

# The Imagination of

## *Welcome to Worship*

December 20, 2009

9:00 AM



## **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 20, 2009

9:00 AM

**Williamsville United Methodist Church**  
5681 Main Street, Williamsville NY 14221  
Phone: (716) 634-4800  
E-mail: [wumc@williamsvilleumc.org](mailto:wumc@williamsvilleumc.org)  
Web Site: [www.williamsvilleumc.org](http://www.williamsvilleumc.org)

**Prelude**  
"Like a Child"  
by Daniel Charles Damon

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**+Opening Songs**  
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"  
Hymnal 196  
"Away in a Manger"  
Hymnal 217

### **A Gathering Prayer**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### **Prayer Song**

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"  
FWS 2193

**+Reading from Gospel**

Mark 13:1-8

**The Story from the King's Kids**

**The Message**

“The Imagination of Peace”

The Rev. Rich Neal

**Giving Our Gifts to God**

“One Day”

by Steve Metevier

**Prayer of Thanks**

**+Song**

“Joy to the World”

Hymnal 246

**The Blessing**

**Postlude**

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

**Leave for Christian education classes for all ages.**

*Reminder to parents, even though the King's Kids service ends early, please do not send your children downstairs to Christian education classes until 9:45 a.m. We want to be sure that the teachers are in the rooms when your children arrive.*

+ Indicates: please stand as you are able.

FWS hymns are found in the black spiral bound books.

Hymnal numbers are found in the blue, hardcover books.

Acolytes: Patrick Fortune and Christina Pascoe

Altar Guild: Nancy Howlett

Head Usher: Robert Wood

December Usher Team: Fred Huber, Vaughn Hackworth,  
Brian Meisenburg, Shelly Kayne

Church family and friends may request special prayers through the Prayer Chain. Please call Bob or Irene Hayman to place your prayer request.

**For those who would find it helpful, large print bulletins, hymnals and Bibles are available in the back of the sanctuary. We also offer comfortable ear-sets that provide improved listening. An usher will be happy to assist with either.**

Loving, consistent infant and toddler care is available in the nursery from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM. We have a paging system so you can be quietly alerted if your child needs your presence. Parents wishing to use this service are welcome to take their children to the nursery at any time. If you need directions, please ask an usher.

The quiet activity clipboards for children to use during worship are in the small bookshelf at the back of the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you need help.

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Phone: 634-4800

**If you have an emergency and must speak to a pastor you may call:**

The Rev. Richard Neal at 984-3541

Nicholas Perry at 984-5483

Pastor

Associate Pastor

richneal@together.net

nicholasperry@yahoo.com

**Pastoral Office Hours:**

Rich Neal: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or by appointment

Nick Perry: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday or by appointment

Pastoral Team: The Rev. Richard Neal, Pastor    Nicholas Perry, Associate Pastor

Directors of Music: Judith Stafford and Wendy Amuso

Pastoral Assistant for Nurture and Visitation: Barbara Saltarella

Director of Christian Education: Judith Toone

Church Administrator: Denise Barham

Custodian: Floyd Schebell

Nursery Care: Kathleen Ciccone, Amanda Dickerman & Allison Soucise

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**Prelude** "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" Traditional English  
The Memorial Handbell Choir arr. Dobrinski

#### Welcome and Announcements

**Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle** Insert

#### Antiphon

O Ruler of all peoples and their Desired One, Cornerstone that makes all things one:

**Come, and restore us whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.**

**+Hymn of Praise** "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" Hymnal 179

#### +Gathering Prayer

O Mighty God, whose strength defends all who serve you:

**So fill us with joy and expectation at the coming of your Christ, that we may forever sing your greatness to the ends of the earth; in that same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**First Lesson** Micah 5:2-5a Old Testament p. 1010

**+The Gospel** Luke 1:46b-55 New Testament p. 78

#### Concerns and Prayers of the People

#### Children's Time

As the children gather, please join in singing:

"Where Children Belong"

Nick Perry

FWS 2233

*After this time, children aged four through seven may leave for the Christian education extended session with their teachers.*

**Sermon** "The Imagination of Peace" The Rev. Rich Neal

**+Hymn** "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" Hymnal 198

## Invitation to the Lord's Table

*All who intend to lead a Christian life, together with their children, are invited to receive the bread and the cup. We do not refuse any who desire to receive.*

*Please come by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.*

*We serve grape juice instead of wine.*

*Gluten-free bread is available at the center station.*

## Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves

**Offertory Music** "Sing a Song of Christmas" J. Raney  
The Chancel Choir  
Tea` Prokes, violin and Rocky Amuso, flute

**+The Presentation** tune: Hymnal 384  
**Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

**+The Great Thanksgiving** Hymnal, pp. 15-16  
**+The Lord's Prayer**  
**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

## Prayer after Communion

Eternal God: We give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

**Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others; through Christ our Lord, who is the way of life. Amen.**

**+Closing Hymn** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Hymnal 206

## +Benediction

And you will be the ones who make God's peace known in the world, preparing the way for fresh comings of the Spirit.

**God has done wonderful things for us, opening to us the peace of God's reign!**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Postlude** "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" Felix Mendelssohn  
1809-1847

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