

# First Church at Worship

The 10:30 a.m. service will be broadcast live via Facebook and the Church Website: [www.fumcconway.org](http://www.fumcconway.org).

OPENING VOLUNTARY (8:15 A.M.) *Ava Maria* Shubert  
Melinda Hyman, *piano*; Janet Lawrence, *clarinet*

(10:30 a.m.) *Away in a Manger* Mack Wilberg  
Melinda Hyman, *piano*; Janet Lawrence, *clarinet*

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

“Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news of great joy.”

**Let us go to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place.**

Let us make known what has been told to us about this child.

**And we will all share tidings of comfort and joy.**

\* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 211 *Veni Emmanuel*  
*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
vs. 1, 2, 6, & 7

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE RESPONSE NO. 692 *Conditore Alme*  
*Creator of the Stars of Night*  
vs. 1

**Creator of the stars of night, thy people’s everlasting light, O Christ, thou Savior of us all, we pray thee, hear us when we call.**

~ WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD ~

THE FIRST LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.”

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. <sup>7</sup>Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” <sup>8</sup>Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

This is the word of God for the people of God

**Thanks be to God.**

THE ACT OF PRAISE

Canticle of Mary  
(Magnificat)

Luke 1:46b-55

<sup>46b</sup>My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>**for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:**

<sup>49</sup>you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.

<sup>50</sup>**You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.**

<sup>51</sup>You have shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit,

<sup>52</sup>**casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.**

<sup>53</sup>You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup>**You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy,**

<sup>55</sup>the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 16:25-27

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—<sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

\* HYMN OF THE DAY No. 207

*Prepare the Way*

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

\* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said,

“Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MOMENT (10:30 a.m.)

Mr. Josh

SERMON

Rev. Kyle D. Randle

ANTHEM 10:30 a.m.

*A Star Shone Bright*

Joyce Eilers

Will Brown, Janet Lawrence, Melinda Hyman

~ WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL ~

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Amen.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Loving and forgiving God,  
**we confess that we are held captive by sin.  
In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray.  
We have not welcomed the stranger;  
we have not loved our neighbor;  
we have not been Christ to one another.  
Restore us, O God.  
Wake us up and turn us from our sin.  
Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news:

by God’s endless grace  
your sins are forgiven, and you are free—  
free from all that holds you back  
and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.  
May you be strengthened in God’s love,  
† comforted by Christ’s peace,  
and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostle’s 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

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

\* HYMN OF SENDING No. 246

*Joy to the World*  
vs. 1 & 2

Antioch

\* BENEDICTION

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

\* Congregation Standing

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

**Refrain:**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, and ordered all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show and teach us in its ways to go. **Refrain**

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadows put to flight. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

Text: 9th cent. Latin; trans. st. 1, 6cd, 7ab *The Hymnal*, 1940. st. 2, Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916.  
Music: 15th cent. French; arr. and harm. by Thomas Helmore, 1854

**Prepare the Way of the Lord**

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all the people will see the salvation of our God.

Text: Isaiah 40:3, 52:10  
Music: © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

**Joy to the World**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
Music: Arr. from G.F. Handel by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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**This Week at FUMC**

**Sunday, December 20**

8:15 a.m. Early Worship Service / Sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM  
9:30 a.m. Elementary Sunday School / Education Building  
9:30 a.m. Youth Sunday School / Family Life Center (FLC)  
9:30 a.m. Journey Seekers Sunday School / 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Parking Lot  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sanctuary  
4:00 p.m. Candlelight Advent Concert on Facebook  
4:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve Play Rehearsal / Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. UMYF & Bridge Christmas Party / Meet in the FLC

**Tuesday, December 22**

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes  
6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC Room 102

**Wednesday, December 23**

Church Office is Closed

**Thursday, December 24**

Church Office is Closed  
2:00 p.m. Family Christmas Communion Service / Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Communion Service / Sanctuary  
9:00 p.m. Courtyard Christmas Communion Service / Courtyard  
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Communion Service / Sanctuary

**Friday, December 25**

Church Office is Closed  
6:30 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

**Merry Christmas!**

**All Visitors must use the  
Bell Tower Entrance on Fifth Avenue**

- We are limiting visitors at this time.
- All visitors (deliveries, church guests, or otherwise) must ring the bell to your left.
- A staff member will open the door if you need to come inside for any reason.
- You may also call the church office at 843-488-4251.

**Masks MUST be worn** at the door and inside the buildings.  
No exceptions.

**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

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# First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue, Conway, South Carolina 29526

843-488-4251 / www.fumconway.org



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 20, 2020

8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Out of a broken and sinful world, all people are welcomed into the body of Jesus Christ at First Church. Our highest priority is the health, safety and well-being of all persons, with a particular concern for the most vulnerable. It is our collective responsibility as Christians to be good neighbors in our community. As we join together in worshipping God to experience the transforming love of our Savior, let us honor God and love one another.

- Masks must be worn inside the buildings.
- Family members are invited to sit together on pews.
- Sit in every other pew.
- No more than four persons per pew except for families with appropriate spacing.
- Follow the instructions of the ushers/health team.
- Cough & sneeze into your sleeve.
- No hugging or handshakes. Find alternative ways of greeting.
- Avoid gathering in the Sanctuary, Narthex or near the doors of the church before and following Worship.
- Thank you for joining us in loving one another.