

First Church at Worship

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Once He Came in Blessing* Helmut Walcha

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ,

be glory forever and ever.

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 196

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE RESPONSE

Trentham

Kindle this flame of love. May it burn bright and true.

Lighting the way that is of God, the journey we pursue.

God's realm is our desire, where peace and justice reign.

Heaven and earth combined as one, when Christ shall come again.

ANTHEM

His Name Is Jesus

Nick Robertson

Sara Randle, *soloist*

~ WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD ~

THE FIRST LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

THE ACT OF PRAISE

Luke 1:46b:55

St. Thomas

The Magnificat

**My soul proclaims with joy
The greatness of the Lord;
My spirit will rejoice in him
My Savior and my God.**

**The Lord has favored me;
All ages will proclaim
That God has done great things for me,
And holy is his Name.**

**Of those who fear the Lord
His mercy will abide;
He showed the strength of his right arm;
The proud are scattered wide.**

**The mighty are cast down,
And lowly ones are raised;
He fills the hungry with good things
And sends the rich away.**

**He comes to us to keep
The promise made before
To Abraham and to his heirs
Of mercy evermore.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings

you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’

(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in
sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are
offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “See, I have come to do your
will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by
God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of
Jesus Christ once for all.

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

Thanks be to God.

* SEQUENCE HYMN No. 230

St. Louis

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth!

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:39-45

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in
the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted
Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her
womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with
a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of
your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my
Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the
child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that
there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

* SEQUENCE HYMN No. 230

St. Louis

O Little Town of Bethlehem

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given;
so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
o come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Mr. Josh

SERMON

Rev. Kyle D. Randle

~ WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL ~

ANTHEM

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Hal Hopson

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly,
who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

**in the presence of one another,
we confess our sin before you.
We fail in believing that your good news is for us.
We falter in our call to tend your creation.
We find our sense of self in material wealth.
We fear those different from ourselves.**

**We forget that we are your children
and turn away from your love.
Forgive us, Blessed One,
and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven.
You are children of the Most High,
inheritors of the eternal promise,
and recipients of divine mercy.
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**

**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.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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.**

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

O sing a song of Bethlehem,
of shepherds watching there,
and of the news that came to them
from angels in the air.
The light that shone on Bethlehem
fills all the world today;
of Jesus' birth and peace on earth
the angels sing alway.

O sing a song of Nazareth,
of sunny days of joy;
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath,
and of the sinless Boy.
For now the flowers of Nazareth
in every heart may grow;
now spreads the fame of his dear name
on all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Galilee,
of lake and woods and hill,
of him who walked upon the sea
and bade the waves be still.
For though like waves on Galilee,
dark seas of trouble roll,
when faith has heard the Master's work,
falls peace upon the soul.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, December 19

- 9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School / Education Building
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. UMYF and Bridge Meeting / Family Life Center (FLC)
- 6:00 p.m. Advent Candlelight Concert / Sanctuary

Monday, December 20

- 12:00 p.m. Advent Luncheon / Trinity UMC
- 6:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service / Kingston Presbyterian
- 6:30 p.m. Quintet Rehearsal / Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. NA Meeting / FLC Room 102

Tuesday, December 21

- 6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC Room 102
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting / FLC Room 102
- 8:00 p.m. AI Anon Meeting / FLC Room 101

Wednesday, December 22

- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105

Thursday, December 23

- 6:30 p.m. NA Meeting / FLC Room 102

Friday, December 24

- 12:15 p.m. NA Meeting / FLC Room 102
- 3:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Communion Service / Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Communion Service / Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC Room 102
- 11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Communion Service / Sanctuary
- 11:00 p.m. NA Marathon 24 Hour Meetings / FLC

Saturday, December 25

- Merry Christmas!
- NA Marathon Meetings Continued / FLC

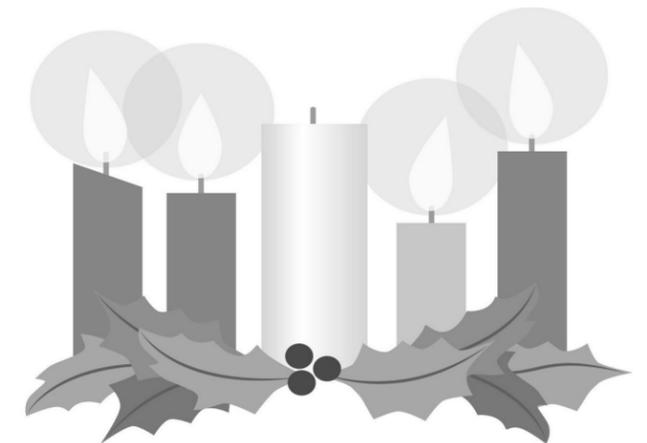
Merry Christmas First Church!



First United Methodist Church

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843-488-4251 / www.fumcconway.org



FOURTH SUNDAY

OF

Advent

December 19, 2021

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.