

We Gather to Worship God

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the light of Christ's coming. Christ is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for the day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY J. S. Bach
Come, Savior of Our Race

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, we stand at the entrance of the church and at the doorway of the Christian year on this second Sunday of Advent. Let us prepare our hearts and minds as portals for Christ to enter.

THE LITANY OF THE GREENS

In the days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hill; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say:

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths."

With what shall we come to God's house?

Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.

Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things and our holy play. The garlands and wreaths will be a reminder of our need of repentance and that faithfulness and integrity that comes from God our maker and redeemer.

We remember God's everlasting promise to the poor and needy that God's loving action to save and provide for his people with these trees.

These symbols and signs of Christ—ruler, prophet, priest. Stars, crosses, triangles remind us of his identity, his story.

Here in this place we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Here we will remember his Advent, his birth in Bethlehem, weak and helpless as an infant. And here we will rekindle our prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus" as we await his coming as the bright and shining morning star.

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 203 Ellacombe
Hail to the Lord's Anointed

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Great of all time, we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In the name of Jesus Christ, your are forgiven and all things are made new.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Let us rejoice in this good news!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.

*All may exchange signs of peace.

The passing of the peace is an invitation for the worshiping assembly to share the gift of Christ's peace with one another. Exchanging the peace after confession and pardon is a gesture of love and blessing. We invite you to turn to your neighbor and offer blessing by saying, "Peace be with you."

ANTHEM The King of Glory Jacque Berthier
Cherub and Wesley Treble Choirs

~ WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD ~

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10 OT Pgs. 640-641

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

ACT OF PRAISE Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Matt, Allison, Caroline, Matthew and Quinn Daly

Advent Carol No. 211 Veni Emmanuel
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
stanza 1

Voice 1: *At the beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming..*
O Emmanuel,
Prepare us for your coming.

Voice 2: *We gather together to get ready for what?*
Only heaven knows.
O Emmanuel,
Prepare us for your coming.

Voice 1: *We wait for the day when God will create a prevailing peace on the earth, and natural-born enemies will turn into friends*
O Emmanuel,
Prepare us for your coming.

Voice 2: *We get ready fro God to come close by laying our lives open to Jesus, asking him to sort through all our mixed motives.*
O Emmanuel,
Prepare us for your coming.

Voice 1: *Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of these candles, whose flame brings warmth to winter and fills this place with the glow of hope.*
Amen.

Advent Carol No. 211 Veni Emmanuel
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
stanza 6

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 15:4-13 NT Pgs. 163-164

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

* THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 3:1-12 NT Pgs. 2-3

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Josh Tietje
Children ages three through first-grade may go to Children's Church in room 123.
Nurseries provided for infants through 3 years in rooms 118 & 120.

SERMON Pointing to Christ Rev. Kyle Randle
~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~

* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 2089 (TFWS) La Grange
Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

OFFERTORY Johannes Brahms
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION No. 13
*Taking the Bread and Cup
*The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer
Giving the Bread and Cup

All are invited to the Lord's Table at the direction of the ushers. There will be three serving stations. Communion will be received by Intinction. The bread will be placed in your hand for you to dip into the Cup. You are invited to kneel and pray at the Chancel Rail after receiving the elements.

The offering received at the Chancel Rail during Communion will be given to The Scholarship Fund.

COMMUNION ANTHEM Paul Christiansen
Of the Father's Love Begotten

COMMUNION HYMNS

No. 175 *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* *St. Agnes*
No. 347 *The Spirit Song* *Spirit Song*

~ *WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD* ~

* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 213 *Truro*
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Couperin*
Chaconne

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The Altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and to honor the life of Charles Ross Fallaw on his 13th birthday by Billy, Jo Anna, Will, Ann Claiborne, Ann Morgan, and Nealy Pate Fallaw.

WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newcomers and Guests

Welcome! We are grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today. We hope that you will receive a blessing from the service. If you don't already have a church home, it is our hope that you will consider letting First Church fill that need.

All worshipers are asked to sign the Attendance Pad at the end of each pew and pass it along to your neighbors. Rev. Randle will contact you later in the week.

Children are part of the family of God. They learn how to worship God by seeing other people worship. Children are welcome in the church to worship with their parents or caregivers. We understand that sometimes it is hard to be present in worship with young children. If you choose, we have a nursery for infants and toddlers.

The Nursery is located on the first floor of the Education Wing in Rm. 118. Our nursery is staffed with paid professionals and loving volunteers. Parents are asked to sign in their children and check out a pager, so that we may contact you should the need arise during worship. An usher will direct you to the nursery.

If you can't hear the service, please let an usher know. We have hearing assist devices which will help even the most hard of hearing to participate in the service!

A restroom is located in the Narthex, the Parlor, and the first floor of the Education Wing. Baby Changing Stations are located in the Nursery, Rm. 118.

In the hustle and bustle of getting ourselves ready for church, it is easy to forget to turn off our cell phones. We offer this gentle reminder to please turn cell phones off so that the worship service is not disrupted by them.

Serving This Sunday, December 4

Altar Guild: Amy Lovell Jenkins, Sylvia Richardson, Paula Mytko, Libby McCutcheon, Lillian Sherry

Acolytes and Crucifer: Colin Hucks, Caroline Daly, Matthew Daly

Counting Committee: (Sunday) Blake Hewitt and Jack McCutcheon (Monday) Sallie Goldfinch, Sarah Staub

Trustee Duty: Dawne Clonts, Johnny Vaught

Bus Duty: Hunter Jenkins

Children's Church: Jan Gawith

Sound Technicians: Lee Hickman, Charles Hucks

Ushers: Jimmy Hammond (Chairman), Randy Bell, Kelly Cooper, Zach Dusenbury, Garvin Huggins, Hunter Jenkins, Morgan Martin, Charles Myers, Bert Owen, Tyler Thomas

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, December 4

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM
10:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Candlelight Advent Concert / Hut Chapel
5:30 p.m. UMYF / FLC

Monday, December 5

12:00 p.m. Advent Luncheon / Kingston Presbyterian
4:30 p.m. Henry/Rogers Circle / FLC
7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC

Tuesday, December 6

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Rooms 117 & 120
10:00 a.m. Burroughs/Collins Circle / FLC
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting / Room 213
6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC

Wednesday, December 7

8:00 a.m. Peoples Underwriters / FLC
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Rooms 117 & 120
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Programs / FLC
3:45 p.m. Children's Activities / FLC
4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
5:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study / Room. 216
6:15 p.m. Carillon Choir Rehearsal / Handbell Room 205
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Sonshine "Sunday" School Class / Commons

Thursday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Peoples Underwriters / FLC
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Rooms 117 & 120

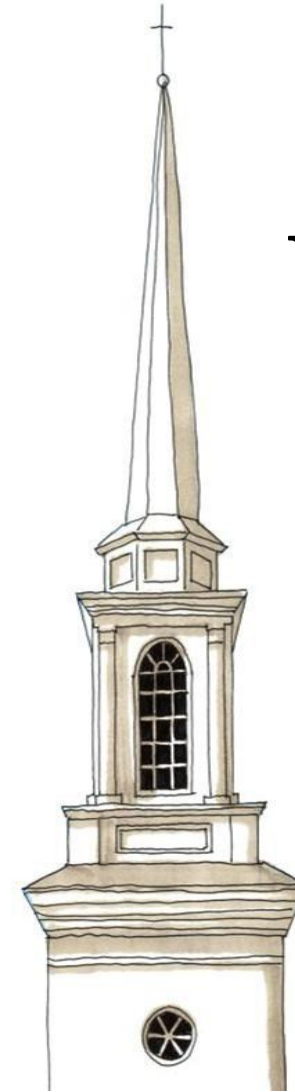
Friday, December 9

7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

Saturday, December 10

9:00 a.m. Breakfast With Santa / Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Goodies on Parade / Hut Chapel Courtyard
10:00 a.m. Conway Parade / Main Street

The **Henry/Rogers Circle** will be meeting Monday, December 5 at the FLC at **4:30 p.m.** and then on to supper.



First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue
Conway, South Carolina 29526
(843) 488-4251
www.fumcconway.org

Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2016
10:30 a.m.



Welcome to First United Methodist Church

Out of a broken and sinful world, all people are welcomed into the body of Jesus Christ at First Church. As children of God, together we join in worship to experience the transforming love of our Savior.

We are here this morning to worship God. Through our songs, words of praise, prayers and scripture reading, we give honor and glory to God. Wondrous things happen as we worship. Lives are changed. The presence of God brings hope, comfort, healing, and joy. Let us worship in gladness. Jesus, the Lord of Life is with us.