

## FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS | DECEMBER 28, 2025

### OPENING VIDEO

"Ancient Words"

### OPENING WORDS: Isaiah 63: 7-9

### \*HYMN WELCOME

Pastor Scott Clawson

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, we have waited, watched, and witnessed the coming of the Christ child. As we gather today on the other side of Christmas, we might be tempted to ask, "What now?"

### We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

In this season of Christmas, we remember that though Christ has come among us, the good news of freedom for captives, flourishing for the poor, and power returned to the disempowered does not reign in so many places.

### We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

With Mary and Joseph, we listen for God to show us how to protect and advocate for the vulnerable among us.

### We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

As we gather to worship today, may God bind us together in love, empowering us to live as followers of the Christ child who declare good news wherever we go.

### We gather today as people who wait, watch, and work for the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING & READING

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### \*HYMN

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*HYMN

### ANTHEM

### GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2: 13-23

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God**

### SERMON

"Son of Man on the Run"

Pastor Scott Clawson

### \*HYMN

### BENEDICTION

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION & POSTLUDE

### 11:00 AM WORSHIP LEADERS

Acolyte: Ben Hanson

Advent Reader(s): Amanda Berry

Lay Reader: Linda New

Ushers: Lafoon Family & Margie Matz

### Church Meetings

Monday, December 29: 9:30 AM Choir Practice – 6:30 PM – ED Building  
Wednesday, December 31 – New Years Eve

Saturday, January 3 – Men's Breakfast – 8:00 AM – Schoolhouse

Saturday, January 3 – Disciple – 10:00 AM – Contact Nick Wood

Sunday, January 4- Communion Sunday and Nametag Sunday

### CAMPAIGN PLEDGES AS OF 12/21/2025 ARE \$761,900

### Church Office Closed for the Holidays: Office Hours resume on January 6

Sunday December 28: Special Unity Service – 10:15 AM

Come early for coffee and donuts at 9:30 AM

### Coat Drive Collection: November 30- March 1<sup>st</sup>

Please help families in need by donating new, clean, and/or gently used winter coats, scarves, hats, gloves and boots. Contact Susan Stevens for more info: 240-277-2582.

**Daily Devotions Starting 12/29/25**

**Monday (12/29)- Jeremiah 31: 7-14**

The prophet is speaking to the exiles in Babylon who may have lost all hope of being rescued. When have you experienced your own "Babylon" experience? Have you been rescued yet or are you still waiting? Pray for deliverance.

**Tuesday (12/30)- Jeremiah 12: 1-6**

Have you ever had a complaint like this against the Lord, the same as Jeremiah? What can you do to refocus your complaints to praise?

**Wednesday (12/31)- Psalm 147**

Pray for peace in and out of our borders for the coming year.

**Thursday (1/1)- John 1: 1-9**

Happy New Year! Recite the powerful words from John aloud a few times during this day.

**Friday (1/2)- Ephesians 1: 3-14**

When Paul states "chosen", do you think he means specific individuals or all of humanity? Why or why not?

**Saturday (1/3)- John 1: 10-18**

What powerful truths is John driving home?

**Sunday (1/4)- Worship in person or online.**



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