

We Gather to Worship God

OPENING VOLUNTARY

excerpts from *Christmas Traditions* C. Rabinowitz
AOS Strings

CHANT FOR ADVENT

John Ferguson
Savior of the Nations Come

* THE BIDDING PRAYER

People of God:

In the season of Advent and Christmas, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go even to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against Him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and justice on the earth; for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. And because he particularly loves them, let us remember the poor and helpless; the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; as well as those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, let us remember before God the pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. Amen.

* PROCESSIONAL Carol No. 234

Adeste Fidelis
O Come, All Ye Faithful
stanzas 1-4

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Veni Emmanuel
Brian and Jeanne Stewart, Brighton and Owen
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high and order all things
far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.*

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

FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:1-15 Dylan Jenkins

*God announces in the Garden of Eden
Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion
and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

ANTHEM

Come to Us Lord Jesus
King's Singers

Hal Hopson

CAROL No. 196 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Hyfrydol

SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18

Cooper Thomas

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of
the earth be blessed!*

ANTHEM

O Magnum Mysterium
Molly Fay, soprano, Justin Hall, baritone

Robert Shaw

CAROL No. 197 *Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus*
stanza 2

Julion

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Lila Myers

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

ANTHEM

He Shall Be Great

Carmen Scialla

CAROL No. 203 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*
stanza 3 & 4

Ellacombe

FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

Jan Gawith

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

ANTHEM

Infant Lowly, Infant Holy

K. Lee Scott

CAROL No. 230 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
stanzas 3 & 4

St. Louis

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 39

Katherine Brooks

*The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give
birth to a ruler whose reign shall never end.*

ANTHEM

There Is No Rose

Graham Ellis

CAROL No. 198 *My Soul Gives Glory to My God*
stanzas 1 & 2

Morning Song

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1, 3-7

Blake Martin

Luke tells the birth of Jesus

ANTHEM

Emmanuel

Noel Goemanne

CAROL No. 228 *He Is Born*

Il Est Ne

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16

Justin Powell

The shepherds go to the manger.

ANTHEM

Sing We Now of Christmas

Howard Helvey

EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-12

Tim Whitten

The wise men are led by a star to Jesus

CAROL No. 238 *Angels We Have Heard on High*
stanzas 3 & 4

Gloria

* NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Rev. Kyle Randle

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

PRAYER

*Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace
and might, free us from sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy
and serve you always, for you live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

OFFERTORY

excerpts from *Christmas Traditions*
AOS Strings

Carole Rabinowitz

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Doxology No.95

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*May the Christ who by his Incarnation
gathered into One things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.*

*Go forth in peace and joy.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!*

* RECESSIONAL CAROL No. 240

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Gloria (from Magnificat VI)

Marcel Dupre

* Congregation Standing

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor
of my parents, Bob and Beth's 35th Wedding Anniversary,
With love by Katherine Wiley

FUMC Festival Chamber Orchestra

AOS STRINGS
Stephen Williams Emi Soutame George Jennings Cully Byam

PERCUSSION
John Case

SOLOISTS
Ross Fallaw, Savannah Seremet, Molly Fay, Justin Hall

CHOIRS
King's Singers
Chancel Choir

HANDBELLS
Lee Hickman

The Poinsettia / Poinsettia Child Bulletin is available in the Narthex, Bell Tower Entrance and Commons. Please pick one up as you leave this morning.

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.

Serving This Sunday, December 20

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

Acolytes and Crucifer: Jacob Johnson, Anna Claire Roof, Alston Tew

Counting Committee: (Sunday) William Goldfinch / Jack McCutcheon (Monday) Karlene Rudolph, Nancy Stiltner

Trustee Duty: Mike Thomas

Sound Technicians: Lee Hickman, Charles Hucks

Bus Duty: Phil Davis

Ushers: Hunter Jenkins (Chairman), Jimmy Hammond (Co-Chairman)

Randy Bell, Kelly Cooper, Zack Dusenbury, Garvin Huggins,

Morgan Martin, Charles Myers, Bert Owen, Ernie Turnes.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, December 20

9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir with Orchestra Rehearsal / Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Children's Happy Birthday Jesus Party / Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast 100.9 FM

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship / Sanctuary

Monday, December 21

12:00 p.m. Advent Luncheon / Trinity UMC

7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC

Tuesday, December 22

6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts / Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 23

12:00 p.m. Church Office is Closed

Thursday, Christmas Eve

Church Office is closed.

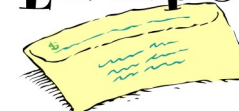
5:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service / Sanctuary

Friday, Merry Christmas!

Church Office is closed.

7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

Offering Envelopes



The **2016 Offering Envelopes** are ready for pickup. Please visit the designated table in the Commons.



First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue,
Conway, South Carolina 29526

(843) 488-4251

www.fumcconway.org

Festival of Lessons
and Carols

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2015

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.

In 1880 E. W. Benson, then Anglican Bishop of Truro, England, composed a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, based on ancient sources, for Christmas Eve. In 1918 it was adapted for the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, by its Dean, Eric Milner-White. In this Advent season of hope and expectation, the whole world awaits the coming of the Savior. We hear the prophets. We sing God's promises. We place our hope in God.