



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD Fayetteville First UMC

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 5, 2021

11:00 AM

Spark means light.  
Spark means action.

The Season of the Nativity  
reveals Christ  
in both ways:  
as light for our way  
and as acts of grace.

Receive the spark.  
Share the spark.

Fayetteville First UMC welcomes you.

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## GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin  
Senior Minister

## MUSIC OF PREPARATION

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
arr. Mark Hayes  
Mr. Justin Maxey  
Director of Music & Organist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence and **People**  
Associate Minister

*Luke 1:68-71*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

**He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,**

as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

**that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.**

## \*HYMN 211

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
VENI EMMANUEL

## \*INVOCATION

Dr. Martin

## \*INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Let us pray together:*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will,**

**we have broken your law,**

**we have rebelled against your love,**

**we have not loved our neighbors,**

**and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:*

"The peace of Christ be with you." **"And also with you."**

### **LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE**

*Congregational Response:*

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

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Lawrence

### **OFFERTORY**

*O Thou, the Central Orb*

Charles Wood

Chancel Choir

*O Thou, the central orb of righteous love,  
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light  
Of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright  
Awakes new joy in faith; hope soars above.  
Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,  
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.  
Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,  
As stars about thy throne, set in the height  
Of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight  
Gives measured grace to each, Thy power to prove.  
Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,  
Our nature all shall feel eternal day  
In fellowship with thee, transforming day  
To souls erewhile unclean, now pure within.  
Amen.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

GREENSLEEVES

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.

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Dr. Martin

*Children are invited to return to seats.  
No Wonders of Worship today as we celebrate Communion together.*

**\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**\*GOSPEL READING**

*Luke 1:39-45*

Rev. Lawrence

*<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."*

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Spark: Presence*

Dr. Martin

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

See insert

**\*HYMN 197**

*Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus*

JULION

**\*BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

*May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you.  
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.  
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.  
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.*

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Praise Ye The Lord of Hosts from Christmas Oratorio, Op. 12  
Camille Saint-Saëns*

Mr. Maxey

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

## ABOUT COMMUNION

In the United Methodist Church, communion is a sacrament. It is sacred and set apart. A sacrament is a sign, a symbol, and a reminder. It reminds us of God's love. As a symbol, the wafer and the juice we use are things we can see and touch that remind us of something we cannot see and we cannot touch: the grace of God at work in all of our lives.

As we continue worshipping during this Season of the Nativity, we do so by focusing on God's presence in the communion elements, in the people gathered here, and in the fellowship we share at this table. All are welcome at this table because it is God who gives us the invitation.

As you come at the usher's direction, you will be given a wafer to dip into the cup. If you wish to have communion that isn't touched by the ministers or dipped in the shared cup, there are single-serving elements located on the altar. In addition, a gluten-free option is available at the altar.

As you kneel at the altar this morning in body or in spirit, if you would like to leave a donation to our Benevolence Fund here at the church, you are invited to do so by placing your gift on the altar rail.

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### Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew  
Annelle Burch  
Joe Byers  
Nancy Byers

Richard Clayton  
Anne Free  
Margaret Grainger  
Martha Hale

Chenelle Hernandez  
Tangie Hubbard  
Cindy Jennings  
Doris Kerlin

Claudia Rhodes  
Helen Voyles  
Mabel Wilbanks  
Brad Wilkinson

### The flowers in the sanctuary are presented to the glory of God

and given in honor of twins James and Jennings Watkins' 102nd birthday on December 8th by James' family.



175 East Lanier Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30214

770-461-4313 [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com)

Online Giving: [onrealm.org/FFUMC/give](http://onrealm.org/FFUMC/give)

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

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GIVING



# SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

... And so,  
with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. heav'n\_\_\_ and earth\_\_\_ are full\_\_\_ of your

8 glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high-est. Blest is he who comes\_\_\_ in the

15 name\_\_\_ of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high-est.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

... And so,  
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

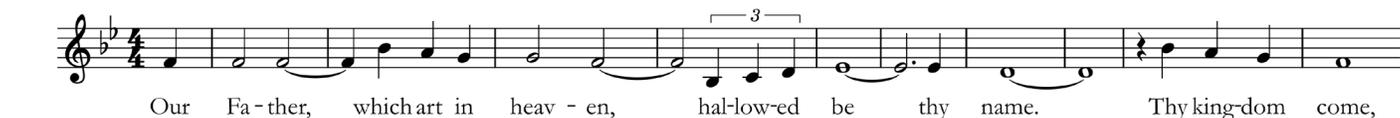
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
 that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
 redeemed by his blood.

... By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
 one with each other,  
 and one in ministry to all the world,  
 until Christ comes in final victory  
 and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,  
 with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
 all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,  
 now and for ever.



And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:



**HOLY COMMUNION**

Gluten-free elements are available upon request at the chancel.

*You are invited to contribute to the benevolence fund by leaving an offering on the chancel rail. These funds are used to assist those in need.*