

FIRST CHURCH AT WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Friendly Beast
Chime Choir

French Carol

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE ADVENT PROCESSIONAL

Come, O Wisdom, breathe within us. O mighty tender Teacher; come, and show us how to live.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, O Lord, of ancient Israel. You who lead us through the desert; come, and set your people free.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

Come, O Root of Jesse's lineage. Ruler of all nations; come and be our Savior sure.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, O Holy Key of David. Open our hearts to knowledge and break the chains of death.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, O Radiant Sun of Justice. Shine on those in darkness and all who dwell in shades of death.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, O Light of all the nations. Bright Morning Star of new hope; come and shine among us here.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, O Living Flame of Freedom. Living hope of our redemption; come and lead us to new life.

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* THE HYMN NO. 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Ellacombe

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

In the rush of the season,

we forget to look up.

Stars sparkle in the sky;

we do not pause to see.

Weighed down by life's troubles,

We lose the wonder of this season.

Let us reclaim wonder and awe

as we wait for Christ's coming.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

~ PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE ~

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the
peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall
be glorious.

This the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

THE ACT OF PRAISE

Psalm 72:1-8

Morning Song

**Send us, O God, the King whose reign
will make your justice known;
Let him deal fairly with your land,
The poor, and all your own.**

**Let every mountain, every hill,
Bring righteousness and peace;
Let him defend the needy poor,
Make all oppression cease.**

**So long as sun and moon endure
Let him, O Lord, remain;
Let him come down as showers, Lord,
And as refreshing rain.**

**Let peace and righteousness increase
Till moons shall be no more,
And let him have dominion, Lord,
And reign from shore to shore.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praise to your name”

and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;

and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹²and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God

G. F. Handel

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Mr. Josh

*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

Wilderness Hope

Rev. Kyle Randle

* HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 2089

Wild and Lone The Prophet's Voice

La Grange

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

No. 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried,
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* GLORIA PATRI No. 70

Meineke

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us come before the living God in confession.
Silence is kept for reflection

As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,
**we open our hearts to you, O God.
Search us and know us.**

**Reveal all that we keep inside.
To you, O God, we confess our sins,
known and unknown.**

**Forgive us, renew us,
and lead us in your ways of justice and peace.
Make us reflections of the radiant love
of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Beloved children of the Most High,
you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all.
Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism,
where sin is washed away in the river of life.
Go forth boldly in the assurance that our sins are forgiven
in the name of the one who is coming and is already here,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.
** All may exchange signs of peace.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

OFFERTORY

Michael Praetorius

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Helen Schreiber and Janet Lawrence, *Handbells*; Melinda Hyman, *Piano*
The ushers will pass offering plates.
You may also give by texting "firstconway" to 73256

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Doxology No. 95

~ **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD** ~

* HYMN OF SENDING NO. 567

National Hymn

Heralds of Christ

* BENEDICTION

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Chaconne

Theodore DuBois

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of
Mr. James W. Taylor, Jr. and
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Clonts
by Dawne and Danny Clonts & Josephine Holbert.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, December 8

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
11:30 a.m. Emma Thompson Class Party / Family Life Center (FLC)
11:30 a.m. FUMC Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
11:30 a.m. Cast Rehearsal (Christmas Musical) / Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Advent Concert / The Hut Chapel
4:30 p.m. Voices in Bronze / Room 211
5:30 p.m. UMYF and Bridge / FLC

Monday, December 9

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
12:00 p.m. Advent Luncheon / Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC Room 102

Tuesday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Peoples Underwriters / FLC Room 102
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC Room 102
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC Room 103
8:00 p.m. AA Meeting / FLC Room 102
8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC Room 101

Wednesday, December 11

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Children's Activities / Education Wing
3:30 p.m. Children's Weekly Lesson/Games/Crafts / Education Wing
3:45 p.m. 7th & 8th Grade Hang-out / FLC Room 103
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class / FLC Room 104
4:30 p.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal / Handbell Room 211
4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Room 105
5:00 p.m. Asbury Ringers Rehearsal / Room 211
5:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal / Room 105
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Handbell Concert / Sanctuary
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Room 105

Thursday, December 12

7:00 a.m. Youth Breakfast / Chick-Fil-A
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
10:30 a.m. *Searching for Sunday* Book Study / Parlor
1:00 p.m. CAP Board Meeting / FLC 101
5:00 p.m. Journey Seekers (Fruit Baskets) / Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts / FLC Room 104

Friday, December 13

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC 102

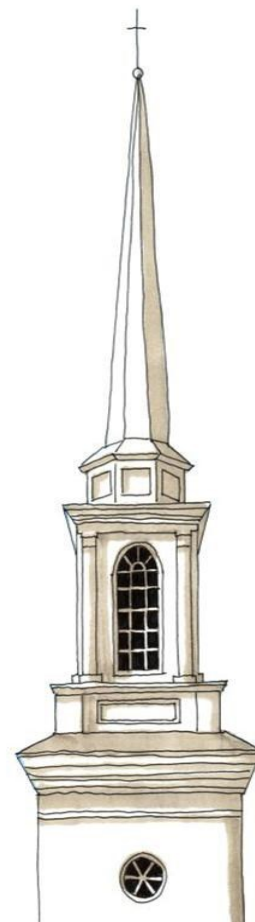
Saturday, December 14

9:00 a.m. Breakfast With Santa / Fellowship Hall

FUMC Staff

Reverend Kyle Randle, Pastor
Billy Fallaw, MM, Dir. of Music & Organist
Josh Tietje, BS, Dir. of Christian Ed. & Mission
Danny Clonts, Accountant
Cathy Estridge, Ministry Assistant
Gayle Fanshaw, Nursery Attendant
James Graham, Sexton
Chrissy Merolle, Nursery Attendant
Sherrie Gasque, Nursery Attendant

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First United Methodist Church

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Second Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2019
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 readings, 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.