

We Gather to Worship God

OPENING VOLUNTARY

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear Lloyd Larson
In the Bleak Midwinter Michael Helman
 Carillon Choir

INTROIT *Once in Royal David's City* Henry Gautlett
 Ross Fallaw, soloist

CHANT IN PROCESSION *Divinum Mysterium*
Of the Father's Love Begotten
 Justin Hall, tenor

* 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*

The Whitten Family
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy
 people be; before thee rulers silent fall;
 all peoples on thy mercy call.*

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Jordan Family

FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:1-15 Ann Morgan Fallaw
*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 J. S. Bach
Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

CAROL No. 196 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Hyfrdol
 stanza 1

SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18 Ben Chanaca
*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of
 the earth be blessed!*

ANTHEM Caleb Simpler
Sing O Heavens
 Women of the Choir

CAROL No. 197 *Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus* Julion
 stanza 1

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Will Bitting
Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

ANTHEM Gerald Near
The King Shall Come

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

FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9 Lindsey Hendrick
The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

ANTHEM John Rutter
Christmas Lullaby

CAROL No. 218 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* Carol
 stanza 4

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 39 Debbie Jenkins
*The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give
 birth to a ruler whose reign shall never end.*

ANTHEM Antonio Vivaldi
Laudamus Te (from Gloria)
 Lib Wellons, soprano; Jimmy Brown, tenor

CAROL No. 198 *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* Morning Song
 stanzas 1, 2

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1, 3-7 Ben Yenicek
Luke tells the birth of Jesus

ANTHEM Roland Stevens
What 'Cha Gonna Call the Pretty Little Baby

CAROL No. 241 *That Boy-Child of Mary* Blantyre
 stanzas 1, 2

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16 Philip Thompson
The shepherds go to the manger

ANTHEM John Erickson
A Winter Night
 King's Singers

CAROL No. 238 *Angels We Have Heard on High* Gloria
 stanzas 2, 3

EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-12 Tim Whitten
The wise men are led by a star to Jesus

ANTHEM Lloyd Larson
Follow the Star
 Amelia Wood, flute

* NINTH LESSON John 1:1-14 Rev. Kyle Randle
John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

ANTHEM George Frederic Handel
Hallelujah Chorus (from Messiah)

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 Camille Saint-Saens
Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts (from Christmas Oratorio)
 Men of the Choir

* 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!*

* CAROL No. 245 *The First Noel*

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY Marcel Dupre
Gloria (from Magnificat VI)

* Congregation Standing

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
 and in celebration of this Christmas season.

Festival Musicians

FUMC Chancel Choir

King's Singers

Amelia Wood, *flute*

Carillon Handbell Choir

Lila Myers, Ross Fallaw, Lib Wellons, Jimmy Brown, Savannah Seremet
Justin Hall and Molly Fay, *soloists*

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.

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

Serving This Sunday, December 21

Altar Guild: Amy Lovell Jenkins, Libby McCutcheon, Paula Mytko, Betty Smith, Sylvia Richardson, Lillian Sherry,

Acolytes and Crucifer: John Kelly Thompkins, Samuel Hickman, Jacob Johnson

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: Tim and Julie Whitten

UMYF: Christmas Party / Whittens's Home

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, December 21

9:15 a.m. Carillon Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. 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

2:00 p.m. Parsonage Open House / 709 Elm Street

5:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party / Whitten's Home

Monday, December 22

7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC

Tuesday, December 23

6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

Wednesday, Christmas Eve -

12:00 p.m. Church Office is Closed

4:00 p.m. UMYF Placing Luminaries / Courtyard

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

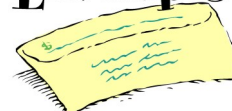
Thursday, Merry Christmas!

Church Office is closed.

Friday, December 26

Church Office is closed.

Offering Envelopes



The 2015 Offering Envelopes are ready for pickup. Please see Nancy or Britt Stiltner in the Commons.

First United Methodist Church

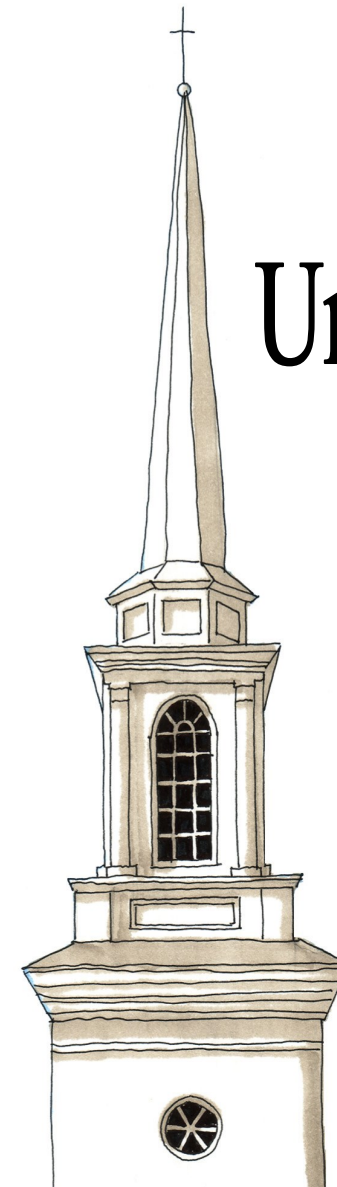
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www.fumcconway.org

Festival of Lessons
and Carols
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 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.

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.