

First Church at Worship

Today's service will be broadcast live via Facebook and the Church Website: www.fumcconway.org.

OPENING VOLUNTARY *He Shall Feed His Flock* Handel

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE GREETING

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.
By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty
that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.
Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!
A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 218 *Carol*
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
vs. 1, 2, & 4

* THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

* THE HYMN OF PRAISE No. 238 *Gloria*
Angels We Have Heard on High
vs. 1 & 3

~ WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD ~

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

This is the word of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God.

THE ACT OF PRAISE

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²**young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for
all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

THE SECOND LESSON Galatians 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

* HYMN OF THE DAY No. 230 *St. Louis*
O Little Town of Bethlehem
vs. 1, 2, & 4

* THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's

Psalm 148

Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Mr. Josh

SERMON Rev. Kyle D. Randle

ANTHEM *What Gift Can I Bring* Miller/Reynolds

~ WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL ~

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God's forgiveness, grace, and love.

Silence is kept for reflection

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable

Forgive our neglect of the poor.

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

In ✠ Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy!

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.**

* 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. 224

In Dulci Jublio

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

* BENEDICTION

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY *And the Glory of the Lord*

Handel

* Congregation Standing

This Week at FUMC

The Church Office will be open December 27 - 31 until Noon.

The Church Office will be closed on January 1, New Years Day.

**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!**

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 prior to entering once the staff greet you at the door.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing,
come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

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 wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

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;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

FUMC Staff

Reverend Kyle Randle, Pastor
Billy Fallaw, MM, Dir. of Music & Organist
Josh Tietje, BS, Dir. of Christian Ed. & Mission
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The Third Day of Christmas

December 27, 2020

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.