Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 19, 2021 at 10 a.m.

"Where there is hatred, let me sow love." - St Francis of Assisi

**Message:** “A Father’s Love” - Rev. Laura Folkwein

**Hymnist:** Amy Leach | **Cantor:** Chris Fastnow

**Special Music:** Mercedes McCann

All Are Welcome Here!

**MISSION STATEMENT:**
We come together to celebrate the seasons of Christian life and to welcome diverse people into community. We welcome all to share in the
life and leadership, ministry, and fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our congregation. We covenant as God’s instruments to study and practice wisdom and compassion, to encourage the spiritual work of each individual for the sake of the world, and to perform joyfully and humbly acts of kindness and justice. We, Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, declare ourselves to be open and affirming. With God’s grace, we seek to be a congregation that includes all persons, embracing differences of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, mental and physical ability, and racial, ethnic, or socio-economic backgrounds.

**Pilgrim Congregational UCC Bozeman**
2118 South Third Avenue Bozeman, Montana 59715
mail@uccbozeman.org  |  [http://www.uccbozeman.org](http://www.uccbozeman.org)  |  406-587-3690

**Order of Service**

We acknowledge that we are living and are gathered on land once occupied or used by several indigenous nations, including Salish-Kootenai, Shoshone, Apsaalooke (Crow), Piikani (Blackfeet), and others.

**OPENING BELL**

**PRELUDE**  "Silent Night" by Mohr/Gruber, arr. Chilcott.

Mercedes McCann, vocalist

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Moderator, Wendy Morical

**OPENING SONG**  *Angels Among Us/Do Not Be Afraid*  (See Below)

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**  Candle of Love  Sarah Hollier

**CALL TO WORSHIP**  Liturgist, Roger Matthew
One: Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit

Many: Alight within us your flame of love this day.

One: Grant us openness to hear your message.

Many: Grant us courage to be your messengers in the world, creating more love in the midst of fear.

A WORD ABOUT LOVE
Sarah Hollier

TIME WITH CHILDREN (See below for welcome song)  
Rev. Laura Folkwein

OPENING HYMN #165 Love Came Down at Christmas

SCRIPTURE  A dramatic reading of Matthew 1: 18-25  
Roger Matthew

MESSAGE  A Father’s Love  
Rev. Laura Folkwein

ANTHEM "Gesu Bambino" by Martens/Yon.  
Mercedes McCann, vocalist

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER  Our Creator, 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE (title and to the tune - O Come, O Come Emmanuel)  O come you source of Love unto us all. Enlighten us and help us hear your call, To bear your Love out into the wild And celebrate God’s wondrous holy Child! Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to us, And all things shall be well.

3
INVITATION TO THE OFFERING We share our offerings this morning to support the work of this church and the wider Church. Our gifts grow angels and nurture real-life, modern messengers of hope, peace, joy, and love.

OFFERTORY
Your financial support of Pilgrim Church allows us to continue to serve members and friends, pay our staff, and maintain our church building. If you wish to contribute using a credit/debit card or via a direct transfer from your bank, use Pilgrim’s secure website donation page: https://uccbozeman.org/donate-1 Or mail a check to: Pilgrim Church, 2118 S. Third Ave. Bozeman, 59715

DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator,
Christ, and Spirit, One.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION God of bright lights and darkness, of love and sorrow, of possibility and emptiness, we offer these gifts so that they may be transformed into your good news for the sake of the world. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #139 The First Noel Cantor, Chris Fastnow

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE"O Holy Night" by Adolphe Adam. Mercedes McCann, vocalist

Flowers on the altar were given by:

Susan Wordal in memory of her father Milton O. Wordal’s Birthday
12/19/1934—9/07/2005
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly inspiration on the Pilgrim Blog: This Week read it here: https://www.uccbozeman.org/pilgrimblog

Still Searching... We are still looking for an Office Manager, spread the word. If you would like to look at the Job go to our website for more information. https://www.uccbozeman.org/welcome

Stewardship Pledging Update: Our goal this year is to raise $200,000. To date as of 12/01/21 we have raised $111,820 with 49 pledges. In previous years our pledge numbers were: 2021 - 92 pledges; 2020 - 107 pledges; 2019 - 117 pledges. **We still need $88,180 to meet our goal!**
Generous members and friends of Pilgrim make a pledge commitment in the fall for the coming year to sustain and continue the ministry of our church. Contact Treasurer, Jack Lehman, Finance Committee Chair, Roger Matthew or the church office with questions. treasurer@uccbozeman.org

Pilgrim Advent Prayer and Study - Small Group The Wednesday evening Advent Study has begun, on zoom and in-person. Email Pastor Laura, minister@uccbozeman.org to join. It's not too late! 12/15, and 12/22, (78:00 p.m.) We will weave our way through Advent with the Bible poetry, using a devotional called ADVENT UNBOUND: A COMPANION TO PÁDRAIG Ó TUAMA’S “POETRY UNBOUND,” Pick up your Advent Unbound booklet in the Narthex or in the Newsletter. Want a taste of O’ Tuama’s Poetry? Visit On Being’s “Poetry Unbound” project, here: https://onbeing.org/series/poetry-unbound/

Advent Prayer and Study - At Home - Less is More: a hard copy is available at church or in the Newsletter, to accompany you through the four weeks of Advent with poetry (Advent Unbound with Padraig O Tuama) or simple
activities and reflections, more oriented towards young people and families, but great for everyone (Less is More).

**CHRISMONS™ ORNAMENTS: THEIR HISTORY & MEANING** Once again, our sanctuary Christmas tree is adorned with beautiful Chrismons™ ornaments, which were handmade years ago with love and care by Women of Pilgrim. “Chrismons™ ornaments were originated and first made for use on the Christmas tree of Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, in 1957 by Mrs. Frances Kipps Spencer, a church member. The designs were monograms of and symbols for our Lord Jesus Christ. Because these designs have been used by his followers since biblical times, they are the heritage of all Christians and serve to remind each of us regardless of denomination of the One we follow. All Chrismons™ ornaments are made in a combination of white and gold to symbolize the purity and majesty of the Son of God and the Son of Man.”


“The name Chrismons™ comes from a combination of CHRISt and MONogram.”


**Christmas Eve:** We will have two services at Pilgrim on Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

**Holiday Office Closures at Pilgrim:** Monday Dec. 27th - Thursday Dec. 30th - Closed (for a long winter's nap) *The office is closed on Friday every week.*

**DONATION MADE TO “AID TO ORPHANS OF MADAGASCAR”** As a result of our congregation’s generous contributions to our Poinsettia Sale and an additional amount from the W.P. budget, $500 was donated to this charitable foundation established in 2000 by Pilgrim member Annie deMeij! Heartfelt thanks to everyone!
The Poinsettias on the altar have been donated by .... the lovely Poinsettias that decorate our altar have been Purchased on behalf of. This beautiful addition to our sanctuary during Advent is organized by the Women of Pilgrim. Here is this years list:

Glenda Barnes in honor of her mother, Evelyn
Donna Beasley in memory of Bill Beasley
Sara Bisterfeldt in honor of her sister, Suzanne Baskin
Victoria Brailsford in honor of Suzen Mc Kevitt
Gail Cary in honor of her sister, Jane Lounsbery
Al & Sam Cunningham in honor of their parents
Margrit Firehammer - in appreciation of Anthony and John who made these months enjoyable
Jane Hawks in honor of her parents, Edna & Charles Jennelle
David King for the joy of the season
Jack & Tawnie Lehman in memory of Jack's father, John Lehman
Jack & Tawnie Lehman in memory of Tawnie's parents, Bill & Jean Quinn
Michael Lobo & Gretchen Woodhull in memory of Al & Maggie Lobo
Michael Lobo & Gretchen Woodhull in memory of Ernie & Trudie Hill
Julie Mackley in loving memory of Bob Mackley
Susan McCauley in memory of Hunt McCauley
Susan McCauley in memory of her parents
Wendy Morical & Jim Devitt, honoring their parents
Lauren Peck in memory of Cammie Smith
Norma Roberts in memory of her parents, Arden & Cathlene Hagy
Bruce & Jeanne Smith for the joy of the season
Sharon Smith in memory of her sister, Jody Reed, who died last year
Randy & Sally Sullivan - no dedication, just a gift
Randy & Sally Sullivan - with love to Pilgrim
Lauren Swanson -in memory of her Mom, Shirley Behlow, whose birthday was Christmas Day
Steven & Dawn Wallingford - in loving memory of Earle Sr., Earle Jr. III, Tom, Walt & Claire Wallingford
Spencer & Kerry Williams in memory of Gram Foley and Mamo Donnelly
Roger & Barbara Worthen in memory of Roger's parents, Gene & Virginia Worthen
Roger & Barbara Worthen in memory of Barbara's parents, Charles & Emma Jones

Stay in touch! Click this link to subscribe to our newsletter: uccbozeman.org/get-our-newsletter The newsletter goes out once a week. Pilgrim news and information is posted on Facebook every day! Click this link to follow our page: www.facebook.com/PilgrimChurchBozeman

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O Come, Advent, lyrics by Adrian Marchuk. © 2021 United Church of Canada; tune VENI EMMANUEL, Public Domain. Permission given to churches to reproduce and stream for worship or education purposes. All publishing rights reserved.
Angels Among Us/Do Not Be Afraid

There are angels among us that may not meet the eye
There are messages of joy coming from a choir on high

But don’t just look up; for the way God works
is to plant more joy right here on earth

just like it was with Jesus birth.

There are angels among us, there
are angels among us, bringing joy on

earth.
Love Came Down at Christmas


Christina G. Rossetti, 1885; alt.

1 Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
2 Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;
3 Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;

Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.
Worship we our Jesus, but where is God’s sacred sign?
Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Christina Rossetti, author of the more familiar carol “In the Bleak Midwinter,” lived a very quiet life in England. This text has been described by the noted editor Percy Dearmer as a “gem, where so much is said in so little space.”

Tune: WHITNEY 6.7.6.7.
Maurice C. Whitney, 1962
Surely the Presence of the Lord

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels’ wings;

I see glory on each face; surely the

presence of the Lord is in this place.

WORDS: Lanny Wolfe, 1977
MUSIC: Lanny Wolfe, 1977
© 1977 Lanny Wolfe Music (A div. of Pathway Press)
The First Nowell

Luke 2:8-20; Matt. 2:1-12

Traditional English carol; alt.

1. The first Nowell, the angel did say,
2. They looked above and saw a star
3. And by the light of that same star
4. This star shone bright in the northwest,
5. Then entered in those magi three,

was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
shining in the east, beyond them far,
three sages came from country far;
o’er Bethlehem it seemed to rest,
and bending low upon their knee,

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
And to the earth it gave great light,
To seek for a king was their intent,
And there it did both stop and stay,
They offered there, in great reverence,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
and so it continued both day and night.
and to follow the star wherever it went.
right over the place where Jesus lay.
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Refrain

Refrain

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,

ell, born in a manger, Emmanuel.