge. Her key accomplishments include 7 degrees and/or certifications including an MA Ed in Instruction from Central Michigan University. In June 2025 she received her Lay Ministry certification. Sherrye has over 44 years of professional work experience as a preschool, elementary, and college instructor. She has worked at Schoolcraft College for 25 years and is the Academic Success Coach for Writing. Sherrye enjoys reading, painting, weekly card club, and watching old movies. Her protective roommate Lenny is a small dachshund with a HUGE Napoleon complex.

As a Congregational church, Meadowbrook traces its roots to the Pilgrims. We continue to explore our faith as a people free to interpret God's Word according to the dictates of our own conscience and in mutual support and love of one another. Not bound by any one creed or statement of faith, Congregationalists are gathered around a local church covenant in which we promise to serve alongside one another as followers of Jesus Christ.

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MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



December 14, 2025
3rd Sunday in Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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PRELUDE "Of the Father's Love Begotten" arr. by Wilbur Held Dave Howland

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Sherrye Bailey

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

CHORAL INTROIT

Love caused Your incarnation, love brought You down to me; Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.

*Stand in body or spirit

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Michele Fecht

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
Congregation: **My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.**
Leader: Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!
Congregation: **Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

***GATHERING HYMN** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #123

***INVOCATION** (in unison) Michele Fecht

To You, O God, we lift up our souls. To You we offer our praise and prayer, our worship and thanksgiving, even our very lives. Make Your ways known to us. Show us the path on which we should walk. Lead us in Your truth and teach us. For You alone are the God who saves, the God in whom we trust; and the One on whom we wait. Amen.

***THE LORD’S PRAYER** (using Debts and Debtors)

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 forever. Amen.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING: Joy The Milligan Family

Congregation: **God of joy, fill our hearts with light and happiness. Help us to rejoice in your coming, and to share your life-giving light with all. Amen.**

ADVENT RESPONSE: "When God Is a Child" #109 v. 3

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:1-7 | Page #638 OT Michele Fecht

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM "Hallelu!" by Stephen Paulus Chancel Choir

A TIME OF SILENCE & MORNING PRAYER Pastor Sherrye Bailey

CHORAL AMEN

CALL FOR THE MORNING OFFERING Michele Fecht

OFFERTORY "He Is Born (Il Est Ne)" Stephanie Kanak

***DOXOLOGY** (sing in unison) #563

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavn'ly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

SERMON SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2: 13-19 Pastor Sherrye Bailey

CHORAL RESPONSE
O fill us with your word, O Lord that we may know your grace and love. O fill us with your word that we may grow in understanding.

MESSAGE "Joyful Anticipation" Pastor Sherrye Bailey

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #111

***BENEDICTION** Pastor Sherrye Bailey

POSTLUDE "Overture from Unto Us a Child Is Born" by J.S. Bach Dave Howland

MUSICIANS: Dave Howland, Danny Reeves and Chancel Choir
TECHNICIAN: Moe Elmasry | **GREETER:** Sandra Terry | **LITURGIST:** Michele Fecht