

Cottage Grove United Church of Christ is a Joyful Place to be... making connections, touching lives, and serving Christ.
We enter the Sanctuary to worship God. We leave the Sanctuary to serve with God.
(*All who are able in body and/or spirit are invited to stand)

We Gather to Worship

Countdown Music	“Joyful Tidings” By G.F. Handel, Arr. By James Moffatt - One License Song # 1011789, One License # A-740865	Gary Afdahl
Gathering Music	“Mary Did You Know?” By Buddy Greene, Mark Lowry - CCLI Song # 839225, CCLI License # 1913200	JC Rock
Ringling of the Bell/Welcome	(If you wish, please type your online greetings/peace to one another in the chat/comment section.)	
*An Opening Hymn of Praise	“We Hail You God’s Anointed”	Lyric Sheet, NCH #104
Advent Candle Lighting: The Candle of Peace (Words on screen)	Karen Schmidt, Mike Goebel Beckett and Westlyn Bachman	
A Response in Song	“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” By Bernie Herms, Dale Oliver, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Mark Hall - CCLI Song # 5466490, CCLI License # 1913200	JC Rock

We Listen for God’s Word

Scripture Reading	Isaiah 42:1-4, 9-10	
The Gift of Music	“Do You Hear What I Hear”	Gary Weiby
We Learn from God’s Word	“Praise God, Sit in Silence, and Sing a New Song” Experiencing Christmas Message Series	Pastor Bryan Olson
A Song of Faith	“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”	Lyric Sheet, HFG #197

We Bring Our Tithes and Offerings

An Invitation to Give In-person, Electronically, and by Mail (In person guests are invited to place their offerings in the box at the back of the sanctuary. For those who wish to give electronically, a QR Code will be shown during this time in the service where you can connect to CGUCC’s safe and secure online giving site directly by scanning the code with your mobile device.)		
Offertory Response	“Offering” By Paul Baloche - CCLI Song # 3956562, CCLI License # 1913200	Lyric Sheet

We Receive God’s Gifts in Holy Communion

(If you would like to participate in the sacrament at home, please have some bread, crackers, rice cakes, small tortillas, etc. to break and share as well as a cup or cups of juice, wine, or water for each person)		
Gathering Our Prayers		
A Song of Preparation	“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”	Lyric Sheet, HFG #166
Invitation to Christ’s Table		
Communion Prayer		
Words of Remembering (Breaking the bread and filling the cup)		
Prayer of Consecration		
The Lord’s Prayer		Words on screen
Receiving the Elements	Cottage Grove UCC practices open communion. People of all ages who confess Christ as Savior are welcome at Christ’s table. Today we will receive communion by intinction. You are invited to come forward down the center aisle, receive the bread or gluten free cracker, dip it into a cup with wine (dark colored) OR grape juice (light colored), eat and receive a blessing. Then return to your seat by a side aisle. Servers will go to the pews of those unable to come forward. Please inform an usher of your desire to receive communion in your pew. Sealed Communion kits (wafer and grape juice) are available in the Gathering Room for those who would like to receive the elements that way.	
Communion Music	“Be Still” By David J. Evans - CCLI Song # 120824, CCLI License # 1913200	Gary Afdahl
*Prayer of Thanksgiving (spoken together)		Words on screen

We Go Out to Live and Serve

*A Song As We Part	“Let There Be Peace on Earth”	Lyric Sheet, HFG #681
*We Receive A Blessing		
*Music As We Leave	“Do You Hear What I Hear”	JC Rock

NEXT STEPS THIS WEEK...

- ☐ Take time to praise God with words and music AND be still/silent and listen for God speaking during this Advent season.

☐ Prayerfully consider making a financial contribution to help our congregation host the Live Nativity this afternoon. **All donations will go to help pay for the animals and stage/sound/lighting.** Please scan the QR code below and select Live Nativity in the dropdown menu or put Live Nativity on your check or envelope with cash. Thank you!

☐ Make plans to attend the **CGUCC Indoor Market** this **Thursday, December 7th (2:30-6:30 pm)**. If you would like to bake any homemade bars, breads, cookies, pies, or other delicious treats to be sold to benefit the ministries of the church, please bring them to the church before 2 pm on Thursday. Thank you!

☐ Reflect on the following questions: How does our congregation change lives for the better in our community and the world? How are you already participating in those life-changing ministries? How would you like to? What other/new life-changing ministries would you like to see our congregation do together?

☐ Give my financial tithes and offerings to the church **in person, electronically** (using the QR code or at www.cgucc.org), or **by mail** (7008 Lamar Ave S, Cottage Grove, MN 55016).

