

The Nativity of Our Lord

THE VOLUNTARY *In Dulci Jubilo* J.S. Bach

* THE PROCESSIONAL CAROL No. 234 *Adeste Fideles*
O Come, All Ye Faithful
 stanzas: 1-3, 5, 6

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Glory to God in the highest.

And on earth peace and good will toward men.

*Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
 which shall be to all people.*

Glory be to God on High.

*For a child has been born for us, a son given to
 us; authority rests upon his shoulders;*

***And he is named Wonderful Counselor,
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of
 Peace.***

* THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Jesus Christ is the Light of the World!
 A light no darkness can diminish.*

THE COLLECT

*The almighty God bless us with divine grace, Christ give us the
 joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens
 above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7 OT Pg. 638

***Whom do you behold, O shepherds? Tell us. Declare to us the
 tidings, on earth who has appeared? We saw the newborn infant,
 and the choir of angels, praising the Lord together. Alleluia,
 alleluia!***

ANTHEM *O Holy Night* Adolphe Adam
 Frankie Hardwick, soloist

THE SECOND LESSON Titus 2:11-14 NT Pg. 215

***The Angel said unto the shepherds, "Behold, I bring you joyful
 tidings. For unto you is born this day the world's Redeemer."
 Alleluia!***

* WELCOMING THE GOSPEL No. 238 *Gloria*
Angels We Have Heard on High
 stanzas 1 & 2

* THE GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20 NT Pg. 58

* CELEBRATING THE GOSPEL No. 238 *Gloria*
Angels We Have Heard on High
 stanzas 3 & 4

THE MEDITATION Rev. Randle

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Lloyd Larson
Glory in the Highest!

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION No. 13

The Great Thanksgiving
 The Lord's Prayer
 Giving the Bread and Cup

This evening, Holy Communion will be celebrated by Intinction. The ushers
 will direct worshippers towards one of three stations to receive the elements.

Please commune and pray until you are led to return to your seat.
 The Communion Offering left at the Chancel Rail
 will go for Pedro's medical needs.

COMMUNION ANTHEM Bach/Gounod
Ava Maria
 Janet Lawrence, clarinet

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS
 Sung during Communion

Away in a Manger No. 217
What Child Is This No. 219
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly No. 229

THE LIGHTING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CANDLES

As the acolytes pass the light to members of the congregation, pass it to
 the person next to you. DO NOT TIP a lighted candle. While the light is
 being passed, the Minister reads the following:

* LESSON OF LIGHT John 1:1-14

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and
 the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All
 things came into being through him, and without him not one
 thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life,
 and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the
 darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a
 man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a
 witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through
 him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the
 light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into
 the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into
 being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to
 what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But
 to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave
 power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood
 or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have
 seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace
 and truth.*

* THE CAROL OF LIGHT No. 239 *Stille Nacht*

Silent Night, Holy Night

* THE BENEDICTION

* HYMN OF PEACE No. 431 *World Peace*

Let There Be Peace on Earth

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
 Let there be peace on earth the peace that was meant to be.
 With God our Creator, children all are we.
 Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
 With every step I take let this be my solemn vow.
 To take each moment and live each moment
 With peace eternally.*

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
 (All extinguish candles)*

VOLUNTARY *Gloria* (from **Magnificat VI**) Marcel Dupre

* Congregation Standing

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.



NOTES FOR WORSHIP

Numbers by the hymns, Affirmation of Faith, and Doxology are from the
 United Methodist Hymnal and The Faith We Sing Hymnal (TFWS) found
 in the pew racks. Old Testament and New Testament scripture readings
 are from the New Revised Standard Version, located in the pew. Page
 numbers for the readings are listed in the order of worship.

THINGS TO KNOW WHILE WORSHIPPING 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.

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.



A very merry Christmas to all who come to worship the Christ Child. Our liturgy this evening is the special Eucharist from which comes the word "Christmas." It is the Christ Mass, the incarnation of our Lord and Savior in a manger in Bethlehem, in the Word of proclamation, in the sacrament of Holy Communion, and in our hearts as we take him into the world.

Ancient scriptures combine with candles, carols, and bright array to tell the story of the Christ Child's birth in the quiet of this special night. In the intimacy of this hour, we meditate by the manger, and in awe adore him as the infant God and King.

The First Church Family wishes you a blessed Christmas. The church office will be closed December 25, December 26 and January 1. The staff thanks you for this time to celebrate with our families and friends.

Monday, December 25

Church Office is closed

Tuesday, December 26

Church Office is closed

6:00 p.m. Cocaine Anonymous (CA) / FLC

8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC

Wednesday, December 27

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

Thursday, December 28

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

Friday, December 29

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

Sunday, December 31

9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class Broadcast 99.5 FM

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

Monday, January 1

Church Office is closed

Wednesday, January 3

2:45 p.m. Children are picked up at school.

3:15 p.m. Follow That Star / Family Epiphany Event / FLC

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Epiphany Celebration Service / Sanctuary

Special thanks to all the volunteers who have helped to make this Christmas Season a blessing. From the beautiful decorations, to the musical offerings, to the warm fellowship of meals and gatherings, and the outpouring to missions.

First UMC, you are the hands and feet of our Lord.

Merry Christmas!

FUMC Staff

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*Christmas Eve
Communion and
Candlelight Service*



December 24, 2017

5:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue

Conway, South Carolina 29526

www.fumconway.org