

# We Gather to Worship God

“Rejoice always,” begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. “All God’s children got a robe,” go the words to the spiritual. It’s a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God’s party.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY Friedrich Zachau  
*All Glory Be to God on High*

## \* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

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

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Who is the One whom we seek?*

**The One who will come to restore us and renew us in the midst of joy and despair.**

*Who is the One whom we seek?*

**The One who will come to help us rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances.**

*Who is the One whom we seek?*

**The One whose sandals we are not worthy to untie.**

*Who is the One whom we seek?*

**Jesus Christ, who will restore, heal, and unite us in Gods’ glory.**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 881  
*The Apostles’ Creed*

*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.*

\* THE GLORIA PATRI No. 70 Meineke

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Faithful God, we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by sins and the powers of evil around us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved. Amen.*

*Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!*

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Amen.**

## \* 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.”

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Justin Roof Family

## ADVENT RESPONSE

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*O come, Desire of nations bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind.*

*From dust thou brought us forth to life;  
deliver us from earthly strife.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

~ **WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD** ~

ANTHEM Regent Square  
*Angels From the Realms of Glory  
Swiss Melody Bell Ensemble*

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 OT Pgs. 691-692

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

**Thanks be to God.**

THE ACT OF PRAISE Psalm 126 St. Peter  
*Freedom was like a dream to us  
When God set Zion free;  
We laughed, we sang, our voices rang  
With shouts of liberty.*

*The heathen nations round us said  
“God’s gifts to them are good;”*

*Yes, God has done great things for us,  
We praise him as we should.*

*Restore our fortunes now, O Lord,  
Like Negev’s waterways,  
And grant that those who sow in tears  
May reap with hymns of praise.*

*Let those who weep as they go out  
And take with them good seed,  
Bring back in joy such harvest sheaves  
As may fulfill their need.*

THE SECOND LESSON I Thessalonians 5:16-24 NT Pg. 205

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

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM The King of Glory Comes Jacques Berthier  
Cherub and Wesley Treble Choir  
Ben Chanaca, Anna Claire Roof, and Emma Chanaca, soloists

\* THE GOSPEL LESSON John 1:6-8, 19-28 NT Pgs. 91-92

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

**Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS Rev. Kyle  
*Sharing the Good News*

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.

THE SERMON Rev. Kyle Randle  
*Waiting!*

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 242 Gartan  
*Love Came Down at Christmas*

~ **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD** ~

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Will We Know Him?* Robert Lau

\* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95  
~ **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD** ~

\* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 240 Mendelssohn  
*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

\* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* CLOSING VOLUNTARY Johann Pachelbel  
*Toccatto in E minor*

\* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and his son, Jesus Christ,  
and in loving memory of

Mr. James W. Taylor, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Clonts  
by Jose Holbert, Dawne and Danny Clonts.



## NOTES FOR WORSHIP

Numbers by the hymns, Affirmation of Faith, Doxology, are from the United Methodist Hymnal found in the pew racks. Old Testament and New Testament scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version, located in the pew. Page numbers for the readings are listed in the order of worship.

## THINGS TO KNOW WHILE WORSHIPING AT FIRST UMC

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.

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.

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.

We wish to invite you to contact one of our staff members if you would like more information about FUMC:

Kyle.Randle@fumconway.org (Pastor)  
Billy.Fallaw@fumconway.org (Dir. of Music)  
Tim.Whitten@fumconway.org (Dir. of Christian Ed.)  
Danny.Clonts@fumconway.org (Accountant)  
Office@fumconway.org (Ministry Asst.)

A full listing of the staff may be found in the Announcements inserted in the bulletin or online.

## Serving This Sunday, December 14, 2014

**Altar Guild:** Amy Lovell Jenkins, Libby McCutcheon, Paula Mytko, Betty Smith, Sylvia Richardson, Lillian Sherry,  
**Acolytes and Crucifer:** Laurel Edwards, Savannah Seremet, Caroline Todd  
**Liturgist:** Tim Whitten  
**Counting Committee:** (Sunday) William Goldfinch, Jack McCutcheon (Monday) Maxine Dunn and Margaret Thompson  
**Trustee Duty:** Mike Thomas  
**Sound Technician:** Lee Hickman / Charles Hucks  
**Ushers:** Jimmy Hammond (Chairman), Hunter Jenkins (Co-Chairman) Randy Bell, Kelly Cooper, Zach Dusenbury, Garvin Huggins, Morgan Martin, Charles Myers, Bert Owen, Ernie Turnes  
**Children's Church:** Sammy and Debbie Johnson  
**UMYF:** Meal & Making luminaires for Christmas Eve / FLC

## This Week at First United Methodist Church

### Sunday, December 14

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast 100.9 FM  
10:00 a.m. Swiss Melody Bell Ensemble Rehearsal Rm. 120  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship / Sanctuary  
12:15 p.m. King's Singers Rehearsal / Choir Room  
5:30 p.m. UMYF / FLC  
6:00 p.m. Advent Candlelight Concert / The Hut Chapel.

### Monday, December 15

12:00 p.m. Advent Luncheon / Kingston Presbyterian  
2:30 p.m. Cooking at The Shepherd's Table / TST  
5:30 p.m. TST Board Meeting / FLC Senior Room  
7:00 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting / FLC

### Tuesday, December 16

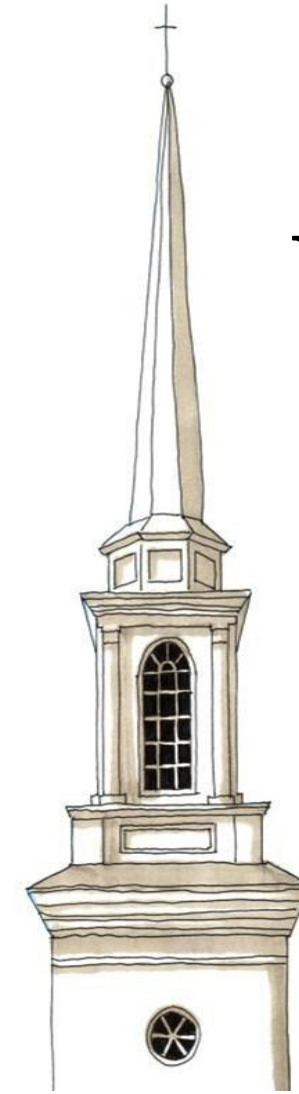
7:00 p.m. Cocaine Anonymous / FLC

### Wednesday, December 17

2:30 p.m. Children are picked up from school  
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Activities / FLC  
3:15 p.m. Cherub and Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Room 105  
5:30 p.m. **Fruit Basket Pick up** / Fellowship Hall  
5:30 p.m. **Free Chicken Bog Meal** / Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. Carillon Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary  
6:30 p.m. **After Dinner Carol Sing / Fellowship Hall**  
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary

### Thursday, December 18

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC



# First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue, Conway  
South Carolina 29526  
(843) 488-4251  
[www.fumconway.org](http://www.fumconway.org)

Third Sunday of Advent  
December 14, 2014  
11:00 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.