

We Gather to Worship God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

Robert Hobby

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 220

Angel's from the Realms of Glory

Regent Square

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

That light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

~ PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE ~

* HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 229

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W Zlobie Lezy

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely";

and he became their savior

⁹in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

This is the word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

ACT OF PRAISE

PSALM 148

St. Anne

**Praise the Lord from all the earth:
Sea monsters, deep below,
Storm winds, all those who do his will,
Fire, hail, and fog, and snow;**

**Trees bearing fruit and cedar trees,
All hills and mountain steep;
Beasts of the wild and winged birds,
Cattle and things that creep;**

**All kings and peoples of the earth
Princes and rulers, too;
Young men and maidens, old and young,
To him all praise is due.**

**His splendor spans all the earth and heaven;
All those who come to dwell
With him receive both strength and praise:
His people Israel.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

¹³And again,
"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Away in a Manger

Wilberg

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to

the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

*Children ages three through first-grade may go to Children's Church in room 123.
Nurseries provided for infants through 3 years in rooms 118 & 120.*

Mr. Josh

THE SERMON

Josh Tietje

~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~

* HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 249

There's a Song in the Air

Christmas Song

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' 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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

** All may exchange signs of peace.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Merciful God,

we confess that we are not perfect.

We have said and done things we regret.

We have tried to earn your redeeming grace,

while denying it to others.

We have resisted your call

to be your voice in the world.

Forgive us, loving God.

Give us your righteousness,

the strength to put aside our failures,

and the courage to try again. Amen.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, December 29

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast 99.5 FM
10:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sanctuary

Monday, December 30

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes

Tuesday, December 31

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes
6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / Family Life Center (FLC) 102
8:00 p.m. AA Meeting / FLC 102
8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC 101

Wednesday, January 1

Church Office is closed

Friday, January 3

7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC 102

Saturday, January 4

10:00 a.m. James Graham Family / FLC

WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newcomers and Guests

Welcome! 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. Rev. Randle will contact you later in the week.

We welcome children into our worship!

Children are part of the family of God. They learn how to worship God by seeing other people worship. Children are welcome in the church to worship with their parents or caregivers. We understand that sometimes it is hard to be present in worship with young children. If you choose, we have a nursery for infants and toddlers.

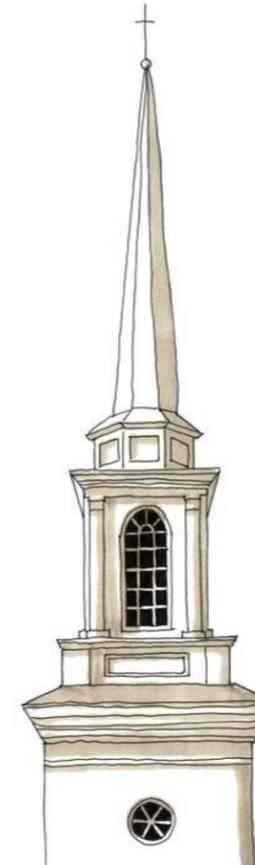
The Nursery is located on the first floor of the Education Wing in Rm. 118. Our nursery is staffed with paid professionals and loving volunteers. Parents are asked to sign in their children and check out a pager, so that we may contact you should the need arise during worship. An usher will direct you to the nursery.

Have a hard time hearing?

If you can't hear the service, please let an usher know. We have hearing assist devices which will help even the most hard of hearing to participate in the service!

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.



First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue, Conway
South Carolina 29526
(843) 488-4251
www.fumcconway.org

First Sunday after Christmas Day
December 29, 2019
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.

People of God, hear the good news:
Christ the Savior is born!
You are loved and forgiven
in the name of Jesus Christ, who has come among us.
Rejoice in this love and share it with the world. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY *There's a Song in the Air* Wilber Held

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS DOXOLOGY No. 95

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

* THE HYMN OF SENDING NO. 246 *Joy to the World* Antioch

* BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR

God make me uncomfortable with easy answers to difficult questions. Make me miserable with half-truths, so miserable in fact, that I do the difficult work of ferreting out truth.

Only then can you take up dwelling in my heart.

Use my righteous indignation at injustice, inequality, oppression and exploitation and show me how to harness it in love to work for your justice, your equality and your peace.

Only then can you take up dwelling in my heart.

God bless my tears shed for those who suffer and let them water the ground so that peace springs up where war chokes you out. Let empathy flow out of hearts hardened by years of belief in self-sufficiency.

Only then can you take up dwelling in my heart.

Finally, Lord help me have faith that I, all alone, can make a difference in the world, even in the face of overwhelming odds.

Only then can you take up dwelling in my heart. AMEN

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY John Hebden Schaffner
Two Variations and Gigue on Antioch

CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Merton, Opal and Michael Stone
by Bunny Stone.

We welcome Darleen Smith to our Worship as guest organist today. Mrs. Smith is a retired educator from Maryland and resides in North Myrtle Beach with her husband Brad.