

What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. He is the one of whom it is written: *Look, I'm sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before you.* "I assure you that no one who has ever been born is greater than John the Baptist. Yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. The Word of God, for the people of God—**Thanks be to God**

Sermon "Father Christmas" Rev. Kayla Mangrich

Communion

Offertory—Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn: "Blessed Be the God of Israel" UMH 209

***Benediction**

Postlude Glen Haselbarth



*Third Sunday
of Advent*

United Methodist Church

340 N Newell Ave, Minden, Nebraska

Order of Worship

December 14, 2025

Pastor Kayla Mangrich

(815) 303-4808

kmangrich@greatplainsumc.org

www.facebook.com/MindenUMC

www.mindenumc.org

Prelude

Glen Haselbarth

**Welcome of Guests—Greeting—Sharing of
Announcements—Invocation**

1. Wednesday Youth Group at 6:30pm.
2. Single Board Structure Training January 11th at Shelton UMC from 11:30am-1:30pm.
3. Pledge cards are on the back table please fill out and place in the basket or the offering tray.
4. The carts are in the lobby for food pantry collection. There is a list on the table of needed items.
5. Check Bulletin board by office for activities.
6. If you'd like to volunteer as a helper during worship service please sign up on the sheet located at the back of the sanctuary.

December 14-20, 2025

Sunday

10:00am Worship with Communion

10:00am-2:00pm Boy Scout Soup Feed Fundraiser at the Windmill

11:15am Confirmation

Monday

7pm Boy Scouts

Happy Birthday! Chad Fries.

Tuesday

Wednesday

6:30pm Youth Group

Happy Anniversary Fred & Joyce Will—48 years

Thursday

1:30pm Prayer Time

Happy Anniversary Doug & Diana Hammer—43 years

Friday

Saturday

Last week we received offering of \$3,972.

Opening Hymn **“People, Look East”** **UMH 202**

***Call to Worship**

One: We gather today in great hope, longing to see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Many: The Almighty has done great things for us. Holy is God’s name.

One: May our worship strengthen our hands, make firm our trembling knees, and unburden our fearful hearts.

Many: The Almighty has done great things for us. Holy is God’s name.

One: Knowing that God is near, let us be patient with the times and with one another.

Many: The Almighty has done great things for us. Holy is God’s name.

One: To all who ask about our hope, let us tell the good news of what we have seen and heard.

Many The Almighty has done great things for us. Holy is God’s name.

Advent Wreath Lighting

“Advent Song” TFWS 2090 vs 1-3

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer of Confession

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

Passing the Peace of Christ

Young Disciple’s Lesson

“Where Children Belong” TFWS 2233

Hymn **“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”** **UMH 218**

Scripture Proclamation

Kylea Strasburg

Isaiah 35:1-10

The desert and the dry land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus. They will burst into bloom, and rejoice with joy and singing.

They will receive the glory of Lebanon, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the Lord’s glory, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and support the unsteady knees. Say to those who are panicking: “Be strong! Don’t fear! Here’s your God, coming with vengeance; with divine retribution God will come to save you.” Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be cleared. Then the lame will leap like the deer, and the tongue of the speechless will sing. Waters will spring up in the desert, and streams in the wilderness. The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground, fountains of water. The jackals’ habitat, a pasture; grass will become reeds and rushes. A highway will be there. It will be called The Holy Way. The unclean won’t travel on it, but it will be for those walking on that way. Even fools won’t get lost on it; no lion will be there, and no predator will go up on it. None of these will be there; only the redeemed will walk on it. The Lord’s ransomed ones will return and enter Zion with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. Happiness and joy will overwhelm them; grief and groaning will flee away.

Matthew 11:2-11

Now when John heard in prison about the things the Christ was doing, he sent word by his disciples to Jesus, asking, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus responded, “Go, report to John what you hear and see. Those who were blind are able to see. Those who were crippled are walking. People with skin diseases are cleansed. Those who were deaf now hear. Those who were dead are raised up. The poor have good news proclaimed to them. Happy are those who don’t stumble and fall because of me.” When John’s disciples had gone, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John: “What did you go out to the wilderness to see? A stalk blowing in the wind? What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in refined clothes? Look, those who wear refined clothes are in royal palaces.