


We repent of our sins and seek God's forgiveness, and we proclaim God's salvation to the world. Because of our God's deep compassion, the dawn from heaven breaks upon us, God brings light to us and to all who dwell in darkness to guide us on the path of peace.

THANKSGIVING & SENDING FORTH INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

With rejoicing and patience, we not only wait for the coming of God's kingdom, we work to make God's kingdom known. May the gifts we offer today reflect our trust in God, who promises and gives us more than we can even imagine.

- *DOXOLOGY UMH #204
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
- *OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Shon
- *CLOSING HYMN TFWS #2092
Like a Child
- *BENEDICTION Rev. Shon
- POSTLUDE Carol Prindle
Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service

The alter flowers and the refreshments at coffee hour are given in honor of Esther Shon. We welcome her home!





Advent is a season of waiting and preparation, where we make our hearts and minds ready to celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas and receive him anew in our lives and communities.

Join Us!

Worship Sundays 9am
Bible Study Sundays 10:15am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4pm

3rd SUNDAY OF Advent

This week's WWIS radio broadcast is sponsored by Mary Van Gordon in honor of all lay workers in our church




Dinner Church
Wednesday's—5:30-6:30 PM
EVERYONE is welcome!



REQUEST: Dessert Items
(Homemade or storebought cookies, cakes, bars, etc.)

Volunteers Sign-up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FAAAC2AAAFBC16-47489118-dinner> or scan the QR above. User Name//Password not required.
Contact Marcia Hagen or Charlene Galston for questions.

Menu this week: Baked Chicken, Rice, Corn, Dinner Roll, Fruit & Dessert

365 Days Bible Reading Plan

Week 46: 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude & Proverbs 22-28



Memory Verse Week 46: Jude 3

"Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people."

Share the Love!

Give a Christmas gift to Dinner Church or Friends Sharing Food. Pick up an envelope from the Giving Tree.



Make checks payable to BRF UMC (memo: Dinner Church or Friends Sharing Food). Return envelopes to the offering plate or church office by Dec. 28.

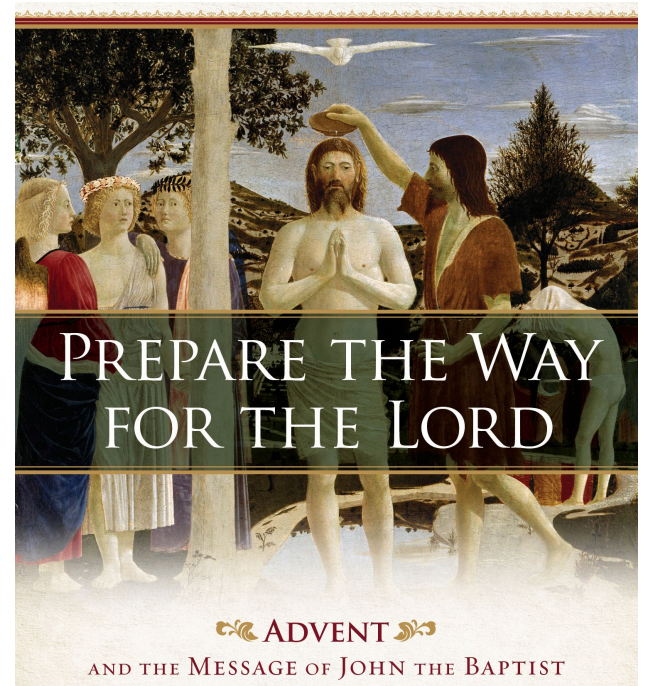
Sponsored by the Mission Outreach Committee.

Ushers: Roxie Hostrawser
Fellowship: SPRC

Upcoming Meetings

Sun	Dec 14	Men's Group/Garden	10:15am
Thurs	Dec 18	Ad Council	5:30pm

Black River Falls United Methodist Church



UMC Mission Statement:
"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Pastor: Rev. Inwha Shon
Pianist: Carol Prindle

100 North Fourth Street
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Phone: 715-284-4114

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 8am-1pm
Website: brfumc.org YouTube: brfumc
Facebook: Black River Falls United Methodist Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

** Indicates, please stand if able.*

Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2025 9 AM

Liturgist: Roxie Hostrawser

PRELUDE

Carol Prindle

INVITATION AND GATHERING

*CALL to WORSHIP (Isaiah 40:1-5 and 43:1-3)

L: A voice is crying out in the wilderness: prepare the way for the Lord.

P: Make a straight path through the desert, a highway for our God.

L: Lift up every valley, bring down every mountain and hill.

P: Make the uneven ground level, and the rough terrain a smooth valley plain.

L: When we pass through the water, God will be with us.

P: When we go through rivers, they won't wash us away.

L: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem.

P: Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed. All people together will see it.

*OPENING PRAYER

Joyful and patient God, you break into our Advent busyness with your extravagant promise of glory and joy. Fire up our imaginations with holy trust in your goodness. Inspire us with a patience that sees beyond our habitual longing for past glories and understandings. Move us beyond our too familiar criticisms of one another and of ourselves. Open our eyes and help us see your compassion, already at work in our world: healing, restoring, strengthening, and telling the good news that you are near. Make us signs of your everlasting joy for your people and for all the world We pray in the name of Jesus, whose nearness we proclaim. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: The Candle of Joy

We rejoice because the Lord's messenger is coming. He calls us into the water as a sign that we are changing our hearts and lives. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of

joy. We hear the words of John the Baptist, whom God sent to prepare the way, and we know that our Savior is near. The sun of righteousness is rising. We enter the baptismal waters with gladness, knowing that our sins are washed away. We turn to Christ with anticipation and delight. We seek to be a people prepared for the Lord.

* OPENING HYMN

UMH #210

All Earth is Waiting

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Lord God, as we prepare our hearts and lives to receive you and welcome your son Jesus, we confess that we have sinned. We have strayed from your will. We have failed to do the things you have called us to do. We have acted without love and turned away from our neighbors in need. We repent. We turn back to you, God, and we want you to forgive our sins. Wash us and make us clean. Fill us with your spirit so that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance. We pray in the name of Jesus, the one who is coming. Amen.

WORDS of ASSURANCE

L: Hear the good news. The one who is coming is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. He is the Messiah, the Savior, the Son of God, and the Light of the World. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*In Unison*)

*HYMN

UMH #207

Prepare the Way of the Lord (3x)

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

God, you have sent a voice crying out in the wilderness to prepare your way. Make us ready now to hear your voice and receive your word in scripture. Open our hearts, teach us, guide us, lead us to repentance, and prepare us for your coming. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:80; 3:1a, 2b-4

[John] grew up, becoming strong in character. He was in the wilderness until he began his public ministry to Israel... In the fifteenth year of the rule of the emperor Tiberius... God's word came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. John went throughout the region of the Jordan River, calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. This is just as it was written in the scroll of the words of Isaiah the prophet, A voice crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord."

Matthew 3:4-6

John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. People from Jerusalem, throughout Judea, and all around the Jordan River came to him. As they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.

Luke 3:7-8

Then John said to the crowds who came to be baptized by him, "You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives."

*HYMN

UMH #216

Lo How a Rose 'Ere Blooming

MESSAGE

Rev. Shon

John's Ministry and Preaching

Affirmation of Faith (Luke 1:68-79)

Bless the Lord our God, who has come to rescue his people. God has raised up a savior for us from the line of David, just as the prophets said. God brings salvation from our enemies and delivers us from all those who hate us. God shows us mercy and remembers the covenant with Abraham, just as he promised our ancestors. God rescues us so that we can serve the Lord without fear, with holiness and righteousness as long as we live. We hear the words of the prophets who go before God and call on us to prepare the way for the Lord.