

OFFERING HYMN: #234 (Blue Hymnal) Verses 1-4

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Ushers please bring offerings to the manger during the 4th verse.

NINTH LESSON: John 1:1-14 (NRSV) Pastor Roger

From the very beginning God’s love was beyond our imagining; as soon as we think we can fully comprehend we hear, God’s son was with God and was God and was part of the act of creation itself. Jesus was the Word of creation, the light of the first day, the part of God that put on flesh that we might put on eternity.

HYMN: #246 (Blue Hymnal) “Joy to the World”

TO BE SENT FORTH

***BENEDICTION:**

Pastor Roger

All prayer requests are welcome. Please write them in the book on the desk in the narthex.

MEMBERS: Please sign the pew pad and pass it down the pew and then back to the start. The last person should put the sheet in the offering plate. All e-mail addresses will be protected in blind copy so no one else sees your e-mail address. If you are receiving regular e-mails from Church, it is not necessary to write it in again.

VISITORS: Please fill out a yellow card found in the pew and place it in the offering place.

North Star District Prayer List for this week includes:
Pepperton UMC—Darrell Boe

**GRACE UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**



L I V I N G
Nativity

WORSHIP LEADERS

Ministers: All the People

Organist: Mark Forkner

Choir Director: Isaac Lovdahl

Pastor: Roger Grafenstein

Violinist: Kay Forkner

Pianist: Sharon Fangsrud

**Ushers: Roger Christopherson
and Bonnie Christopherson**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 28, 2014

1st Sunday after Christmas

10:00 AM

Nurturing Hope - Building Christ-like Community

You are never a stranger here. You are a child of God.

We gather as brothers and sisters in Christ. Welcome.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE AND PRAY

Three Chimes calls us to our gathering announcements and Worship

Gathering & Announcements

*Indicates those able may stand

FESTIVAL OF THE NINE LESSONS

WE GATHER TO PRAISE AND PRAY

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19 (NRSV) Lee Horner

Sin enters the world in the Garden of Eden through the very human actions of Adam and Eve: poor decisions, passing the blame, unwillingness to admit to doing something wrong while feeling the guilt within

HYMN: #196 (Blue Hymnal) Men: 1st verse & Women: 2nd verse
“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18 (NRSV)

Holly Eckman

God promises Abraham and Sarah, an elderly childless couple, that they and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed by their descendants. Even as humans lose their way, God seeks a way to guide and bless all people.

THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (NRSV) Lee Horner

The prophet foretells the birth of a holy king to a people who live in dark times.

HYMN: #230 (Blue Hymnal)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

FOURTH LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a (NRSV)

Sharon Fangsrud

A holy and humble king is coming who will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all God's people.

HYMN: #238 (Blue Hymnal)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, AND PRAYERS:

Pastor Roger Grafenstein

THE LORDS PRAYER #895 (Blue Hymnal)

FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38 (NRSV) Linda Davis

(Angel Gabriel Enters)

God sends a messenger—the angel Gabriel—to invite a young woman named Mary to be part of a world changing plan—to say yes to the king in a way no other person could.

SIXTH LESSON: Luke 2:1-7 (NRSV) Esther Vollbrecht

(Mary, Joseph & baby Jesus Enter)

Amidst a backdrop of confusion, emperors, taxes, greed, and a housing shortage, Jesus is born.

SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-26 (NRSV) Angie Horn

(Shepherds Enter)

The first to greet the new king are those on the fringe of society, working the night shift, following the sheep. Their hearts are ready.

HYMN: #245 (Blue Hymnal) vv. 1-3 “The First Noel”
North Side—1st verse, South Side 2nd verse, All—3rd verse

EIGHTH LESSON : Matthew 2:1-11 (NRSV)

Lori Burkhardt

(Wise Ones Enter)

Those who can read the signs, even if they come from foreign lands and religions are the next to gather around the baby Jesus. Royalty recognizes royalty—and brings gifts.