November 29, 2026
First Sunday of Advent



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Rob Bacon
Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon
Rev. Jerry Swanberg, Emeritus
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Maxwell, IA 50161
Office: (515) 387-8594
Website: https://www.maxwellmc.org

Upper Midwest GMC Links: Check out what's happening. Stay connected.
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/uppermidwestgmc/
Website: https://www.uppermidwestgmc.org/
Methodist Roots: https://www.globalmethodist.org/methodist-roots

Maxwell Methodist Church
November 29, 2026 – First Sunday of Advent
Pastor: Robert Bacon; Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon
Pianist: Deb Mitchell
***Please stand if able**

Prelude. . . . . .Deb Mitchell

Welcome/Announcements

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: O that You would open the heavens and come down, O Lord.
People: Come to us in power, in mercy, and in steadfast love.
Leader: Restore us, O God, let Your face shine, that we may be saved.
People: We wait for You with longing hearts; awaken us to Your presence.
Leader: You have enriched us in every way through Christ Jesus, calling us to stand firm as we await His revealing.
People: Strengthen us with Your grace; make us bold in hope and faithfulness in expectation.
Leader: Heaven and earth will pass away, but Your Word endures forever.
People: Keep us watchful, ready for the coming of the Son of Man.
Leader: Open the heavens, shine forth from Your glory; and renew Your People once again.
People: Come, Lord Jesus. Restore us, save us, and lead us into the light of Your kingdom.
All: We worship You, God of hope, as we begin this holy season of Advent. Come and make all things new.

***Congregational Hymn. . . .“O Come, All Ye Faithful”. . . .Hymnal #174**

***Our Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon**

All: Holy God, we confess that we have not stayed awake to your presence nor walked faithfully in Your ways. You are the Potter, and we are the clay, yet we resist Your shaping and trust in our own strength. Restore us, O Lord of hosts. Shine Your face upon us and save us. By Your grace awaken our hope, forgive our sin, and make us ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God in silence.
(*Silent confession)*
Leader: Hear the good news: The God who callus is faithful and forgives all who turn to Him.
People: In Christ we are restored and made new. Thanks Be to God. *Amen.*

We are Led in Worship

Praise Team

Lighting of the First Advent Candle "HOPE"

Praise Offerings
Prayer Chorus. . ."Jesus, Name Above all Names". . . Black Book #2071

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, living Word.

We Worship in Prayer

Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

We Worship in Giving

Offering plates are at both doors as you enter or leave and will not be passed.
***Doxology / *Offertory Prayer**

We Worship by Hearing the Word

Scripture: Isaiah 64:1-9

[1]Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!
[2]As when fire sets twigs ablaze
and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you
[3]For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.
[4]Since ancient times no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

[5]You come to the help of those who gladly do right,
who remember your ways.
But when we continued to sin against them,
you were angry.
How then can we be saved?
[6]All of us have become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.
[7]No one calls on your name
or strives to lay hold of you
for you have hidden your face from us
and have given us over to our sins.
[8]Yet you, Lord, are our Father.
We are the clay, you are the potter
we are all the work of your hand.
[9]Do not be angry beyond measure, Lord;
do not remember our sins forever
Oh, look on us, we pray,
for we are all your people.

We Worship in Learning the Word

Message: . . . . . "Tear Open the Heavens". . . . . .Pastor Rob Bacon

We Worship in Song

*Closing Song . . . . "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus". . . . Hymnal #163

Closing Prayer

Postlude. . . . . .Deb Mitchell



Announcements

- **Pastor's Office Hours** : By appointment. Rob 515-460-8885; Carol 515-460-8969
- **Bulletin Announcements**: Please forward bulletin announcements to office@maxwellmc.org by Wednesday.
- **Fellowship Sign-up**: Please sign up to bring refreshments for fellowship
- **Wednesdays @ 6:00 – 7:00 pm** SSNOW
- **Thursdays @ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**: Beginning October 22 new study on Esther.
- **December 6, 2026, @ 5:15-7:00 pm**: Youth Group at the church
- **December 13 @ 10:00 am:** SSNOW Christmas Program
- **December 24 @ 6:00 pm**: Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service
- **Fundraiser for the Blessman South Africia Well Project:** On December 13 after church, the Mission Team is hosting a ***Christmas, Crafts and Cookies*** fundraiser. Plates will also be fixed for shut-ins on December 13. Bring a craft donation, goodies for shut-in plates and craft/cookies/goodies for this fundraiser. Questions: Contact Pam Travis at 515-422-6652 or pjmtravis@hotmail.com.
- **Church Service Volunteers:** Something new! A sign-up sheet for liturgist, greeters/ushers, acolytes and bell ringers is on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Note the times for "duty" on the sign-up sheet.

PayPal Update: New login link and QR Code.
https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=9SD7NN9RXVWAQ