

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Invocation**Voluntary***Sonata in A Major*

Domenico Scarlatti

*** Chiming of the Trinity***** Processional Hymn 211***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**Veni Emmanuel***Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Scripture: Isaiah 61:10

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

We light this candle and recall the rejoicing of Elizabeth and Zechariah at the birth
of their son, John – the baptizer and forerunner of the promised Messiah.

Responsive Prayer:

Lord of joy, open our eyes to the many ways you bring joy to your world.

May we rejoice in the birth of a child and also in your presence during times of suffering.

May I learn to rejoice in all circumstances.

Let us discover your joy in all of life and especially in the new life that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements**Morning Prayers****Silent Prayers****Pastoral 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.

Offertory*Adagio* (from Toccata in C minor)

J. S. Bach

Offertory Anthem*Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God*

G. F. Handel

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, Thy truth unseal.
Thy love reveal. Lord, hear thou in mercy our prayer to Thee,
Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God. Come in Thy might.
Send forth Thy light. Lord, hear Thou in mercy, our prayer to Thee,
Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God. For Thee we long.
Hear thou our prayer. To Thee be glory now and evermore.

*** Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Doxology No. 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Children's Moments*What's in the Box?*

*Children ages three through fourth-grade may go to Children's Church in room 216.
Nurseries are provided for infants through age three in the Family Life Center.*

Hymn 242*Love Came Down at Christmas*

Gartan

Scripture

Luke 1: 5-25, 57-80

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rejoice in the Lord

* Hymn 246

Joy to the World

Antioch

*You are invited to the altar during the singing of this hymn.
Kneel ... commune with God ... return to your pew when ready.*

* Benediction and Choral Response

* Chiming of the Trinity

* *All who are able, please stand.*

First United Methodist Church

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The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in memory of
Garvin L. Huggins, Sr. on his birthday, December 8
and Garvin L. (Lann) Huggins, III on his birthday, November 11
by Betty Huggins

Evening Service in the Hut
Speaker: Reverend Jack Fenner

