

**December 23, 2018**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Des Moines Intentional Eucharistic Community**  
*All are welcome at our table*

Prayer Leader: Diane Morain

Music Leader: Kathy Olah

**Blessing for Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle**

Prayer Leader: Oh God, we hasten to draw near to You—

The time has grown so very short!

Our preparations are at an end, and we find ourselves again not ready—never ready—  
but it is Your very coming that will make us worthy to receive You.

This is the last light we light in anticipation.

The circle is complete, and we have nothing more to offer You but our prayers and our 'Yes.'

Bless this light we light; bless our yes.

Bless the fragile skin You chose to wear,

bless this small blue world You chose to make Your home,

bless us, the wounded people You chose to live among.

Bless us, who believe that all You promise is being fulfilled.

Oh God, make us a worthy dwelling place.

**ALL: Amen.**

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Opening Song: *God of All People* (insert)**

**Blessing**

Prayer Leader: Let us begin in prayer remembering the many images of God.

**ALL: In the Name of God the Creator of All That Is, the One Who Is Always Coming, and the One Who Is Always with Us. Amen.**

Prayer Leaders: Peace be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

**Prayer before Reading the Word**

Prayer Leader: God of faithful gift and tumbling thrones,

In friendship of women

your glory embodied and song of liberation born:

with Elizabeth and Mary

**ALL: May the promise of life leap within us for joy  
and cross the deserts that divide our hearts;  
through Jesus the Christ, fruit of Mary's womb. Amen**

*(Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, adapted)*

Prayer Leader: In your presence, O God, may our minds be opened, our spirits renewed, and our questions and insights shared.

**ALL: Amen.**

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*Please be seated.*

**First Reading:** Micah 5:1-4;  
**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10  
**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel.*

**Gospel:** Luke 1:39-45  
**ALL: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.**

Reader: Mary said

“My soul proclaims your greatness, O God,  
and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior.  
For you have looked with favor upon your lowly servant,  
and from this day forward all generations will call me blessed.

**ALL: For you, the Almighty, have done great things for me,  
and holy is your name.**

Reader: Your mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear you.

**ALL: You have shown strength with your arm;  
you have scattered the proud in their conceit;**

Reader: You have deposed the mighty from their thrones  
and raised the lowly to high places.

**ALL: You have filled the hungry with good things,  
while you have sent the rich away empty.**

Reader: You have come to the aid of Israel your servant,  
mindful of your mercy—

**ALL: The promise you made to our ancestors—  
to Sarah and Abraham  
and their descendants forever.”**

*Please be seated.*

**Dialogue Homily**

*Our dialogue homily is a time of reflection and sharing on the readings as they speak to our faith and life experiences, and as expressed and lived by our varied faith traditions.*

**Prayers of the People**

Prayer Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, God invites us to bring our doubts and fears, our joys and concerns, our petitions and praise, and offer them for the earth and its creatures. Follow each petition with “We pray.”

**R: God, hear our prayer.**

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Prayer Leader: God of Hope, we pray you will comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit — those whom we have named and those we hold in our hearts.

**ALL: May they know the power of your healing love.** *(A New Zealand Prayer Book, adapted)*

Prayer Leader: Receive our prayers, O God, and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do. *(Revised Common Lectionary Prayers 2002, adapted)*

**ALL: Amen.**

**Communal Offering**

Prayer Leader: God, the earth is yours, and everything in it. We come now to this table to make a return to You for all You have so generously given to us.

**ALL: In this gathering, we are fed and nourished with the gift of Word, with bread and wine, and with the gift of one another.**

*East:* You feed us that we may become what we eat—that we become bread for the world.

*West:* In thanksgiving, we offer our prayers and gifts, our daily lives, our very selves to You and to our world.

**ALL: May this offering we now collect support our community gathered here and carry our prayers and our work into the wider world. Amen.**

**Offertory Song: *Your Light Will Come, Jerusalem* (insert)**

**Eucharistic Prayer of Advent—Season of Hope**

*We gather around the altar for our prayer. Readers are not specifically assigned for the parts; please feel free to recite a passage if you feel so moved. **Bold parts are read in unison.** When it is time to bless the bread and wine, please extend a hand palm up as we say the words of blessing together. If you would like gluten-free bread, please stand by the podium.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

*Please join hands as we say The Lord's Prayer, beginning with "Our Creator."*

**Peace**

**Communion Prayer**

**We share this bread that was broken for us,  
that we might learn how to be the Body of Christ.**

**We share the cup that was poured out for us,  
that we might learn how to pour out our lives for one another.**

*"You are the bread of life."            "You are the cup of life."*

*When everyone has received Communion, please return to seats for silent prayer.*

**Communion Song: *Holy Is Your Name* (insert)**

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**Prayer after Communion**

Prayer Leader: Mystery of the winter skies, we thank you in the darkening hour  
For opening our eyes to see your starlit beauty; for parting the wide heavens  
to send your gentle light; for offering your word to take our mortal flesh.

**ALL: Now we take up the song of hope that we might awaken  
To his coming among us and the world be touched by the footfall of his glory. Amen**

*(Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, adapted)*

**Healing Blessing**

*Anyone taking bread and wine to someone in the community is invited to come forward.*

Prayer Leader: May our thoughts and prayers go to \_\_\_\_\_ and all those who need healing.  
We hold them in our hearts.

**ALL: We send you with bread and wine and the prayers of our community. Amen.**

**Announcements**

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Blessing**

Prayer Leader: May the God who brings heaven close to earth  
give truth to our judgment and flame to our longing  
that our hearts might be ready to be born again in love.

*(Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, adapted)*

**ALL: In the Name of God the Creator of All That Is, the One Who Is Always Coming, and  
the One Who Is Always with Us. Amen.**

**Final Song: *People Look East* #40**

***Please return the Eucharistic Prayer handout to the basket and  
take this Prayer Aid/Bulletin home with you.***

***Thank you for sharing in our celebration of faith this morning.  
Please join us for refreshments immediately following the service.***

***All are welcome to celebrate with us  
on Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m.  
No service on Christmas Day.***

**For the collection each week, checks can be written to "DMIEC." The First Sunday collection each month supports a selected charitable organization. The remaining collections cover utility, insurance, and other usual and customary expenses. Contributions are tax-deductible.**

**DMARC collection:** Last week's DMIEC collection netted \$1,515 for DMARC Emergency Food Pantry.

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### CHRISTMAS EVE COLLECTION

It's been our tradition to give our Christmas Eve collection to the Des Moines Catholic Worker House. This year the Worker House has designated the collection to help with general operating expenses, e.g., utilities, house maintenance, property taxes, gas and maintenance for the van, etc.

Despite their great resourcefulness, the Worker House still needs around \$75,000 a year to pay for the whole operation. This is a remarkably low price, given the immense amount of work that is done and the large number of people that they support. Every week, the Worker House serves between 400 and 600 hot meals, provides groceries and toiletries for some 100 families and individuals, provides blankets, clothes, and coats for dozens, if not hundreds, living outside. They also recently started offering free HIV and hepatitis C testing on Thursdays. During the open hours, guests can take a shower, use the bathroom, get a cup of coffee, watch T.V., or make a phone call, all while having a safe space to occupy.

***Because the Catholic Worker House is not a 501(c)3 organization, checks must be made out to "Catholic Worker House" and not to "DMIEC."***

***Catholic Worker House Needs:*** Cold weather brings a need for warm items for the Catholic Worker House guests — jackets, socks, stocking caps, blankets, and sleeping bags. Other immediate needs: disposable razors, shaving cream, and deodorant. Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the coatroom.

### SANCTUARY UPDATE: **HELP WANTED**

Here are immediate ways to help two El Salvadoran families living in Des Moines while seeking asylum:

- Join a support team to help coordinate assistance
- Identify where free and reduced-cost clothing is available
- Research availability of chronic medical care (as opposed to urgent medical care)
- Provide transportation

For more information or to volunteer, contact Martha Gelhaus, [mgelhaus@hotmail.com](mailto:mgelhaus@hotmail.com).

Financial support is also greatly needed. Here are ways to donate:

- Send donations to First Unitarian Church, c/o Charles Lewis, 1800 Bell Ave., Des Moines, 50315. Please make checks to First Unitarian Church of DSM, with ISM Asylum Support on memo line.
- Donate on-line on First Unitarian Church's website.
- Place cash and check donations in the envelope on the entrance table.
- You may wish to consider a monthly donation that could be counted on for ongoing expenses.

To receive emails about the families' needs, sign up on the clipboard or contact Martha.

*DMIEC is a sanctuary support community and a member of the Iowa Sanctuary Movement, which is sponsoring two women and two children from El Salvador.*

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Date/Time	Event	Contact Person(s):
Monday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. <i>(No service on Christmas Day)</i>	Christmas Eve Service	Liturgy Team
Wednesdays, January 16, 23 & 30, February 6, time TBA	Book Study Group: <i>Climate Church, Climate World</i>	Mary Ann Koch and Julie Powell-Mohr

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Genesis 15: 1-6; 21:1-3; *Praying with the Word - Advent, Christmas and Epiphany* by David Haas, p. 49-50; Luke: 2: 22-40

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**MINISTRIES FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30**

**Prayer Leader:** Jeanie & Elaine Hagedorn

**Music Leader:** Ray Keables

**Liturgy Coordinator:** Martha Fifield

**Prayer Aid Distributor:** Jim Fifield

**Bread Baker:** Peggy Russell

**Greeters:** *Volunteers needed*

**Readers:** Jean Minahan, Rick Gubbels, Tracy Lewis

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Charlene Skidmore, Diane Morain. *Volunteer needed*

**Straighten Worship Area:** *Volunteer needed*

**Hospitality:** Mona & Steve Gude, Eileen Burtle, Bernie Gottner, Jean Minahan, Kris Wells.  
*Volunteers needed.*

**PLEASE SIGN UP!** *Volunteer signup sheets are located in the entry hallway. Instructions for the various volunteer positions are available on the web site (dmiec.org) or in the Liturgy Room.*

*Questions about a particular position? Contact one of the Coach Contacts posted above the clipboards.*

**PRAYER LEADERS NEEDED FOR 2019**

Plan ahead for the new year. Sign up on the orange clipboard.

**DMIEC EVENTS:**

**Book Study Group: *Climate Church, Climate World***

***Wednesdays, January 16, 23 & 30, February 6, time TBA***

*Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change* by Jim Antal is a book “founded on scripture and informed by science” that challenges people of faith to “come together in prayer and conversation” to meet the climate emergency of today. If you want to purchase through Beaverdale Books, sign up on the clipboard by December 30. (Rev. Jim Antal will speak at a Climate Revival Conference on February 9 at Plymouth Congregational Church.)

**AREA EVENTS:**

**A DAY IN THE DESERT: *New Beginnings***

***Saturday, January 5, 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m., Emmaus House Spirituality Center, 1521 Center St., DM***

Are you looking for time and space for prayer and reflection, but don't have time for a long retreat? Do you find it challenging to hear God's gentle voice in the midst of your busy life? A Day in the Desert is held the first Saturday of each month through March. Come once or to all. Spiritual directors available throughout the day. Questions? Contact Kevin O'Donnell at kevin@theemmaushouse.org or 282-4839. Space limited to 10 people. \$40/day. Register at [www.theemmaushouse.org/upcoming-events](http://www.theemmaushouse.org/upcoming-events).

**We Are Church Confessing**

***Sunday, January 6, 1:00-1:30 p.m., Pappajohn Sculpture Park, 1330 Grand Ave., Des Moines***

*We Are Church Confessing* is an effort to call the church to publicly pray, confess, and bear witness to the sacredness of human life that our religious traditions call us to honor and protect. Ecumenical, interdenominational services are held in a public space the first Sunday of each month in response to our country's political crisis. This is not a protest. It is not partisan. The crisis in our political body pertains to basic issues of human rights about which we can agree to take a public stand even amidst our different perspectives on the best public policies or political affiliations. Hosted by Wellspring Community Church. For more information, contact Carmen Lampe Zeitler, [carmenandjohn@aol.com](mailto:carmenandjohn@aol.com).

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**What's Killing Our Children? What Can We Do?**

**Thursday, January 17, 7:00 p.m. Grand View University Student Center, Des Moines**

Speakers, music, poetry, and action steps. Speakers will include: Laurel Clinton on racial profiling in Des Moines; Brian Terrell on Yemen-Afghanistan; Maria Filipone on Israel-Palestine; Ann Naffier on the US-Mexico border. Co-sponsored by Catholic Peace Ministry.

**A CLIMATE REVIVAL CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, February 9, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Plymouth Congregational Church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., DM**

Keynote speaker Rev. Jim Atal, author of *Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change*. Co-sponsored by Interfaith Green Coalition, Iowa Interfaith Power and Light, and Plymouth Creation Care & Justice Coalition. No fee for the conference; freewill offering for lunch. Registration at [www.iowaip.org](http://www.iowaip.org). (See corresponding book study group under "DMIEC Events.")

**Charting Your Soul's Compass: A Women's Reflective Writing Retreat**

**March 28 – 31, St. Benedict Center Schuyler, Nebraska**

Mary Kay Shanley and Diane Douiyssi offer this Thursday evening through Sunday noon retreat that encourages women to experience the treasure of expression waiting to emerge, to consider the possibilities that await the writer within, and to celebrate the purpose and direction in their own lives. For more information, please go to [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com).

**JustFaith – Winter 2019**

JustFaith is designed for people who want to live more simply, love more compassionately, and make a difference by responding to the needs of the world. Through prayer, engaging reading, thought-provoking dialogue and relationship building, participants share a journey of faith and an invitation to "be the change" in our world. **Three stand-alone, eight-week sessions can be taken individually or together, in any order: *Living Compassionately: Caring for the Poor; Living Justly: Caring for Each Other; Living Simply: Caring for the Earth.*** Sessions begin in late January. Each contains 1-2 books, several videos, a retreat experience, an encounter or immersion experience, and an opportunity for action. For more information, go to [centerforsocialministry.org](http://centerforsocialministry.org)

**Exploring Migration: A Faith Journey**

This JustFaith Ministries program invites participants to look at central questions related to migration in the 21<sup>st</sup> century through the lens of Christian faith. This eight-session module offers participants a chance to find common ground and to discover more about themselves, their values, their God, and the millions of people who are on the move in every part of the world. Exploring Migration will be held Thursday mornings beginning January 24. For more information, go to [centerforsocialministry.org](http://centerforsocialministry.org)

**Summer 2019: Build Homes in Malawi with Habitat for Humanity**

Enjoy a different kind of vacation. Brendalyn Shird is recruiting a volunteer team to serve in **Malawi, Africa, from June 29-July 7, 2019**. The team will experience *the warm heart of Africa* while building homes for vulnerable children who have lost at least one parent. For more information, contact Brendalyn at [bshird@gdmhabitat.org](mailto:bshird@gdmhabitat.org).

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**If you are new to IEC and would like a printed nametag, please sign up on the sheet in the entry hallway. Please include your email address if you would like to be added to our distribution list. PLEASE NOTE: Signing up for a nametag and emails does not register you as a member of DMIEC. You must be a registered member to access the Members section of our web site and to vote in DMIEC elections. There is no tithing commitment. For more information or to register, please contact Jim Fifield, [dmiec11@gmail.com](mailto:dmiec11@gmail.com) or 720-2104.**

### BREAD AND WINE

If you would like to take the bread and wine to someone, or if you would like a member to bring bread and wine to you, please call Diane Morain at 491-7778 or talk to her before worship on Sunday. The bread and wine can then be blessed by the community during our Liturgy of the Eucharist. *Sharing the bread and wine is a vital part of our community.*

### PLAYROOM SUPERVISION RULES

- Any child using the playroom must have their parent or other adult relative present in the playroom or immediately outside the room to maintain visual contact of the child.
- During Sunday services or other events, the parent or other adult relative may move a chair from the worship area to the hallway outside the playroom door to be able to participate in the service and maintain supervision of the child.
- If their parent or other adult relative is not present in the playroom, then two approved volunteers must be present. One of the volunteers must be 18 or older.

*Individuals 14 years of age and older, who would like to supervise children in the playroom, must be approved by the Community Council. If interested in being approved, please contact Dennis Rhodes ([DennisRho@msn.com](mailto:DennisRho@msn.com) or 371-6494) or Karen DeHaven ([kdehaven@mchsi.com](mailto:kdehaven@mchsi.com) or 205-1086).*

### COMMUNITY CONTACTS

#### Pastoral Care Ministry Team

Kevin Pokorny ([pokornyk@hotmail.com](mailto:pokornyk@hotmail.com) or 277-5848)

Mary Beth Reiff ([marybethnz@msn.com](mailto:marybethnz@msn.com) or 779-6936)

#### Meal Coordinator:

Karen DeHaven ([kdehaven@mchsi.com](mailto:kdehaven@mchsi.com) or 205-1086)

*(Contact Karen to coordinate meal deliveries to DMIEC members suffering from illness, surgery, or accident.)*

#### Community Council

Art Cunningham ([finproac@aol.com](mailto:finproac@aol.com); 961-6330)

Karen DeHaven ([kdehaven@mchsi.com](mailto:kdehaven@mchsi.com); 205-1086)

Donna Dressel ([ddressel84@gmail.com](mailto:ddressel84@gmail.com); 313-6184)

Jim Fifield ([jfifield74@gmail.com](mailto:jfifield74@gmail.com); 720-2104)

Dennis Rhodes ([DennisRho@msn.com](mailto:DennisRho@msn.com); 371-6494)

Mary Routh ([Mlenaghanrouth@gmail.com](mailto:Mlenaghanrouth@gmail.com); 371-4630)

Brendalyn Shird ([breishird@msn.com](mailto:breishird@msn.com); 554-4700)

### PERSONAL MINISTRIES

*The Pastoral Care Ministry Team invites people in our community to offer their time as ministry to one another. Your ministry may include offering minor home repairs, yard work, pet care, respite care, prayer companion, rides to our Sunday prayer service, moving assistance, etc. For information, see flyers and signup sheet in the entry hallway.*

**There is an assistance fund for DMIEC members** needing emergency financial assistance with food, shelter, utilities, transportation and medical and/or health issues. If you face such a need, we encourage you to contact a member of the Pastoral Care Ministry Team.

**Building-Use Forms** are on the web site. For information, please contact Mary Routh.

**To submit an item for the bulletin, please send to Martha Fifield, [martha.fifield@gmail.com](mailto:martha.fifield@gmail.com).**

Weekly Prayer Aids/Bulletins are available at [dmiec.org](http://dmiec.org). In the *Members* area in the left column, click on *Readings, Prayer Aids, Administration Files*, then *Our Weekly Prayer Aid*. Only registered DMIEC members may access this area of the web site.

**To have full access, you may want to consider becoming a member.** If you are not a registered member (or are not sure whether you are registered), contact Jim Fifield, [dmiec11@gmail.com](mailto:dmiec11@gmail.com), 720-2104. You may also contact Jim if you are already a member and are having issues accessing the web site, or if you wish to update your personal information on the members' list on our web site.



#### DMIEC on Facebook: "Des Moines Intentional Eucharistic Community"

Administrators approve comments to our page before they go 'live'; only administrators can post statuses or pictures as DMIEC. To have an event posted as DMIEC on the page or to share pictures, email to [tracyarood@gmail.com](mailto:tracyarood@gmail.com).

