

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 1, 2024 - 10 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING

MUSIC FOR GATHERING Mark & Michele Murray
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" arr. Timothy Johnson

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Brian, Leisa and Hope Jones

ONE: Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent. Advent means "coming," and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. We light the candle on the Advent wreath to remind us of the blessings that Christ brings to the world.

ONE: The Advent wreath includes many symbols. The wreath is in the circle, with no beginning and no ending. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no ending to God, and that God's love and caring for us never ends.

ONE: The candles tell us of the light shining into the world with Jesus Christ. The white candle, which we light on Christmas Eve, signifies the birth of Jesus.

ALL: **Today we light the first candle, the candle of hope.**

One purple candle is lit.

ONE: Hope is like a flame that warms and comforts us. As we light this candle, we celebrate the hope of the prophets and the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

ALL: **We continue to hope in God's promise that Christ will continue to fill our lives and the life of the world with love and joy and peace.**

*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #211
1.O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

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

3.O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
and cause us in her ways to go. (Refrain)

4.O come, Desire of nations,
bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Ally Hall

OFFERING TO GOD Mary Mendel
ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS Mark & Michele Murray
OFFERTORY "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Mark Murray

*DOXOLOGY
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM Mark & Michele Murray
"For Unto Us a Child is Born" arr. Mark Hayes

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Cameron Mendel

*GOSPEL Cameron Mendel
Luke 1:39-55 (MSG)
³⁹⁻⁴⁵ Mary didn't waste a minute. She got up and traveled to a town in Judah in the hill country, straight to Zachariah's house, and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in her womb leaped. She was filled with the Holy Spirit, and sang out exuberantly: You're so blessed among women, and the babe in your womb, also blessed! And why am I so blessed that the mother of my Lord visits me? The moment the sound of your greeting entered my ears, The babe in my womb skipped like a lamb for sheer joy. Blessed woman, who believed what God said, believed every word would come true!

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 33:1-5 (NLT)
¹Let the godly sing for joy to the LORD; it is fitting for the pure to praise him. ²Praise the LORD with melodies on the lyre; make music for him on the ten-stringed harp. ³Sing a new song of praise to him; play skillfully on the harp, and sing with joy. ⁴For the word of the LORD holds true, and we can trust everything he does. ⁵He loves whatever is just and good; the unfailing love of the LORD fills the earth.
This is God's Word for God's people today.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" Rev. Boruff

HYMN "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" #196
1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ is with us! Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Gracious God, you created us and loved us, even when we turned away. Prepare our hearts and minds to receive Emmanuel that we may know you through Jesus Christ and sing with all the saints in glory:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest!
Holy are you and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ. He came and lived among us, teaching, and healing, showing us new ways to love and live in hope. At this final meal with his disciples, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke the bread and gave it to them, saying,
"This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
Jesus did the same with the cup after supper, saying,
"This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."
In remembrance and thanks for this gift of Jesus Christ, we give ourselves to you, O God, as we proclaim the mystery of Christmas:
Christ was promised; Christ is born; Christ will dwell among us again.
Pour out your Holy Spirit on the bread and cup, and on us your children. Form us into your body, the church, that we may be your body in the world. Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

*GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP
All persons, all ages are welcome to receive Christ's gift.
Place your gifts for Energy Assistance in the baskets provided or the wooden boxes

HYMN "Love Came Down At Christmas" #242
1. Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.

2. Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;

worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?

3. Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and others, love for plea and gift and sign.

RESPONSE

We have entered Advent, thankful that through Christ, we have hope.
Hope comes as we continue to live our faith. Amen!

MUSIC FOR SENDING Mark & Michele Murray
“Good Christian Men Rejoice” arr. Douglas Court

*BENEDICTION

**Please stand as you are able*

WELCOME

Welcome to worship on Sundays and all programs & ministries throughout the week!

Announcements

- GUESTS:** Welcome! There is a gift bag for you at the Welcome Center. Glad you joined us and hope you will come again!
- FOOD @ FIRST:** xx guests were served last Sunday. It was a blessing to serve the community.
- GATEWAY CHRISTMAS:** LAST DAY to donate to the Gateway Christmas is TODAY. You may leave your envelop in the wooden boxes or offering plate and it will be delivered to Gateway. Thank you!
- PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:** Have your photo taken as an individual, couple or family through the month of December on Sunday mornings before and after worship. If this is your church, you belong in the directory!
- POINSETTIAS:** May be purchased in honor or memory of loved ones by Dec. 15. Forms at the Welcome Center.
- ADVENT STUDY:** “On the Way to Bethlehem” on Mondays at 6 p.m. in N.S. Parlor for 3 more weeks. Childcare available! All welcome!
- GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION:** No matter what age or ability, YOU are encouraged to join in the fun at this friendly Christmas competition on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 4-6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Register today!

We give thanks for today’s:
Ushers: Steve Seybert, Tim Kline, Cliff Ambler, Jerry Hardacre, Dick Hines
Greeters: Ron & Sharon McNabney, Nina Kline
Fellowship Time: Nina Kline, Karen Ambler

Weekly Schedule

Sun 12/1			
10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
11:15 am	YA Gathering	Youth Area	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
4:30 pm	Community Cafe		Downtown
Mon 12/2			
5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	AA Big Book Study	East/West	Downtown
6:00 pm	Advent Bible Study	North/South	Downtown
Tues 12/3			
9:00 am	Tuesday Sew Day	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
10:00 am	Book Club	Library	Downtown
10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
4:00 pm	AACC Rehearsals		Downtown
6:00 pm	Finance Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
6:30 pm	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
Wed 12/4			
8:00 am	Rotary	North/South	Downtown
3:00 pm	Coffee with Corinne		Facebook
5:00 pm	Exercise		Davis Park
6:00 pm	First Kids		Downtown
6:00 pm	Wesley Bells		Downtown
6:20 pm	Children’s Choir		Downtown
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir		Downtown
Thurs 12/5			
10:00 am	Friendship/Bible Study Circle	North/South Parlor	Downtown
Fri 12/6			
9:00 am	Friday Bible Study	North/South	Downtown
12:00 pm	Downtown Devotion		Facebook
Sat 12/7			
9:00 am	AACC Rehearsals	Sanctuary	Downtown
10:00 am	AA Meeting	North/South Parlor	Downtown
4:00 pm	Lessons & Carols Rehearsals	Sanctuary	Downtown
Sun 12/1			
10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
11:15 am	Youth Group	Youth Area	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
3:00 pm	DJO & Alpha Brass Christmas	Sanctuary	Downtown
4:30 pm	Community Cafe		Downtown
6:30 pm	AACC Christmas Concert	Sanctuary	Downtown



First United Methodist
FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.



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December 1, 2024 ~ 10 a.m.

Pastors: Corinne Boruff
Director of Family Ministries: Ally Hall
Ministers: Congregation